Sermon Journal

September 25, 2017 - February 11, 2018



SERMON JOURNAL

September 25, 2017 - February 11, 2018

Name:

Dear church,

We are followers of Jesus who want to help others follow Him, too. The Scriptures were written with this in mind. "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 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 20:30-31)

The basic idea for the upcoming Sunday sermon appears each Monday. You will see this theme throughout the daily readings.

Two challenges:

- 1. Create a weekly small group to discuss the scriptures and find a personal application. All you need is your Bible, this journal and at least one friend. Reach out and invite.
- 2. Couples and families may use it every day. Read the scripture, discuss it and pray together. I challenge husbands and fathers to lead your family spiritually.

This journal contains three series:

KINGDOM CULTURE. In front of our south entrance is a lifesize statue of John Wesley. The "founder of Methodism" had many great quotes. His words will be the subject of this series. He was a "man of one book" and was very serious about living in alignment with the Bible.

INVITE. If we are going to help others follow Jesus we need to invite people. We are to develop healthy and gracious relationships with others. We see this in the New Testament. Invitation was the heartbeat of Jesus. He invited all kinds of folks into God's kingdom culture. During the period leading up to Christmas (that is Advent), who will you invite?

UNITE. In our 2018 New Year, I want to stress unity. This study comes from only one chapter (Ephesians 4). Unity was a BIG deal to Jesus and to Paul. Unity is part of the culture of the Kingdom of God. John Wesley emphasized it, too: "If your heart is as my heart, lend me your hand."

This can be a wonderful opportunity to INVITE and UNITE under the leading of the Holy Spirit as we seek practical ways to live into God's KINGDOM CULTURE.

It's impossible for us to follow Jesus and to help others follow Him if we do not know and apply the Scriptures. This is your chance to worship, grow and influence.

In Christ,

1 om

Tom

Scripture Readings

KINGDOM	CULTURE: The Neglect of	1 0/21	Acts 5:25-42
Prayer is th	e Grand Hindrance to Holiness	1 0/22	John17:13-19
9 /25	Luke 22:39-46		
9 /26	Acts 1:12-14	KINGDOM	CULTURE: You Have One
9 /27	Acts 1:15-26	Business or	n Earth – to Save Souls
9 /28	Acts 4:31	1 0/23	Luke 10:1-4
9 /29	Acts 8:14-17	1 0/24	Proverbs 11:30;
9 /30	Acts 13:1-12		Acts 4:8-12
1 0/1	Luke 22:39-46	1 0/25	Philippians 2:12-13
WING DOM		1 0/26	1 Thessalonians 5:4-11
	CULTURE: 1 Felt Did Trust in	1 0/27	1 Peter 1:3-9
-	st Alone, for Salvation.	1 0/28	Jude 3-4
	Ephesians 2:1-10	1 0/29	Luke 10:1-4
	Acts 8:26-40		
1 0/4			CULTURE: Be Rigorous
	Acts 16:6-15		Ourselves and Candid in
	Acts 16:16-18	Judging Ea	
	Acts 16:19-34		Matthew 7:1-5
1 0/8	Ephesians 2:1-10		Romans 2:1-24
KINGDOM	CULTURE: I am a Man of One		Romans 3:9-26
Book	COLI ORL. I am a man or one	1 1/2	
	1 Timothy 4:11-16	□ 11/3	1 Corinthians 5:12-14
	Psalm 119:1-32	□ 11/4	
	Psalm 119:33-72	1 1/5	Matthew 7:1-5
	Psalm 119:73-112	KINCDOM	CULTURE: What One
	Psalm 119:113-144		Tolerates the Next
	Psalm 119:145-176		Will Embrace
	1 Timothy 4:11-16		Psalm 145:3-13
10/13	1 111110tilly 4.11-10		Psalm 24:1-6
KINGDOM	CULTURE: <i>I Look Upon All the</i>		
World as M		☐ 11/8 ☐ 11/9	Psalm 71:18; 79:13 Psalm 102:18;
1 0/16	John 17:13-19	1 11/9	
	Matthew 28:16-20	□ 11/10	Psalm 145 Acts 2:38-41
1 0/18	John 13:34-35		
	Acts 1:7-8		Philippians 2:14-17 Psalm 145:3-13
	Acts 4:32-37	u 11/12	rsallii 145.5-15

