LEGACY reaching people + following Jesus

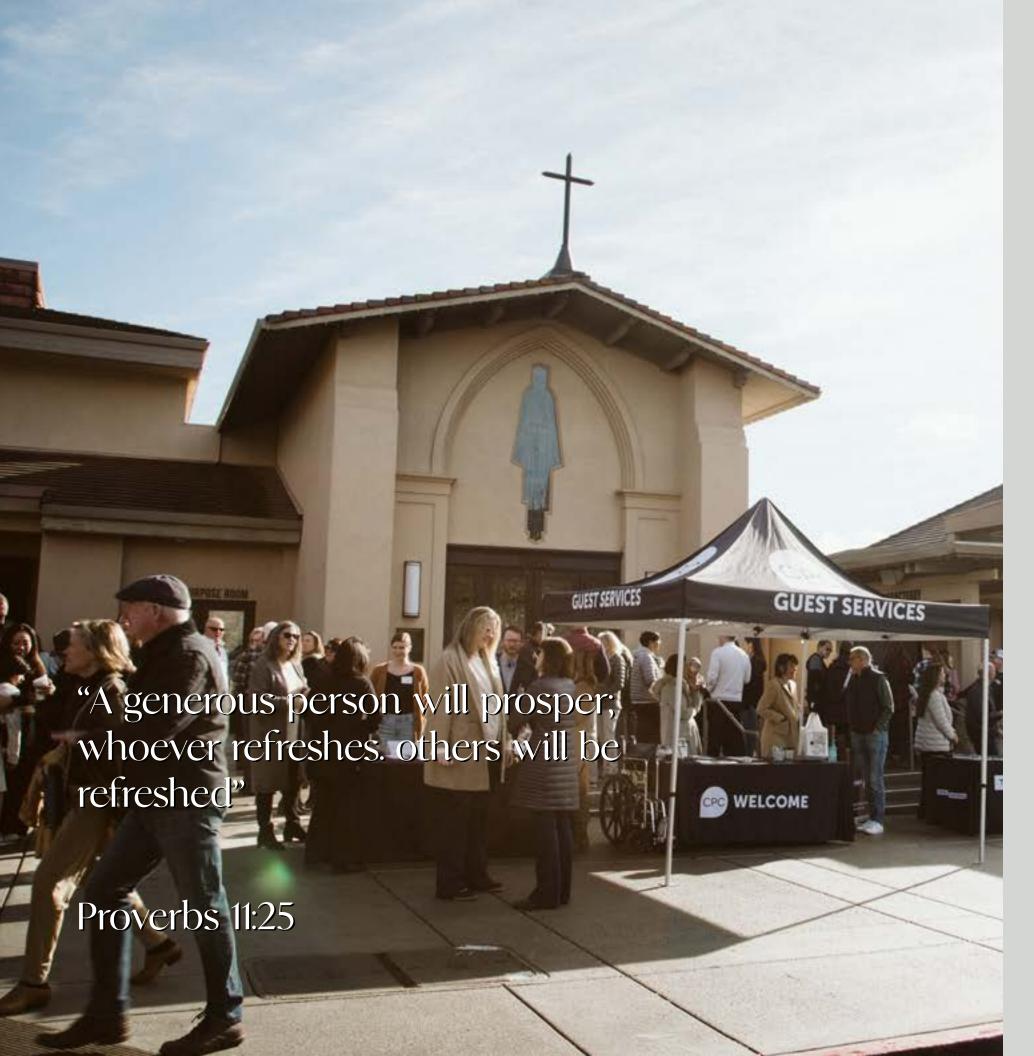


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PASTOR TYLER

One morning about eight years ago, Bridget and I were standing in the back of the Annex of the Sanctuary with our three boys when we got the news: the majority vote to call me as the next Lead Pastor of CPC had overwhelmingly been "yes!" The congregation stood and cheered to welcome us with enthusiasm and excitement. And we walked up high-fiving our new church family. IT WAS A MOMENT I'LL NEVER FORGET!

In the months of prayerful discernment that led up to that moment, we were admittedly hesitant to leave our lives at 3Crosses Church and venture into "the land between," that eventually led to CPC. But if this was where God was calling us, what choice did we have, really?

You have most likely had one (or more) of these pivotal moments before in your life as well—where you leave behind the familiar, and step out with big faith. I imagine it's a small part of what Abraham felt when God called him to leave his home country, or Moses, when called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, or Joshua courageously entering the Promised Land after years of waiting.

God is in the business of sending us into uncharted territories. While I had big vision and excitement for our future, we were definitely embarking on an adventure that would stretch and grow our faith.

We now stand at one of these unique places in the history of CPC.

God is never done working, and He promises to always build His Church. Because of that, our church LEGACY has never been marked by being comfortable. It's never been to sit underneath the trees our ancestors planted years ago and relax in the shade. It has been to plant trees of our own, and believe in faith that God will grow them!

