

## MONDAY 7.21.25 - Matthew 16:13-16

It's not that Jesus was unaware of what people were saying about Him. He wants the Apostles to think carefully about those popular perceptions. So, He asks, "Who do people say I am?" Some people thought Jesus was John the Baptist. Others, however, believed that Jesus was a reincarnated Elijah or Jeremiah the prophet. However, Peter declared that Jesus is the Christ. The Greek word "Christ" is the equivalent of the Hebrew word "Messiah." The term means "Anointed One." Now, Peter was the spokesman for the Twelve. They listened to Jesus' teachings, they watched His miracles, they observed His character and behavior, and they concluded that Jesus wasn't simply a prophet. Rather, He's the Messiah Himself, and, indeed, that is who Jesus is! He's the Promised One God sent to take away man's sin in His first coming and to set up God's kingdom on earth in His second coming.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## TUESDAY 7.22.25 - Colossians 1:15-17

<sup>15</sup>The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

When we say that Jesus is the image of the invisible God are talking, not about His physical appearance, but about His character, His behavior, and His motivation. Christ lived a sinless life. He is the way the truth and the life. He was willing to give up all the power, authority and splendor of the universe to come and die for us so that we might have life in Him. He was motivated by love, selfless love (agape love). His singular focus was for you and I to receive Him as our savior and to choose to

live our lives for Him. He wants us to find peace in truly believing that He is the ultimate ruler of all things and, that out of His great love for us, He desires good for us. This is the God we serve. May we choose to serve Him faithfully today.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## WEDNESDAY 7.23.25 - John 3:16

John 3:16 is often referred to as the gospel in a nutshell. For many Christians, it is the first verse of Scripture that they memorized as a child. It contains the good news of God's love, Christ's sacrifice, and Man's response for spiritual salvation. God does not require a person to accomplish good works, perform religious rituals, or give sums of money to charitable organizations in order to win His favor and to merit eternal life. Man is simply required to believe. The Greek word *believe* means to trust. The moment people place their trust alone in Jesus alone for the forgiveness of sin, God gives them eternal life. They become a child of God, and they are guaranteed a home in heaven when they die. This good news is the message of salvation that God has entrusted to you. Share it with someone this week!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## THURSDAY 7.24.25 - Isaiah 45:22

What an exciting declaration! Read the entire chapter, especially from verse 18. "Turn to me and be saved..." He is the source; He is the one who calls us. Clearly this shows that ours is not the first generation who will only come when called but will not seek Him

on our own. We believe because He calls us and pursues us and finds us. Elsewhere the Psalmist contends that there is no one who seeks after God, "no, not one." (Ps 14:3) How rightly that compares with our own life experience. Even as believers, we know our sin nature continues to behave the same way.

But God, as the verse claims, is our Savior. And He calls out to everyone. Even here, in a statement to Jews, God calls to "all you ends of the earth." He is the only God and the only way to life eternal.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## FRIDAY 7.25.25 - Ephesians 2:8-9

Everyone likes a good deal. People like to brag about their skill in negotiating down prices or finding a "steal." Striking bargains demonstrates financial prowess, one measure of the world's view of being a success, but a powerful deterrent to accepting God's offer of salvation. Yet **God's plan is the best deal** around: it's a gift, **free** for the asking. So why do so many balk at the suggestion of accepting it? The very traits that seem to prove our earthly success, money and ego, are the biggest stumbling blocks to spiritual fulfillment. We have to be willing to admit that we cannot save ourselves. We cannot buy our pardon nor outsmart the devil. We have to concede that all power comes from the Lord, forcing us to set ego aside and give up bragging rights in return for reconciliation with God and the promise of heaven for all eternity. Now that's a deal!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## **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<sup>st</sup>.  
**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 - July 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.  
**Safe and Secure: Our Eternal Security in Christ**  
LOCATION: B11 - Dave Delcamp - begins July 27<sup>th</sup>.  
**BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE (part 2)**  
**Risk Takers: The Adventure of Walking by Faith**  
Since our character is to match the Lord Jesus we profess to follow, consider the character traits that are critical in the life of every believer.

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** Began July 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

## ***We Believe ... In Jesus Christ Our Lord***

Jesus is described in *One Solitary Life* as “the Centerpiece of the human race.” As Christians, we would describe Jesus as “the Centerpiece of our faith.” Christ is the foundation of Christianity. He’s at the very heart of all that we believe.

The life and ministry of Jesus can be summed up in four concise statements:

1. He \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 1:26-31
  - Luke 1:34-35
  - Luke 2:1-4
2. He \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 3:23
  - Luke 6:47 (cf. Matthew 7:28)
3. He \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 7:11-17
  - Luke 9:22
  - Luke 19:10
  - Luke 24:1-8
  - Luke 24:45-47
4. He \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 24:49-53 (cf. Hebrews 7:25)

We believe that Jesus Christ was “God manifest in the flesh,” begotten of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, true God and true man, and that He died for our sins, was buried and raised again for our justification, and that He ascended to and is now seated at the right hand of the Father as High Priest and Advocate.  
~ Shiloh Doctrinal Statement

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



July 21 – July 25

### 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 July 20<sup>th</sup>, “*We Believe ... In Jesus Christ Our Lord*” with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on July 27<sup>th</sup>, “*We Believe ... In Man's Need for Salvation*”, with Pastor Doug Lyon.

### KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever  
Hebrews 13:8