MONDAY 5.1.23 - Luke 2:52

Not much is revealed about Jesus' youth. It surely encompassed daily events and schedules, work and play. The window of time for children to grow is only a small portion of their lives and passes by very quickly. Parents grasp this later in life, grandparents grasp it right away. Experience is a great teacher.

The renown of Jesus' life is demonstrated in his later years, during his ministry to the world. All the world beheld this man full of grace and truth. But the foundation for that life was formed early on, while at work and play, in the midst of schedules and events. There he learned obedience, love, perseverance, and forgiveness, among lots of other disciplines. Parents today teach these disciplines. As his parents taught these things, Jesus grew into the man whom the whole world needed, a man of wisdom and having favor with God and man.

PACE FOR REFL	ECTION			

TUESDAY 5.2.23 - Philippians 1:19-21

I had a middle eastern colleague that treated me, several decades older than he, with a respect typical of his culture. When I was no longer in the office, my associate was treated far differently. Age was the only qualifier!

In today's passage, Paul exhorts Timothy to not let anyone despise his youth. It is important to note that Paul does not leave it there! He exhorts his young companion to **prove** himself by being an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.

That is a powerful exhortation to us, as well. Young and old. New to the faith or years down that journey. Simple in our understanding of the Scriptures or deep in our knowledge. In speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity - what an example we would be to family, church and the world!

PACE FOR REFLECTION
WEDNESDAY - 5.3.23 - Galatians 1:6-9
Paul is amazed at how quickly the Galatian believers embraced false teaching after he had left them. The false teachers deceived and convinced the Galatians into believing that faith alone in Christ alone is insufficient for eternal salvation. They taught that a person must obey the Law of Moses to be justified in God's sight. So, what's the antidote to false teaching? Keep moving forward in the truth! That's why it is so important for you to spend time in the Word of God and prayer every day. That's why it is so important for you to be at Shiloh every Sunday morning to study the Word in a worship service. That's why it is so important for you to be involved in an E2 small group so that you will "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).
SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 5.4.23 - Deuteronomy 13:1-4

American author David Foster Wallace writes: "in the day-to day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. And the compelling reason for maybe choosing some sort of god or spiritual-type thing to worship is that pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough, never feel you have enough. It's the truth. Worship your own body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly, and when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally plant you. On one level, we all know

this stuff already - it's been codified as myths, proverbs, clichés, bromides, epigrams, parables: the skeleton of every great story. The trick is keeping **the truth** up front in daily consciousness." That truth is faith in Jesus Christ...anything else will eat you alive.

PACE FC	OR REFLECTION			

FRIDAY - 5.5.23 - Acts 20:29-32

²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. ³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

³² "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

There is nothing wrong with fresh ideas but be careful. The best sales strategy is to get the person to make a quick emotional decision rather than a well thought out logical one. Satan strategy is no different. Further, in our science-based culture, if someone says, "statistics show" we tend to believe it. When it comes to accepting the things of the world, I would like to offer a few suggestions:

- Make well thought out and logical decisions. Think about what the world is selling and where you stand on these issues, as I often told my kids, "Draw a line in the sand ahead of time and say I will not cross this line.
- 2. Base what is true on the Word of God.
- 3. Remember, God loves everyone and wants all to be saved, but Jesus said "wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. Matthew 7:13-14.

SPACE	FOR REFLECTION			
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SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

Kids CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)

LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level

available during the 9:40 service

NURSERY (through Age 3)

LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level

available during the 9:40 service

Youth YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)

LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

Adults SPRING QUARTER BEGINS MARCH 5TH LOCATION: B8-10 with Lane Kemler

Explore the Bible - John, chapters 12-21

LOCATION: B11 with Lane Kemler

Masterwork - Beginning 4/23, a six-week study, *The Overcoming Life by D.L. Moody* with Jack

Devlin.

LOCATION: B1-2 with Barry Wills

God Owns it All - A 6-week study of financial principles that are affirmed by the authority of scripture and tested by the marketplace by

author, Ron Blue.

SUNDAY EVENINGS – 6:00pm

Kids MESSIAH KIDS (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)

Studying: "The Life of Jesus"

LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level

Youth YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)

LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

5th–8th Grade meet downstairs 9th–12th Grade meet upstairs

Adults DIVE DEEPER WITH DOUG

LOCATION: Worship Center

EVENING E2 STUDIES - Beginning 4/26, a six-week study

Wednesdays LOCATION: Rm B8-10 - 6:30pm God Owns it All, by Ron Blue

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Thursdays LOCATION: YAC 9:00am - 11am - Beginning 3/16

Jude, by Jackie Hill Perry

Mondays LOCATION: B8-10 - 6:30 - 8:30pm - Beginning 3/27

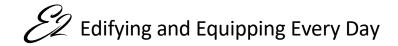
Decluttering by Faith, by D. Madsen & D. Kokku

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

Child of God

Luke 18:15-17

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."



TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



May 1^{st} – May 5^{th}

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (\mathcal{Q}) 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 Sunday's message "Child of God". Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on 5.7.23, Galatians 1:6-10, "No Additives" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE: "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Galatians 1:3-4