

MONDAY 07.06.26 - Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

I must be honest; I have a problem with lifestyle evangelism. Don't get me wrong, it is important that we show the love of Christ through our actions, but too often people use this as a way of excusing ever sharing the gospel. We need to live in a way that sets us apart from the rest of the world and causes people to see the difference and wonder why. However, our prayer should be that our Christ like behavior will open opportunity to share the Gospel. We should be looking for these opportunities and be ready to capitalize on them. Remember, they will know we are Christ by our love, they will like only become Christians through our testimony. As 1 Peter commands us, *"But in your hearts, revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."*

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 07.07.26 - Galatians 6:10

Faithful service and Christian living provide incredible benefits. The most important, of course, is eternal life in Heaven with our Savior Jesus. Plus, we have joy and peace now and an ever-present friend and guide through life. Further, when we obey the Lord's directives to do good to others, we are blessed spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Science backs this up. According to Harvard Medical magazine and other sources, doing good does wonders for our physiology with the release of chemicals such as endorphins, oxytocin, dopamine, and serotonin that energize us, reduce our stress levels, and make us feel good about ourselves. This is a certainly a clear connection between obeying the Lord and receiving an instant blessing!

Need some ideas for good deeds to do? Share a meal, pay a visit to a shut-in, help someone with a chore, get involved in volunteer work, or check at the church office. There's lots you can do.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 07.08.26 - Psalm 84

Have you ever felt like church attendance was more of a burden than a blessing? Whether it's because I'm tired, want some "me time," or something else, there are days when gathering with God's people doesn't naturally excite me. Yet almost without fail, when I come, worship, and sit under the teaching of God's Word, something changes. Psalm 84 reminds us why. The Psalmist isn't simply eager to attend a place—he longs to be with God. As he journeys to the temple, his anticipation is contagious because his heart has learned that God's presence is better than anything else competing for his attention. What transforms worship from burden into blessing is not forcing ourselves to enjoy it. It's remembering who God is and giving Him His rightful place in our lives. When God becomes our greatest desire, gathering with Him and His people becomes something we look forward to rather than avoid.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 07.09.26 - Joshua 1:9

"This is my command - be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord Your God is with you wherever you go."

In this verse, God is giving Joshua a "pep talk" as he leads the next generation of Israelites into the Promised Land.

Throughout Joshua 1, God commanded Joshua multiple times to be strong and courageous.

He knew what was ahead as they went into the unknown and that Joshua could not accomplish this task in his own strength.

Courage doesn't mean the absence of fear. Here's where we need to turn our fear into faith. You *will* face challenges and it is *normal* to feel overwhelmed, so focus on God, not the challenge.

This wonderful promise is no less true for us than it was in the days of Joshua. God is our constant companion just as He was with Joshua.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 07.10.26 - Psalm 42:1

Whenever I have read this verse in the past I never considered it a demonstration of the presence of God. Rather, it centered its attention on the desire of my heart, that it wanted to be forever and always with God. Like the verse 'one day in your courts is like a thousand elsewhere.'

Yet on reflection, my soul would not desire Him unless He called me first. It would not be convicted by the Spirit for violation of the good fellowship with Him, unless He wanted me first. The entire purpose for my being here, to serve and to love, both my own and the world, would not be in place had He not loved me first.

So, it seems clear that rather than I being the focus, it is You, O God, who are the proper center and focus of my desire and attention.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNING LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Began June 7th – 9:40am in Room 2

Ecclesiastes: “Finding Meaning When Life Feel Meaningless”
By Lydia Brownback.

This 10-week study helps women understand the themes of sin, vanity, enjoyment, and death, ultimately encouraging believers to follow the will of God for their lives, no matter their current circumstances.

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

Kids	CHILDREN’S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade) LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
Youth	E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade) LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
Adults	SUMMER QUARTER – Sunday Mornings LOCATION: B8-10 – June 7 th – August 30 th EXPLORE THE BIBLE: Joshua; Judges; Ruth By studying these books, we see that God is still at work, raising leaders from the most unlikely places. We are challenged to reserve our loyalty for our ultimate Leader. Teachers: Joel Day & Lane Kemler

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

Youth	ON SUMMER BREAK
Adults	Worship Center

WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Began June 3rd at 6:30pm - Room B8-10 - with Barry Wills

“The Power of God’s Names” by Tony Evans (6 Sessions)

Get to know the names of God because it is in knowing His character and His capacity that you will rest and discover both peace and power in His covenant care.

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES,
USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

Ephesians 6:21-24
Complimentary Close

The Book of Ephesians is about the Church—the Body of Christ.

In Ephesians 1-3, Paul presents the Church’s Riches.

In chapters 4-6, Paul presents the Church’s Responsibilities.

Paul states our responsibilities in a series of commands.

- Walk in unity (4:1-16)
- Walk in holiness (4:17-32)
- Walk in love (5:1-7)
- Walk in light (5:8-14)
- Walk in wisdom (5:15-6:9)
- Stand in warfare (6:10-20)

In Paul’s closing remarks to the church, he refers to a member of the missionary team—Tychicus. Tychicus is mentioned five times in the New Testament.

- Acts 20:4
- Colossians 4:7
- Titus 3:12
- 2 Timothy 4:12
- Ephesians 6:21

Paul describes Tychicus as “faithful.” That’s a vital characteristic of a team player.

How do you know if you’re a faithful team player? Ask yourself these four questions:

1. Am I concerned about getting the _____?
2. Do I get upset if I don’t get proper _____?
3. Does it bother me if my _____ are not incorporated?
4. Do I get annoyed when people don’t _____ to my ministry the way I think they should?

E2 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



July 6 – July 10

INTRODUCTION:
Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:
Sunday, July 5th, we will hear a message from Ephesians 6:21-24 ; *Complimentary Close*. Sunday, July 12th, our message will be from Psalm 84.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power
Ephesians 6:10