Scripture Readings

KINGDOM CULTURE: Gain All You Can. **INVITE:** Invitation to Love □ 12/11 Luke 19:1-10 Save All You Can, Give All You Can □ 11/13 Luke 12:16-21 □ 12/12 Matthew 1:20-23 ☐ 11/14 Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 □ 12/13 Matthew 9:10-13 ☐ 11/15 Matthew 6:19-20 □ 12/14 Romans 5:6-17 □ 11/16 Luke 16:1-15 □ 12/15 1 Timothy 1:15-17 □ 11/17 Luke 19:11-27 □ 12/16 Hebrews 7:23-25 □ 12/17 Luke 19:1-10 □ 11/18 1 Timothy 6:6-10 □ 11/19 Luke 12:16-21 **INVITE: Invitation to Life** ☐ 12/18 Revelation 3:19-22 KINGDOM CULTURE: The Best of All Is, □ 12/19 Luke 12:35-40 God Is with Us □ 12/20 John 1:1-14 □ 11/20 1 Timothy 6:11-16 □ 12/21 John 14:15-21 □ 11/21 Ecclesiastes 12 ☐ 12/22 Colossians 1:15-20 □ 11/22 John 3:10-21 □ 12/23 Hebrews 1:1-9 □ 11/23 Romans 6:19-23 ☐ 12/24 Revelation 3:19-22 □ 11/24 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5 □ 11/25 1 John 5:6-15 **INVITE: Invitation to Blessing** □ 11/26 1 Timothy 6:11-16 □ 12/25 Luke 14:12-15 □ 12/26 Genesis 12:1-3 **INVITE:** Invitation to Connect ☐ 12/27 Deuteronomy 30:19-20 □ 11/27 John 1:40-46 □ 12/28 Psalm 1 □ 11/28 John 6:1-9 □ 12/29 Luke 24:50-53 □ 11/29 John 12:20-22 ☐ 12/30 Galatians 3:10-14 ☐ 11/30 Acts 26 □ 12/31 Luke 14:12-15 ☐ 12/1 Colossians 1:21-29 □ 12/2 1 Peter 3:15-16 **UNITE: Unite for Peace** □ 12/3 John 1:40-46 □ 1/1 Ephesians 4:1-6 **1**/2 Psalm 133 **INVITE:** Invitation to Rest John 15:9-17 \square 1/3 □ 12/4 Matthew11:28-30 **1**/4 John 17:20-26 □ 12/5 Psalm 32 **1**/5 Romans 16:17-19 □ 12/6 Isaiah 55 **1**/6 Colossians 3:12-14 □ 12/7 Matthew 12:15-21 □ 1/7 Ephesians 4:1-6

□ 12/8 John 6:35-40□ 12/9 Hebrews 4:1-11□ 12/10 Matthew11:28-30

Scripture Readings

UNITE: Un	ite to Serve	UNITE: Uni	ite in Forgiveness
1 /8	Ephesians 4:7-13	2 /5	Ephesians 4:29-32
1 /9	Acts 20:25-38	2 /6	Genesis 50:15-21
1/10	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	2 /7	Matthew 6:9-15
1/11	1 Corinthians 12	2 /8	Matthew 18:21-35
1/12	2 Corinthians 11:13-15	2 /9	Acts 9:1-22
1 /13	Ephesians 1:15-23	2/10	2 Corinthians 2:5-11
□ 1/14	Ephesians 4:7-13	2 /11	Ephesian 4:29-32
UNITE: Uni	ite to Grow		
1/15	Ephesians 4:14-16		
1 /16	1 Corinthians 14:1-12		
1/17	Ephesians 2:19-22		
1/18	2 Timothy 2:14-19		
1/19	Hebrews 5:11-14		
1/20	1 John 3:16-20		
1 /21	Ephesians 4:14-16		
UNITE: Uni	ite in Attitude		
1 /22	Ephesians 4:17-24		
1 /23	Romans 6:1-7		
1 /24	Romans 12:1-2		
,			
☐ 1/25			
	2 Corinthians 5:16-21		
1 /25	2 Corinthians 5:16-21		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27 ☐ 1/28	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27 ☐ 1/28 UNITE: Unit	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24 ite in Truth Ephesians 4:25-28		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27 ☐ 1/28 UNITE: Uni ☐ 1/29	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24 ite in Truth Ephesians 4:25-28		
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☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27 ☐ 1/28 UNITE: Uni ☐ 1/29 ☐ 1/30 ☐ 1/31	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24 ite in Truth Ephesians 4:25-28 John 1:14-18 John 14:1-14		
☐ 1/25 ☐ 1/26 ☐ 1/27 ☐ 1/28 UNITE: Uni ☐ 1/29 ☐ 1/30 ☐ 1/31 ☐ 2/1	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Philippians 2:5-11 1 Peter 4:1-6 Ephesians 4:17-24 ite in Truth Ephesians 4:25-28 John 1:14-18 John 14:1-14 John 16:5-15		

People who know their God will stand firm and take action.

September 25 – November 26, 2017

Monday, September 25, 2017 Luke 22:39-46

The word "holiness" creates condescending, harsh and judgmental images for me. But when I think of holiness as being my walk or journey with God, not as duty or legalism, then it has appeal. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, wanted the Methodist people to walk closely with God. Being a Christian is far more than having our sins forgiven and going to heaven. What comes after salvation is vitally important. We have a calling to fulfill. We have opportunities to grow in grace and to be like Christ. Jesus showed that in His hour of greatest need He needed to be in close relationship with the Father. Prayer is easily neglected in our discipleship. After literally falling asleep in Gethsemane, note in our readings how the disciples helped the church "get it" in the Book of Acts.

