

**MONDAY 4.8.24 - Luke 4:5-8**

<sup>5</sup>The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup>If you worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.

Each time Satan tempted Jesus he basically said, "Look what I can do for you" and in each case Jesus turned the tables by making it clear that it was not about Him but about God. It was about who He was going to serve and worship. What Satan had to offer was tempting and pleasant for the moment, but Jesus was not looking at the here and now but at the big picture. In this world we are tempted to get caught up in the moment and forget about the big picture. Are there idols in your life that are taking the place of worshiping and serving God? Is there pain in your life that you are trying to mediate by means of unhealthy habits? If so, you are probably looking in the wrong place. Turn your eyes upon Jesus and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 4.9.24 - Revelation 4:8-11**

"Holy! Holy! Holy!" What awe-inspiring words! God is the holiest that can possibly be and must be worshiped accordingly. We are commanded to give Him praise, worship and glory; but how do we come before such majesty and holiness? Isaiah saw the throne of God and immediately lamented his own sinful uncleanliness (Chap. 6). He had to be purified before he could proceed. John's vision (today's passage) should prompt recognition of our own sinfulness. Mercifully, we have the blood of Jesus to cleanse us and provide a way before Holy God. We must have a right heart before we can rightfully worship Him. How do we worship: live to glorify Jesus (Col. 3:17)

and offer our bodies as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1); go to church with thanksgiving and praise (Psalm 100:4); obey His commands; commune with Him through reading His Word and praying. God's holiness demands our worship.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY 4.10.24 - John 4:27-38**

We aren't living in a results-oriented society. We're living in an instant results-oriented society. In the morning, we can help ourselves to instant coffee. If we need to drop off clothes at the dry cleaners, they promise to have them ready in an hour.

That's one reason we struggle when it comes to evangelism. We want people we share the gospel with to trust Christ—now! We need to acknowledge there are times when faithfulness means we might be the sixth of six people to help lead an individual to Christ. However, faithfulness with others means we must be willing to be the seventh of eighteen, the ninth of twelve, or the second of twenty-two. No matter which number we are, the sowers and the reapers have their reward. God uses a team of people, often unknown to each other, to bring a person to Christ.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 4.11.24 - Proverbs 11:30**

In Disney's Animal Kingdom attraction, there is a gigantic 'Disney tree' that towers over everything by close to a hundred feet. It is called the Tree of Life.

Proverbs here presents quite a different tree of life; one that is not marked by its height or immensity but by its fruit - *righteousness*. In a typical proverb type way, it twists things a bit! It is not that the tree is known by its fruit here, but that the fruit is the tree! Righteousness *is* the tree of life!

This tree, much as the tree at Disney, draws people in but not by its sheer overwhelming size but by the godly righteousness displayed. This wise display captures souls and leads them from death to life. May this light of righteousness shine in such a way that men see, come to His Life, and glorify our Father in heaven! (Matt 5:16)

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY 4.12.24. - Psalm 96:3**

Today's verse admonishes us to 'declare' His glory and mighty works among the nations and all the peoples. This sounds like a command to witness for Him to others we know and meet. Indeed, the context of the surrounding verses gives evidence of the worthiness of our God for all His creation and activities. It claims that He is worthy of all praise for what He does and has done.

Our lives should provide sufficient proof to us of the goodness of God that we join all the rest of creation to tell of His glory and of His mighty works. Sports figures giving Glory to God after a victory or loss, shares His faithfulness and unity with them to all the listening world. Our sharing of His activity, personal and private, or more corporate and visible, is the premise of this verse. Sing, declare or speak out the glory of God and the works He does for us daily.

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** **SPRING QUARTER** - March 3<sup>rd</sup> - May 26<sup>th</sup>  
LOCATION: B8-10 with Dave Decamp  
**Explore the Bible** - *Genesis 20-50*.  
LOCATION: B11 with Shawn Devlin  
**Bible Studies for Life** - "It's All About Jesus"  
Beginning April 14<sup>th</sup> "Being an Authentic Church"  
with Lane Kemler  
LOCATION: B1-2 with Chris Domenico  
**"Kingdom Authority"**  
LOCATION: B1-2 with Joel Day - Beginning April 14  
**"When Your Way Isn't Working"** be Kyle Idleman

### SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)  
5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade meet downstairs.  
9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade meet upstairs.
- Adults** Dive Deep with Doug  
LOCATION: Worship Center

### E2 SPRING SMALL GROUPS

- Women's** THURSDAY MORNING STUDY - Began March 14<sup>th</sup>.  
A study on **Isaiah** by Melissa Spoelstra  
with Brenda Ross - at 9:00am in B8-10.
- Women's** THURSDAY EVENING STUDY - Began March 14<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm at Kulp UMC, Exodus 19–40 with Elizabeth Williams.
- Men's Bible Study** - begins April 16<sup>th</sup>. at 6:30pm in the YAC.  
Wild at Heart by John Eldredge with Vince DiLoretto

### EVENING GROUP STUDY

- Wednesday Evening Study** - begins April 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Body of Proof by Jeremiah Johnston  
with Barry Wills - at 6:30pm in B8-10.


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

## **John 4:15-26** **What God Is Looking For**

Jesus meets a woman at a well in Samaria. Their conversation reveals that there are three kinds of worship:

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ Worship
  - Place of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:20)
  - Pattern of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:22)
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ Worship
  - Place of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:20)
  - Pattern of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:22)
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ Worship
  - Place of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:23-24)
  - Pattern of Worship—\_\_\_\_\_
    - Approach God \_\_\_\_\_
      - Isaiah 29:13a
    - Respond to \_\_\_\_\_
      - Isaiah 29:13b, John 17:17
    - Focus on \_\_\_\_\_
      - John 14:6

"The nature of worship, then, is to offer God worship from the depths of our inner being in praise, prayer, song, giving, and living; always based upon His revealed truth. ... It is the overflow of our understanding of God as He has revealed Himself in the Scriptures. That is worshiping is spirit and in truth."  
~John MacArthur

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



April 8th - April 12th

#### 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 Sunday's message, "What God is Looking For" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on April 14<sup>th</sup>, "Help Wanted" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

#### KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.  
John 20:31