In the next few pages, you'll read how the legacy of CPC is marked by faithful leaders who were willing to make decisions with great GRATITUDE for what God has done in the past, and with great FAITH for what God was going to do in the future.

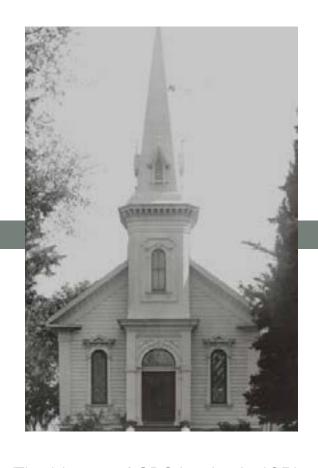
You'll also read that, as God invites us to engage in His work—the inward and outward work of the Holy Spirit—our answer is "yes!" No matter how comfortable we are now, no matter what people might think, no matter what growing pains we may experience—our answer will always be "yes!" if it means we can REACH more people and families for Christ.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

CPC HISTORY

To view the History of CPC video, scan the QR code:











The history of CPC begins in 1851, the first Protestant church in the Valley was planted. It was called Alamo Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The church stood on the corner of El Portal Rd. and HWY 21. The Gospel was on the move in the San Ramon Valley, and the legacy of CPC was just beginning.

In 1906 the church had two major shifts: First, it changed its name to Danville Presbyterian Church and secondly, it moved to Front Street in Danville. This was a more centralized location. In 1950, the church moved from its Front Street location onto El Pintado, where it is today. It also changed its name from Danville Presbyterian Church to Community Presbyterian Church.

A lot happened between 1950 and 1980, but maybe the most impactful moments happened in 1979. The sanctuary, as we know it today, was built giving space for thousands to hear the Gospel. Our school, San Ramon Valley Christian Academy (SRVCA), was established, creating a pillar of education centered around God's love.

Today 97% of the San Ramon Valley is unchurched.

We believe CPC plays a pivotal role in reaching our valley for Christ.

LEGACY is a campaign to accelerate our mission: Reaching People and Following Jesus

THE VISION

Our REACH vision is to Renew a gospel movement: Engage all generations, Attract the next generation, Care for hurting people, and Help people leverage their time, talent and treasure. To expand our REACH, we must expand our facilities—especially for children and students—and increase our ability to serve our congregation, neighbors, and community for years to come.

We have exciting plans to further our mission of Reaching People and Following Jesus by expanding church facilities.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Over the last two years our church saw 43% growth in attendance, post pandemic. We had 317 people indicate decisions for Christ by taking YES packets, and over 100 people were baptized. In our Kids and Student ministries we have seen incredible growth, with over 500+ plugged into those programs. Our Women's ministry has 500+ meeting weekly. In our Men's Ministry we have 300+ meeting weekly.

Praise God for his growth and favor! We are bursting at the seams. We have the opportunity to grow these ministries, serve our congregation and reach more of our community.

THE URGENCY

The life-cycle of a church consists of 5 major movements: Birth, Incline, Recline, Decline, and Death. Oftentimes, when churches are filled with momentum, life, and growth, they begin to relax and "recline" -- which leads to declining attendance and can even lead to death. We want to be different. Instead of reclining, we want to reinvest. Our Mission & Vision are BIG, yet our physical structures are quite limited. We believe God is calling us go higher and REACH wider than ever before.

VISION FOR CPC CAMPUS



NEW YOUTH CENTER





We are FOR kids and students in our church and community.

Environments matter. We want the students of our Valley here! A place for students to gather in a space that is relevant and theirs. We believe Jesus is the ultimate answer for our culture's mental health crisis.

^{*} Renderings of new spaces & buildings are subject to changes.

NEW SPORTS FIELD



This field will serve hundreds of kids in our school and church... and thousands of families in our Valley and beyond. We want kids and families here, and this sports field will be filled with kids, energy, and joy for decades to come.

NEW ENTRANCE FOR SANCTUARY



We want it to be obvious for a guest to know where to go when they come to our church. This space will attract people to our church, welcome them into our worship space, and provide a warm place for people to greet, gather and connect.

NEW MEETING SPACES



With over 1,000 people gathering in groups on campus every week, our growing ministries need meeting space! This building will provide much-needed offices and meeting places for ministries, staff and volunteers.

NEW FOR CENTER



This will be the "Volunteer Hub" for meeting the needs of our community and congregation. Picture everything from recovery meetings, to a food pantry partnering with local markets, to large groups packing food for Kids Against Hunger. This is the faith-filled next step in our FOR the Valley movement.



NEW OUTDOOR PAVILION



Beautiful, covered, open-air space for people, families and groups to gather and connect. This will likely be the most popular place for coffee dates, after-church gatherings, small groups, and parent connections before the kids get picked up from school.

^{*} Renderings of new spaces & buildings are subject to changes.

^{*} Renderings of new spaces & buildings are subject to changes.

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$45,000,000

3-year commitment over and above current giving to CPC Danville.