APPLICATION: What's your concept of "holiness"? How would you define it? What's the connection between prayer and holiness in your life?

THE NEGLECT OF PRAYER IS THE GRAND HINDRANCE TO HOLINESS

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 Acts 1:12-14

CTICE: How d	loes this pas	nean to the sage apply	to God's p	eople today?

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 Acts 1:15-26

(: What did this pass CTICE: How does thi	is passage o	apply to Go	ndi audience od's people to	e? oday?

THE NEGLECT OF PRAYER IS THE GRAND HINDRANCE TO HOLINESS

Thursday, September 28, 2017 Acts 4:31

TICE: How does	this passag	ge apply to	God's peopl	e today?

Friday, September 29, 2017 Acts 8:14-17

C: What did to	does this pa	issage app	oly to God	's people to	day?

THE NEGLECT OF PRAYER IS THE GRAND HINDRANCE TO HOLINESS

Saturday, September 30, 2017 Acts 13:1-12

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Sunday, October 1, 2017 Luke 22:39-46

Sermon Notes:		

I FELT I DID TRUST IN CHRIST, CHRIST ALONE, FOR SALVATION

Monday, October 2, 2017 Ephesians 2:1-10

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, had a crisis conversion experience. While on his way to be a missionary to the Native Americans, a violent storm nearly destroyed his boat. He thought he would die. He asked some others on board why they were so peaceful. They told him that whether they lived or died they were with the Lord. This "missionary" had no personal assurance of salvation. The storm abated, the ship landed safely, and he eventually found his way back to a chapel on Aldersgate Street in London where he heard someone read from Martin Luther's preface to the Book of Romans. That's when John Wesley felt he
truly became a Christian. We all have unique ways to faith. Mine,
like Wesley's, was dramatic. My wife never had such an experience.
I think more people are like Dana than like me. Regardless of our
beginning, the important thing is that we know that we have given
our lives to Jesus Christ and we stick with Him to the end.

APPLICATION: What is your salvation story? Note/discuss the wide range of experiences in these conversion stories from the Book of Acts.

Tuesday, October 3, 2017 Acts 8:26-40

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

I FELT I DID TRUST IN CHRIST, CHRIST ALONE, FOR SALVATION

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 Acts 9

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Thursday, October 5, 2017 Acts 16:6-15

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

I FELT I DID TRUST IN CHRIST, CHRIST ALONE, FOR SALVATION

Friday, October 6, 2017 Acts 16:16-18

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Saturday, October 7, 2017 Acts 16:19-34

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

I FELT I DID TRUST IN CHRIST, CHRIST ALONE, FOR SALVATION

Sunday, October 8, 2017 Ephesians 2:1-10

ermon Note	S:		

Monday, October 9, 2017 1 Timothy 4:11-16

About 40 authors wrote the Bible in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic over a period of about 1,500 years describing experiences in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. It was finished by the end of the first century A.D. John Wesley had many books in his life, but only the Bible served as the governing authority for him. He believed in the teachings and doctrines of the Church of England. He had his own experiences, too. He also used his reasoning skills. However, he insisted that the Bible was the foundation of his life. He insisted that all of his preachers and the Methodist people learn to love and use the Bible as their guide, too. It takes some effort to learn it, but with some help, we can let it be the authority for our lives, too. Knowing and following the Scriptures are an essential part of discipleship. Psalm 119 captures the affection the psalmist had for the Bible, the "Word of God."

APPLICATION: How well are you doing in this? What value does learning and applying the Scriptures have for you? How does it manifest itself? Are you in Bible study? If not, could you get together with someone each week and discuss this sermon journal? It could be a wonderful win/win.

I AM A MAN OF ONE BOOK

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 Psalm 119:1-32

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Wednesday, October 11, 2017 Psalm 119:33-72

C: What did to	does this pa	issage app	oly to God	's people to	day?

I AM A MAN OF ONE BOOK

Thursday, October 12, 2017 Psalm 119:73-112

K: What did	l this passage me w does this passo	ean to the ori age apply to (iginal audience? God's people toda	ıy?

Friday, October 13, 2017 Psalm 119:113-144

K: What did this passage mean to the original aud ICTICE: How does this passage apply to God's peo _l	ple today?

I AM A MAN OF ONE BOOK

Saturday, October 14, 2017 Psalm 119:145-176

K: What did	l this passage me w does this passo	ean to the ori age apply to (iginal audience? God's people toda	ıy?

