

**MONDAY 6.6.22 – John 3:16**

Are you born again? If so, then the Holy Spirit now lives within you and as a result your life should be changed. The Bible is very clear as to what kind of changes should be taking place in your life.

Galatians 5:22-23 says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Ask yourself the following questions: Since becoming a Christian have others observed that I am more:

- loving toward others?
- joyful?
- At peace, even in anxious situations?
- Patient, even in difficult situations?
- More likely to know and do the good thing?
- Faithful, concerned for what God wants and what others need?
- Gentle, slow to anger and soft spoken?
- Self-controlled, practicing good things and abstaining from bad?

Pray that the Spirit of God will be at work in your life today to produce His fruits in you and then look for opportunities to show these fruits to those you interact with.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 6.7.22 – 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**

Change. It may as well be a four-letter word. We hate change. We like comfortable. Yet, God has made it very clear that if we believe in Him, if we are with Him and He is with us, then we have changed. The old us is gone. The new us is here! Do not look back! Do not dwell on the past! Embrace this change and all the blessings that come with it! So... if we are to become new and celebrate the new creation, why do we let our earthly comforts get in the way of this change? Yet, we do it all the time. We all have our own unique earthy preferences, and we all try to force those preferences on those around us instead of celebrating the differences God has placed within us. Let go of those old habits and celebrate the new creation

together. Change leads to discomfort. Discomfort leads to movement. Thomas Frey of the DaVinci Institute says: "Every avalanche begins with the movement of a single snowflake, and my hope is to move a snowflake." What would a "new creation avalanche" look like? Let's find out!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY 6.8.22 – ACTS 9:32-43**

Acts 9 records the miraculous healing of Aeneas and Dorcas. After reading this account, those who are suffering with an illness might ask, "If God loves me, why doesn't He heal me?" Joni Eareckson Tada is a quadriplegic who wrestled with this very question. In her book *A Step Further*, Joni writes, "On a rainy afternoon in the early summer of 1972 about fifteen people gathered together in a tiny oak church not far from my home. The group consisted of close friends, family, and church leaders ... whom I had called together to pray for my healing." Joni explains that God did hear her prayers, but He didn't heal her paralysis. God does love you, and He has a plan to one day completely free you from all the effects of sin and disease. The question is: Will you trust Him during the wait?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 6.9.22 – MICAH 6:8**

Micah 6:8 asks us what the Lord requires of us. There are many different ways to answer this question. You might have a passion for evangelism, so you answer with the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20. Or you might be more focused on worship and emphasize verses like Psalm 95:6. You may think that God wants holiness, and the Ten Commandments define what it is that God expects of you. Or

you may emphasize Christian character, and so the fruit of the Spirit as described in Paul's writings might be your favorite. The wide range of answers to this question helps the Christian community to be holistic, so that the passions, interests, and gifts of all God's people can be realized. And Micah 6:8 helps us connect our faith with our actions, our care for those in need with our walk with God.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

- What does the Lord require/desire for you?
- What gifts and abilities has He given you for that?
- How can you step outside your comfort zone to make Micah 6:8 an action in your life?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY 6.10.22 – PSALM 15**

A LINE IN THE SAND: Are you a follower of Christ? I would bet that most of you who are reading this would answer yes to that question, but what does that mean to you. How far are you willing to go for the sake of Christ? As Deb and I raised our children, we tried to instill in them that they needed to determine their commitment to Christ prior to having that commitment challenged. We called it the line in the sand. That place where you have said, "no matter what I will not cross this line". The early disciples drew their line in the sand when they said, "it is better for us to serve God rather than man, regardless of the cost", and when the time came, they remained true to Christ. What about you? Where is your line in the sand? Remember, if you do not decide where that line is ahead of time, when the time comes for it to be challenged it will likely become blurred and much easier to cross.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## *E2* 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 Kings with Lane Kemler*  
MASTERWORK–Room B11 (Lower Level)  
*“Pray Big” with Carl Hosler*  
POWER OF KNOWING GOD–Room B1-2 (Lower Level)  
*with Gene Steinruck*

### SUNDAY EVENINGS – 6:00PM

**Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Kid’s Wing on the Lower Level  
CURRENT SERIES: 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)

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

## **SERMON NOTES**

**SERIES:** CHANGE: Four Spiritual Shifts from Acts 9–11

**SERMON:** “Close Encounters” (Change In Spirit)

**SCRIPTURE:** Acts 9:1-31

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*E2* **Edifying and Equipping Every Day**  
TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



## June 6<sup>th</sup> – June 10<sup>th</sup>

### 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's and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on today's message from Acts 9:1-31 and our first shift in our series CHANGE. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us to continue in this series as we look at the second shift in Acts 9:32-43.

### KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

“All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name.”

–ACTS 10:43