

**MONDAY 5.9.22 – MARK 9:35**

A wise man once told me, "Bob, in most cases you are not going to be deciding between right and wrong. You are going to be deciding between good, better, and best." He was right, and I think this holds true for most of us who claim Jesus as our savior. One of Satan's main tactics to keep believers from being really effective for God's kingdom is to keep them busy with good things so they will not have time to be involved in the best things. It is all about priorities, and so often the tyranny of the urgent forces us to place the good things in front of the best things. God wants your best, but He will only get it if you make Him your top priority. Perhaps it is time to get rid of some of the good things to make room for the better and the best.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 5.10.22 – 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-3**

What are they thinking!?!?!? We are quick to criticize those in leadership positions, especially when we do not agree with the direction they are taking things. It could be anything from our country, state, or town to our school, church, company, team, or even family. Our default reaction is typically second-guessing, blaming, ridiculing, and often saying things that are far from Jesus-like. What if, instead of reacting in this way, we first took the time to pray for our leaders? Someone very special to me once said, "OK, you have COMPLAINED TO ME about this situation for 20 minutes. Did you PRAY TO GOD about it that long?" Wise words to consider. What if, first of all, we pray? What if, instead of trying to understand things using our limited power, we call upon our all-powerful Father? Let us pray... for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY 5.11.22 – ACTS 6:8–7:60**

False charges are brought against Stephen. When asked to answer these allegations, Stephen gives a speech covering fifty-three verses and two thousand years of Jewish history. Stephen courageously confronts the sin of his fellow Israelites, especially the religious leaders who had put the Messiah to death and were attempting to halt the spread of the gospel. Stephen tells them that they were continually resisting the Holy Spirit and disobeying God's commands. As a result of Stephen's truth telling, the religious leaders angrily put him to death. However, Stephen faces death with courage and a forgiving heart. He asks the Lord not to hold the sin of the religious leaders against them.

Do you need to forgive someone who has hurt you with their angry words or actions? Write your words of forgiveness in the space provided below. Then share these words with that person as soon as you can.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 5.12.22 – JOSHUA 1:8-9**

"I PICK QUITTING!" The words from my son cut me to the core. He had gone through a rough couple of weeks, and he had enough. "EVERY TIME I GET MY HOPES UP, MY WHOLE WORLD COMES CRASHING DOWN!!!" What is a parent to do?!?

An article from *yellowballoons.net* helped. Among other things, it said, "Throughout life, we will face seasons of disappointment. Times when things do not go according to our plans. When events just don't make sense. When we are hurt, confused, or angry. Courage is perseverance in the face of disappointment. Courage is rooted in faith - faith that pursuing the path Jesus lays out for us has rewards that go beyond mere circumstance. Courage is not the absence of

pain. Boldness does not eliminate our fears; it overcomes them. We can't show courage if all is going as we hope and expect. It is only during disappointment or danger of loss where we have the opportunity to be courageous. Courage is naturally accompanied by fear. And being disappointed does not mean we failed. In fact, we succeed when we face down disappointment and continue striving."

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY 5.13.22 – PSALM 27:1, 7-14**

David is having difficulties, but the beauty of God enables him to live in confident peace (verses 1 and 6). If our hearts delight in God and his face, then we can contemplate losing earthly joys without fear. Even if our mother and father forsake us, we can face it (verse 10). Why? If our greatest treasure—communion with the living God—is safe, of what can we be afraid? Yet we are afraid of so many things. So our fears can serve an important purpose—they show us where we have really located our heart's treasure. Follow the pathway of the fear back into your heart to discover the things you love more than God.

PRAYER: Lord, I will obey you simply because you are worthy of it and it is my duty. But don't let my service to you remain at that level. Show me your beauty—attract my heart, capture my imagination, so that I find joyful pleasure in serving you. Amen.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

### SUNDAY MORNINGS – 9:40AM\*

**Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level  
*\*available during 9:40 AND 11:00 services*

NURSERY (through Age 3)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*

**Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

**Adults** EXPLORE THE BIBLE – Room B8-10 (Lower Level)  
*1 and 2 Thessalonians with Jim Kline*  
MASTERWORK – Room B11 (Lower Level)  
*"Absolute Surrender" with Jack Devlin (4.17–5.29)*  
PERSON OF INTEREST – Room B1-2 (Lower Level)  
*with Steven Miller*

### SUNDAY EVENINGS – 6:00PM

**Kids** KID'S CLUB (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level  
CURRENT SERIES: Messiah's Kids – Answers for Kids

**Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)  
*5th–8th Grade meet downstairs*  
*9th–12th Grade meet upstairs*

**Adults** DIVE DEEP WITH DOUG  
LOCATION: Worship Center  
CURRENT SERIES: **Exodus**  
  
BIG IDEA – SMALL GROUP(S)  
LOCATION: Room B8-10 (Lower Level)  
*Group discussion following the scriptures and themes of Sunday morning's message. Jump in any time as we go through the Book of ACTS together.*

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS – 6:30PM

**THE POWER OF KNOWING GOD (beginning May 4th)**  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

### WOMEN'S STUDY – THURSDAYS at 9:00aM

**JESUS & WOMEN (April 21 – June 2)**  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

*TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY GROUPS OR CLASSES,  
PLEASE USE THE CONNECT CARD IN YOUR BULLETIN. THANK YOU!*

## SERMON NOTES

# ACTS 6:1-8

Every church is faced with challenges—even the early church.

### 1. The Problem (v 1)

With the rapid growth of the church (cf. 2:41, 4:4, 5:14), came difficulties among believers.

### 2. The Solution (vv 2-6)

Three considerations need to be kept in mind.

- \_\_\_\_\_

Do not get defensive, upset, or try to rationalize the problem. Rather, step back, look at the criticism, and see the value in it.

- \_\_\_\_\_

The apostles don't abandon their primary ministry, but they don't ignore the issue.

- \_\_\_\_\_

"I'd rather get ten men to do the job than to do the job of ten men." ~ D. L. Moody

### 3. The Results (vv 7-8)

The solution results in three wonderful outcomes.

- God's word \_\_\_\_\_!
- God's people \_\_\_\_\_!
- God's work \_\_\_\_\_!


No church is without problems—including Shiloh. However, if we deal with them in a wise, practical, and biblical way, then Shiloh will not only survive, but we will thrive!

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day  
TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



## May 9th – 13th

### INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip () 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's and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on today's message in Acts 5. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us to continue in the book of Acts next Sunday as we look at Steadfastness in Purpose in Acts 6 and 7.

### KEY/MEMORYVERSE:

"Jesus is 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.' Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

—ACTS 4:11-12