Sunday, October 15, 2017 1 Timothy 4:11-16

Sermon Notes:	

I LOOK UPON ALL THE WORLD AS MY PARISH

Monday, October 16, 2017 John 17:13-19

"Parish" is an unfamiliar word to many of us, but it is another way

to define the membership of a local church. A "parish priest" has pastoral oversight for these people. John Wesley, an Anglican priest, would not be confined to this concept. He felt his calling was greater than a localized geographic area. Jesus emphasized that His disciples must love one another, which is "The Great Commandment." On the other hand, Jesus also gave us "The Great Commission." We are to go worldwide seeking to bring all people to saving faith in Jesus Christ. Wesley was trying to establish the worldwide church, not just his own geographic area. This explains why we are involved in missions in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the U.S.A., and around the world. We love one another AND we are trying to help others follow Jesus all over the world. Our readings this week will
focus more on "The Great Commission."

APPLICATION: In what ways are you mission-minded? How do you think, pray and act locally? Globally?

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 Matthew 28:16-20

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

I LOOK UPON ALL THE WORLD AS MY PARISH

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 John 13:34-35

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Thursday, October 19, 2017 Acts 1:7-8

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

I LOOK UPON ALL THE WORLD AS MY PARISH

Friday, October 20, 2017 Acts 4:32-37

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Saturday, October 21, 2017 Acts 5:25-42

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

I LOOK UPON ALL THE WORLD AS MY PARISH

Sunday, October 22, 2017 John 17:13-19

Sermon Notes:	

Monday, October 23, 2017 Luke 10:1-4

This phrase was something John Wesley emphasized to his preachers. There are a lot of different words we use to describe salvation, "being saved, being born again, conversion, redemption, justification by faith, and regeneration" to name just a few. We are saved when we understand God's great love for us, receive His forgiveness (made possible by Jesus' atonement for our sins) and trust Him. There are a wide variety of ways this happens to people (everyone is different). It is very hard for us to receive this gift of salvation, as we feel we must make ourselves worthy of it. Salvation is an on-going relationship that culminates in eternal life. We are on mission to help others follow Jesus by knowing His great love, forgiveness and salvation. And while we might have "one business," the reality is that nobody can save anyone's soul. That's God's work. But we can be witnesses and we can prioritize leading people to Christ. That's what Wesley was after – helping others follow Jesus.

APPLICATION: How are you doing in this? Think in specifics.

YOU HAVE ONE BUSINESS ON EARTH - TO SAVE SOULS

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 Proverbs 11:30; Acts 4:8-12

CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					
					
 					

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 Philippians 2:12-13

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

YOU HAVE ONE BUSINESS ON EARTH - TO SAVE SOULS

Thursday, October 26, 2017 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11

X: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Friday, October 27, 2017 1 Peter 1:3-9

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

YOU HAVE ONE BUSINESS ON EARTH - TO SAVE SOULS

Saturday, October 28, 2017 Jude 3-4

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Sunday, October 29, 2017 Luke 10:1-4

ermon Notes:			

BE RIGOROUS IN JUDGING OURSELVES AND CANDID IN JUDGING EACH OTHER

Monday, October 30, 2017 Matthew 7:1-5

It is easy to cut ourselves slack while ringing up others. This happens in marriages, families, neighborhoods, work, school and church. In Romans 2, Paul speaks to the religious folks who have been harsh in their condemnation of the immorality of the pagans. We must understand that none of us is righteous because, "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). On the other hand, some of us can flip this around and beat ourselves up. Having either a superiority or an inferiority complex moves the focus from God to us. We must make judgments. Certain things ARE right and certain things ARE wrong (Titus 2:11-15). Sin is to be confronted and rebuked, especially within the church. Wesley did this with the Methodist people. He could be quite direct. Since no one is perfect, grace must always prevail. People (that is, souls) are
always more important to God than the rules.

APPLICATION: Do you think Christians should be held to a different standard than unbelievers? Why or Why not? How well are you doing in receiving and extending grace?

Tuesday, October 31, 2017 Romans 2:1-24

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

BE RIGOROUS IN JUDGING OURSELVES AND CANDID IN JUDGING EACH OTHER

Wednesday, November 1, 2017 Romans 3:9-26

X: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Thursday, November 2, 2017 Romans 14:9-21

CTICE: How does t	this passage	K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

BE RIGOROUS IN JUDGING OURSELVES AND CANDID IN JUDGING EACH OTHER

Friday, November 3, 2017 1 Corinthians 5:12-14

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Saturday, November 4, 2017 Hebrews 13:4-5

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

BE RIGOROUS IN JUDGING OURSELVES AND CANDID IN JUDGING EACH OTHER

Sunday, November 5, 2017 Matthew 7:1-5

Sermon Notes:		

Monday, November 6, 2017 Psalm 145:3-13

Wesley saw this happen within Methodism. He lived past his 87 th birthday (June 28, 1703 – March 2, 1791). He saw how the first generation of Methodists had their lives redeemed by Christ. Their conversions tended to help them be better parents and providers for their families. Alcoholism, adultery, abuse and absenteeism from work all diminished. Their children (the 2 nd generation) had advantages the first generation had missed. It was even more evident with the 3 rd generation. While they improved in many ways (social status, finances, etc.), Wesley became concerned that this generation was not as spiritually connected as the first generation. This saying could be flipped: "What one generation blesses and endows the next generation will receive as their legacy." A legacy
can work two ways – for curses or for blessings.

