

MONDAY 6.30.25 - Mark 12:30

Mission seemingly impossible: loving God completely. How do we do that? It is easy to praise God, fear God, worship God, honor God . . . but *love* God? God—the source of all love—has modeled love for us. He created us to communicate with Him and sought out His creation in Eden for daily conversations. He provided for all human needs. When we broke fellowship with Him, He created the means for restoration because He loves us. But how are we able to love Him back? We obey His commandments, but that doesn't *seem* like love - more a product of love. We should consider our human relationships. We enjoy the company of those whom we love. We enjoy talking to them and doing things together. We should be the same with the Lord, seeking His presence and fellowship, serving Him and doing things for His honor and glory. That is loving the Lord.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 7.1.25 - 1 Peter 1:14-19

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. **15** But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; **16** for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."^[a] **17** Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. **18** For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, **19** but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Our salvation comes out of God's love for us. In fact, He loves you so much that He sent Christ to die for your sins and He has sought you out to bring you to the point of realizing your need for salvation and giving you the opportunity to accept the precious gift of salvation in Christ. When we consider God's great love for us, it should motivate us out of our love for Him to desire to serve Him and live a life that is pleasing to Him. After realizing all He has done for us, desiring to live a life that is pleasing to Him does not seem all that unreasonable. Are you living your life in a way that is pleasing to God? May your prayer each morning be "Lord, give

me the strength and desire to live my life today in a way that will be pleasing to you in all that I do."

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 7.2.25 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Word of God helps you to grow as a child of God, and it does so in four ways.

- It challenges you—"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching." The Bible shows you what is right—positive commands to obey.
- It convicts you—"All Scripture ... is useful for ... rebuking." The Bible shows you what is not right—negative commands to follow.
- It corrects you—"All Scripture is ... useful for ... correcting." If you have deviated from the ways of God, then the Word of God shows you how to get right.
- It coaches you—"All Scripture is ... useful for ... training in righteousness." The Bible shows you how to stay right. The idea here is disciplinary training.

Are you allowing the Scripture to challenge you, to convict you, to correct you, and to coach you to spiritual maturity?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 7.3.25 - Isaiah 40:8

⁸ *The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever.*"

Just as Isaiah tells us that all people are like grass and the "grass withers and the flowers fall"; James 4 asks the question, "What is your life?" then answers, "You are a mist that appears for a little

while and then vanishes." Both passages speak of the temporal nature of life and the frailty of man.

When we are young and feel we will live forever, "surely these verses do not apply to us." As we age, we experience the impermanence of relationships, our possessions and even life itself. In our rapidly changing world moral values shift along with trends and truth is elusive to so many.

In the midst of it all, this verse reminds us there is no stability in the transient wisdom of this world, but we can navigate life's difficulties with a confidence and peace that endures forever, as we turn to God's Word.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 7.4.25 - Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the Lord is all that we needed to come to know the Lord. He revived our dead spirits and brought us to Himself. Everyone, no matter the intellect, can see Him when his testimony comes to the heart. The Lord commands us to look for Him and find Him. He enlightens our eyes to believe, to have faith and to be faithful. Every day thereafter, fear of Him keeps us clean from sin. And if that were not sufficient, in and of itself, the rules of life He gives to us for each day's living keep us in good fellowship.

These words of the law are more desirable than gold, silver or gems, sweet to our souls and it is our great daily reward to keep these words and follow them. Help us Lord.

As the old chorus sings: "More to be desired are they than gold, yea than much fine gold, and sweeter than honey, from the honeycomb." You sing the tune and put that melody in your hearts today.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

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 at 9:40
LOCATION: B8-10 – Gene Steinruck- began June 1.
EXPLORE THE BIBLE - Psalms - Let the ancient words meet you where you are. Listen as God speaks to your heart and reminds you how much He cares about you.
LOCATION: B11 Teacher: TBD – began June 1st.
BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE (part 1)
Risk Takers: The Adventure of Walking by Faith - Though exercising our faith can feel risky, see that the God we follow turns it into a grand adventure when we place our trust in Him.
LOCATION: B11 – Teacher: TBD – July 13th & 20th.
Safe and Secure: Our Eternal Security in Christ

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
RESUMES IN THE FALL
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
RESUMES IN THE FALL
- Adults** LOCATION: Worship Center

SUMMER SMALL GROUP

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY Starts July 9th 6:30pm – Rm. B8-B10.

FULLY DEVOTED: by: Alex Kendrick & Stephen Kendrick
This powerful, eight-session study will take you on a journey through Jesus's invitation to come to Him as you are, trust Him with your faith, surrender to Him with your heart, follow Him with your life, and then intentionally make disciples of others. Led by Barry Wills.

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

John 21:19-25

Characteristics of a Committed Christian (Pt. 4)

In John 21, we learn of the characteristics of a committed Christian.

- _____ (vv 1-14)
- _____ (vv 15-17)
- _____ (vv 18-19a)
- _____ (vv 19b-25)

1. _____ instead of others (v 19b)

We follow Jesus by ...

- _____ according to His example
- _____ to His commands
- _____ to Him as our Teacher and Guide

Ask yourself three questions:

- Would Jesus _____?
- Would Jesus _____?
- Would Jesus _____?

2. _____ with others (vv 21-22)

3. _____ from others (vv 22-23)

“Salvation is free ... but discipleship will cost you your life.”

~ Dietrich
Bonhoeffer

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



June 30 – July 4

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:

Monday and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on Sunday's message from June 29th, Characteristics of a Committed Christian" (part 4)" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on July 6th, "We Believe... In The Scriptures", with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
John 15:12