APPLICATION: What kind of legacy are you leaving emotionally, spiritually, materially? How can you make positive investments for other generations?

WHAT ONE GENERATION TOLERATES THE NEXT GENERATION WILL EMBRACE

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 Psalm 24:1-6

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 Psalm 71:18; 79:13

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

WHAT ONE GENERATION TOLERATES THE NEXT GENERATION WILL EMBRACE

Thursday, November 9, 2017 Psalm 102:18; Psalm 145

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Friday, November 10, 2017 Acts 2:38-41

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

WHAT ONE GENERATION TOLERATES THE NEXT GENERATION WILL EMBRACE

Saturday, November 11, 2017 Philippians 2:14-17

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Sunday, November 12, 2017 Psalm 145:3-13

ermon Notes:			

GAIN ALL YOU CAN, SAVE ALL YOU CAN, GIVE ALL YOU CAN

Monday, November 13, 2017 Luke12:16-21

are limited, but there is always a way to be active, whether in a paid position or not. Wesley wanted us to gain money by honest work, not by dishonesty. He stressed frugality, too. Let's not waste our time or our money. Wesley taught the greatest purpose of money was to give it away. He made a small fortune in book publishing, but he practiced what he preached and gave most all of it away. Unlike the successful farmer in Luke's parable, Wesley was an excellent steward. Paul said we were "created to do good works" (Ephesians 2:10). I think generosity is close to the top of the list of "good works." We simply cannot progress in our faith until we learn to give, not only our time and attention, but our money, for
the purposes of God.

APPLICATION: Ask yourself (or someone else!): Am I truly a generous person with my money? How am I trying to grow in this? Our money follows our hearts. Start somewhere. Let's lay up treasure in heaven and bless others here on earth, too.

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

GAIN ALL YOU CAN, SAVE ALL YOU CAN, GIVE ALL YOU CAN

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 Matthew 6:19-20

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Thursday, November 16, 2017 Luke 16:1-15

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

GAIN ALL YOU CAN, SAVE ALL YOU CAN, GIVE ALL YOU CAN

Friday, November 17, 2017 Luke 19:11-27

CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Saturday, November 18, 2017 1 Timothy 6:6-10

SERVE: What does this passage say? EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?						

GAIN ALL YOU CAN, SAVE ALL YOU CAN, GIVE ALL YOU CAN

Sunday, November 19, 2017 Luke 12:16-21

sermon Notes	10			

Monday, November 20, 2017 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Everyone should read Ecclesiastes 12 at least once a year. It reminds young people to be grateful for life before "the evil days (of aging) come." It also recognizes that we will all go to our eternatione. What happens then? The Resurrection of Jesus changes everything! That confidence in eternal life is what led to these finite seven words of his life. Indeed, no matter what our triumphs or failures are, the very best we can say is that God is with us in life, it death and in life beyond death. As Paul said, we can comfort one another with these words. As John noted, "we know that we have eternal life." Going to heaven isn't the only reason to help others follow Jesus, but it does answer an enormous question. We have this great confidence, too.	a
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APPLICATION: We can't get to heaven on our own. Our performance is inadequate. We affirm God's goodness, our sin, Jesus' atoning death and resurrection, and invitation to us to trust Him as our Savior. Have you trusted in Jesus to take you to heaven?

THE BEST OF ALL IS, GOD IS WITH US

Tuesday, November 21, 2017 Ecclesiastes 12

OBSERVE: What does this passage say?

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Wednesday, November 22, 2017 John 3:10-21

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

THE BEST OF ALL IS, GOD IS WITH US

Thursday, November 23, 2017 Romans 6:19-23

SERVE: What does this passage say? K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Friday, November 24, 2017 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

THE BEST OF ALL IS, GOD IS WITH US $\,$

Saturday, November 25, 2017 I John 5:6-15

OBSERVE: What does this passage say?

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ICTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

KINGDOM CULTURE

Sunday, November 26, 2017 1 Timothy 6:11-16

ermon Notes:			

*The Heart of Jesus*November 27 - December 31, 2017

Monday, November 27, 2017 John 1:40-46

Advent comes from the Latin meaning "to come toward" – it is the time set aside for us to anticipate the gift of Christ at Christmas. This Advent we want to emphasize our opportunity to invite others to come toward Jesus. Andrew heard John the Baptist preaching and was the first disciple to follow Jesus. He is obviously a leader and an influential man, but he's greatly overshadowed by his brother, Simon Peter. Yet, Andrew brought Peter to Jesus. Andrew was also the one who found the little boy who had the loaves and fishes which Jesus multiplied and used to feed the 5,000. When Philip found some Greeks who were interested in Jesus, he told
Andrew, who knew exactly what to do. Andrew was not the center
of attention, but he played a huge role. He seems to have been one of those thoughtful individuals who made introductions and
connections with many people. Andrew practiced Proverbs 11:30:
The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

APPLICATION: If we are striving to help others follow Jesus, it means we have to be thinking in terms of inviting others to the party. Ask the Holy Spirit whom you can connect with and begin praying for that person.

INVITATION TO CONNECT

Tuesday, November 28, 2017 John 6:1-9

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 John 12:20-22

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

INVITATION TO CONNECT

Thursday, November 30, 2017 Acts 26

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Friday, December 1, 2017 Colossians 1:21-29

CTICE: How does	s this passa	ge apply to	riginal audience? God's people todd	ıy?

INVITATION TO CONNECT

Saturday, December 2, 2017 1 Peter 3:15-16

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Sunday, December 3, 2017 John 1:40-46

sermon Notes:		

INVITATION TO REST

Monday, December 4, 2017 Matthew 11:28-30

This text is a wonderful invitation to those who are weary. Life

can certainly beat us up. We mess up, and have to deal with limitations and disappointments. Many young people feel weary, too. With all the bad news surrounding us, it is easy to be worn our discouraged and depressed. I love it that Jesus invites us to come to Him and He will give us rest. I love the portrayal of Jesus – great strength combined with humility. All people are invited. It's a great promise! And it's not only for US, but we exist as a church to help others follow Jesus.

APPLICATION: Who can you invite to be part of our services on Sunday morning during Advent? Who can you invite to the other services we will be having during the Advent season (especially on Christmas Eve)?

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 Psalm 32

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

INVITATION TO REST

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 Isaiah 55

PBSERVE: What does this passage say? EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? PRACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?						ce? today?

Thursday, December 7, 2017 Matthew 12:15-21

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

INVITATION TO REST

Friday, December 8, 2017 John 6:35-40

EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Saturday, December 9, 2017 Hebrews 4:1-11

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO REST

Sunday, December 10, 2017 Matthew 11:28-30

ermon note	:5.			
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Monday, December 11, 2017 Luke 19:1-10

Many people will never set foot in a church because deep down they feel they are simply not good enough to fit in with all the good people. Others won't come because they are appalled by the hypocrisy of those who profess the faith but do not practice it. The reality is that we are all sinners who stand in need of grace. The reality is that God loves us just as we are. If that seems too good to be true, remember Jesus' interaction with the wicked little tax collector, Zacchaeus. A tax collector in that day was a traitor to his nation and to his faith. He was the <i>chief</i> tax collector, too. He made a lot of money but paid a very high cost for it – he was absolutely hated by his own people. Yet, Jesus showed up, called his name and brought salvation into his life.

APPLICATION: Do you feel loved, accepted and forgiven by Jesus Christ? This is God's will for you! Is there someone you can share this same good news with, too? We are here to help others follow Jesus and it might begin by simply letting them know they are loved.

INVITATION TO LOVE

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 Matthew 1:20-23

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Wednesday, December 13, 2017 Matthew 9:10-13

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO LOVE

Thursday, December 14, 2017 Romans 5:6-17

EXERVE: What does this passage say? EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Friday, December 15, 2017 1 Timothy 1:15-17

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO LOVE

Saturday, December 16, 2017 Hebrews 7:23-25

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Sunday, December 17, 2017 Luke 19:1-10

Sermon Notes:	

INVITATION TO LIFE

Monday, December 18, 2017 Revelations 3:19-22

This is one of the best invitational verses in the Bible. Jesus stands at the door and knocks at the door of our hearts. When a stranger knocks at our front door, it truly makes a difference if that person is someone we should trust or someone we should avoid. I think it's amazing that Jesus, who is the Author and Creator of all of life (John 1:1-14, Colossians 1:15-20, Hebrews 1:1-9), should gently, patiently and persistently knock at the door. It's counter-intuitive to think the exalted Christ stands outside and asks to be let in.

APPLICATION: Our news isn't like the nightly news. Our news is the "Good News!" We are invited into life with Jesus Christ. What difference has this invitation made to you?

Tuesday, December 19, 2017 Luke 12:35-40

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO LIFE

Wednesday, December 20, 2017 John 1:1-14

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? CTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Thursday, December 21, 2017 John 14:15-21

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO LIFE

Friday, December 22, 2017 Colossians 1:15-20

CTICE: How doe	 ge apply to	ой з реоріе	toddy:

Saturday, December 23, 2017 Hebrews 1:1-9

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO LIFE

Sunday, December 24, 2017 Revelations 3:19-22

ermon Notes:			

Monday, December 25, 2017 Luke 14:12-15

I'm convinced that nobody wants to live under a curse. The world seeks happiness. The Bible prefers another term: Blessed. The word shows up 42 times in Genesis, beginning in the very first chapter. God takes the initiative in blessing us, but we also have to receive it. There are ways we can contribute to the blessing and ways we can complicate it. Furthermore, as is seen in Abram's life (Genesis 12), we aren't intended to hog the blessings – we are to be instruments of God to "bless" the entire world. I love how Luke' Gospel ends, too (24:50-53).

APPLICATION: I hope you will end this year absolutely convinced that God's blessing is upon your life. I also pray you will be passionate in trying to bless the lives of those with whom you interact in 2018. How will you bless others this year? Name three specific ways.

INVITATION TO BLESSING

Tuesday, December 26, 2017 Genesis 12:1-3

CTICE: How doe	 ge apply to	ой з реоріе	toddy:

Wednesday, December 27, 2017 Deuteronomy 30:19-20

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO BLESSING

Thursday, December 28, 2017 Psalm 1

CTICE: How doe	 ge apply to	ой з реоріе	toddy:

Friday, December 29, 2017 Luke 24:50-53

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

INVITATION TO BLESSING

Saturday, December 30, 2017 Galatians 3:10-14

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Sunday, December 31, 2017 Luke 14:12-15

Sermon Notes:		

*The Prayer of Jesus*January 1 - February 11, 2018

Monday, January 1, 2018 Ephesians 4:1-6

Ephesians is one of my favorite books in the Bible. We'll set the tone for the New Year by studying the Apostle Paul's instructions for how the church should understand (chapters 1-3) and apply (chapters 4-6) the teachings of Jesus. Paul, like Jesus, insisted that the church live in unity and harmony. There are numerous ways division and conflict burst onto the scene. Christians can revert to pride, impatience and unloving practices. Through this series we'll aspire to greater unity as we learn the responsibilities of the individual and the corporate body in making "every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (verse 3). "One Lord" insists upon unity. Jesus prays for this in His followers (John 17).

APPLICATION: What can you do to promote peace in a current situation among family, friends or coworkers? Do you exhibit humility, gentleness, patience and love?

UNITE FOR PEACE

Tuesday, January 2, 2018 Psalm 133

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Wednesday, January 3, 2018 John 15:9-17

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE FOR PEACE

Thursday, January 4, 2018 John 17:20-26

BSERVE: What does this passage say? EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Friday, January 5, 2018 Romans 16:17-19

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE FOR PEACE

Saturday, January 6, 2018 Colossians 3:12-14

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Sunday, January 7, 2018 Ephesians 4:1-6

Sermon Notes:		

UNITE TO SERVE

Monday, January 8, 2018 Ephesians 4:7-13

every Christian has spiritual gifts. We all have gifts to proclaim God's Name. We all have gifts to build and help believers mature. We have gifts to serve the body of Christ. We have gifts to help others follow Jesus. We each have a part. There are many disruptive hings which can be destructive in the mission of the church. Tracturing the unity of the body of Christ is crushing. Imagine football team with players who refuse to block, tackle, pass or run unless the coach calls the play they prefer. This happens on kids sports (often because of the parents) and it happens on professional teams. Disharmony is one of the most grievous things that can happen within the church. Spiritual babies are disruptive.
atan tries to sow seeds of disharmony, too.

APPLICATION: What are your spiritual gifts? What is your part in the body of Christ? How might you be trying to do someone else's part?

Note: If you have never taken the spiritual gifts inventory please contact the Membership Coordinator, Michelle Rafferty, at mrafferty@asburytulsa.org.

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 Acts 20:25-38

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE TO SERVE

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Thursday, January 11, 2018 1 Corinthians 12

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE TO SERVE

Friday, January 12, 2018 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

K: What did tl	does this passo his passage me does this passo	ean to the ori	iginal audience? God's people tod	day?

Saturday, January 13, 2018 Ephesians 1:15-23

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE TO SERVE

Sunday, January 14, 2018 Ephesians 4:7-13

Sermon Notes:	

Monday, January 15, 2018 Ephesians 4:14-16

Babies used to terrify me. Though they were utterly helpless, I felt overwhelmed by them. I didn't know what to do. But having become a dad, I learned to respond to them with great affection. They provide such incredible joy. However, there is something wrong when the infant doesn't progress. Children are supposed grow up and there comes a point when immaturity isn't attractive Likewise, baby Christians bring great joy to the family of God. However, we are supposed to move beyond spiritual infancy to mature in our relationship with Christ. While we have individual responses, we also are part of a larger, corporate body—the church. I particularly like the passage about "speaking the truth is love" (verse 15).	n. d to ive.

APPLICATION: How are you maturing in Christ? What are your goals for discipleship in 2018? As part of the church, what work is God calling you to do in 2018?

UNITE TO GROW

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Wednesday, January 17, 2018 Ephesians 2:19-22

EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

UNITE TO GROW

Thursday, January 18, 2018 2 Timothy 2:14-19

SSERVE: What does this passage say? EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

Friday, January 19, 2018 Hebrews 5:11-14

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

UNITE TO GROW

Saturday, January 20, 2018 1 John 3:16-20

ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					
					
 					

Sunday, January 21, 2018 Ephesians 4:14-16

Sermon Notes:

UNITE IN ATTITUDE

Monday, January 22, 2018 Ephesians 4:17-24

"I ife is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you

react to it."There's a lot of truth in this quote! "Two men looked out through prison bars; one saw mud and one saw stars." We can look up or down in any situation. Whether we look up or down will release energy in either direction. Being positive (or negative) releases energy that creates more of the same. We reap what we sow. This is true for individuals and it is true for the church. Like individuals, entire congregations can go through times of great confidence or great distress.	
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APPLICATION: How positive is your attitude? Are you seeing the best in situations and believing the best in people? What should you do to help your attitude be more like Christ's?

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 Romans 6:1-7

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					

UNITE IN ATTITUDE

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 Romans 12:1-2

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Thursday, January 25, 2018 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN ATTITUDE

Friday, January 26, 2018 Philippians 2:5-11

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

Saturday, January 27, 2018 1 Peter 4:1-6

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN ATTITUDE

Sunday, January 28, 2018 Ephesians 4:17-24

Sermon Notes:	

Monday, January 29, 2018 Ephesians 4:25-28

These four verses are full of application, but I'm emphasizing the word "truth" in this week's readings. "Truth" appears 224 times in the Bible (183 times in the New Testament). It's a major word. Pontius Pilate asked the famous question, "What is truth?" It seemed like he was more interested in preserving the status quo than in letting the truth shine upon his heart. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth" 78 times in the Gospels. As such, our daily readings will be in the Gospel of John this week. You might want to use your Bible's concordance or your Bible apps search function to do your own word search. Again, this is a very important word in the Bible.

APPLICATION: Jack Nicholson told Tom Cruise in *A Few Good Men*, "You want the truth? You can't handle the truth!" The truth can be very hard to hear. We are easily self-deceived. Is there truth you have been avoiding? What's the truth about your response to your neighbor? What's the truth about your anger? What's the truth about your pride? What's the truth about loving your work? Are you aligning with the truth or have you allowed falsehood to capture your heart?

UNITE IN TRUTH

Tuesday, January 30, 2018 John 1:14-18

TICE: How does	this passag	ge apply to	God's peopl	e today?

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 John 14:1-14

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN TRUTH

Thursday, February 1, 2018 John 16:5-15

BSERVE: What does this passage say? EEK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? RACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?					ce? today?	

Friday, February 2, 2018 John 17:13-19

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN TRUTH

Saturday, February 3, 2018 John 18:33-40

CTICE: How doe	 gc apply to	 . today:
	 	
 	 	

Sunday, February 4, 2018 Ephesians 4:25-28

sermon Notes:		

UNITE IN FORGIVENESS

Monday, February 5, 2018 Ephesians 4:29-32

Imagine how difficult it would have been for Joseph to tell his treacherous brothers that he forgave them or for Ananias to call Saul, "Brother Saul" Someone had to speak words of forgiveness and acceptance to the man who had been persecuting the church Some of the great stories of the faith are about people who have been forgiven and pass that gift to others. A refusal to forgive opens us to bitterness. Matthew 18 ends with a man on the torture rack. Paul realizes that a lack of forgiveness opens us to the power of Satan (2 Corinthians 2:10-11).

APPLICATION: We pray the Lord's Prayer in virtually every worship service. One of the lines is, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." If God forgave you like you forgive others, how would you fare? Are you quick to forgive? Are you willing to give others (or yourself) a second chance? Is there someone who comes to mind that you need to forgive?

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 Genesis 50:15-21

C: What did the CTICE: How d	does this pas	sage apply	to God's pec	pple today?

UNITE IN FORGIVENESS

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 Matthew 6:9-15

EK: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?			

Thursday, February 8, 2018 Matthew 18:21-35

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN FORGIVENESS

Friday, February 9, 2018 Acts 9:1-22

CTICE: How doe	 ge apply to	ой з реоріе	toddy:

Saturday, February 10, 2018 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

K: What did this passage mean to the original audience? ACTICE: How does this passage apply to God's people today?				

UNITE IN FORGIVENESS

Sunday, February 11, 2018 Ephesians 4:29-32

Sermon Notes:	