NUMBER OF GIFTS	AMOUNT OF EACH GIFT
1	\$5,000,000
3	\$1,000,000
7	\$750,000
13	\$500,000
21	\$250,000
51	\$75,000
111	\$50,000
211	\$25,000
411	\$10,000
611	\$5,000
811	Under \$2,500

SAMPLE PLEDGE CARD:

you will recieve a physical copy of the pledge card at our Committment Sunday on May 5th

LEG/reaching people +	
PLEDGE TO GIVE:	For non-cash gifts, please describe:
WEEKLY \$ for 156 weeks	
MONTHLY \$	
ANNUALLY \$ for 3 years	
MY TOTAL 3 YEAR COMMITMENT IS:	
\$	
name	
address	
phone	
mail	

PLANNING YOUR GIVING:

1. PRIORITIZE YOUR BUDGETING

Many families will choose to rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget in order to give more. Priority budgeting may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, home remodeling, or other major purchase.

2. REDIRECT YOUR PRESENT EXPENDITURES

Often, families have significant short-term expenditures for special needs. One example is the large expenditure a family incurs for a child to attend college. If the child is graduating during the giving period of the capital campaign, you might consider factoring that into your pledge amount. Another example would be the cash flow that is freed up when a loan is paid off, such as a car loan or something similar.

3. INCREASED INCOME, INCREASED GIVING

Some people receive periodic increases in salary or bonuses from their employers. The temptation for many of us is to increase our lifestyle to fit the higher income. In lieu of that, you might consider committing all or part of salary increases.



APPRECIATED ASSETS:

Many people own securities that have achieved unrealized gains in value over the years. That is good news. The bad news is that if these assets were sold, a significant portion of the gain would be lost to taxation.

Gifts of appreciated assets—typically investment securities or real estate—can be very advantageous to both the donor and to the church. By transferring ownership of the asset to the church, the donor avoids income taxes on the sale of the asset. Unlike gifts of cash that have already incurred an income tax, gifts of appreciated assets avoid the incurrence of capital gain tax. In addition, the donor receives an income tax charitable deduction for the full market value of the asset. That, in effect, makes these gifts less costly to make.

Importantly, before making a commitment of this type, please consult your CPA, tax attorney, or other financial advisor

Giving does not have to be in equal increments over the three-year period of the campaign. You might be able to give more in the third year than the first two. As you think about your financial commitment to the campaign, think not of just your potential to give right now, but also of your potential to give in the future. It might be that you can make a three-year commitment in which 20 percent is given in the first year, 30 percent in the second year and 50 percent in the third.

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IF YOU ARE MARRIED:

- 1. Pray, as individuals and as a couple, asking God to place an amount on your heart to give to LEGACY.
- 2. Individually, ask yourself what amount of money you desire to give, and more importantly, ask God what He wants you to give.
- 3. Next, assume for a few days you were to give the amount of money you've arrived at and then ask yourself these questions:
 - Am I joyous about giving this amount?
 - Is my gift sacrificial?
 - Am I demonstrating an expression of faith?
 - Am I convinced I can give this amount with a motivation of worshiping God?

Now, get together and share your gift amounts. If you each came up with a different amount, repeat steps 1-3 and see if there is an agreement when you get together the second time. Ask God to help bring agreement on your gift amount.

IF YOU ARE SINGLE:

- 1. Pray, asking God to place an amount on your heart to give to LEGACY.
- 2. Individually, ask yourself what amount of money you desire to give, and more importantly, ask God what He wants you to give.
- 3. Next, assume for a few days you were to give the amount of money you've arrived at and then ask yourself these questions:
 - Am I joyous about giving this amount?
 - Is my gift sacrificial?
 - Am I demonstrating an expression of faith?
 - Am I convinced I can give this amount with a motivation of worshiping God?

If you can answer "Yes" to all of these questions, then you can feel comfortable about your gift amount. If you could not honestly answer "Yes" to all four questions, run through steps 1-2 again until you are comfortable with your answers in step number 3.









QUESTIONS TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER:

What difference can my financial commitment to LEGACY make in my heart and life? How might my gift change me and allow me to invest myself more meaningfully in this vision for CPC and our community?

Am I willing to pray for God's guidance in how He might want to work through me in the gospel movement in the San Ramon Valley?

Am I thinking in a way that is easy and effortless, or challenging and requiring more discipline to be selfless in response to this vision?

What things can I afford, but am intentionally choosing to live without because I am committing to give sacrificially? Can I order my financial priorities to better reflect the order of what I really love?

Am I thinking creatively about a comprehensive giving plan that represents what I am capable of giving?

What assets and resources could I use as a gift beyond my income?

Am I discovering a new joy in giving through this process? How is this commitment demonstrating my expression of faith?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: What is CPC doing and Why?

A: CPC has exciting plans to accelerate our Mission of Reaching People and Following Jesus: a collection of CPC facilities improvements and expansion that we're calling **LEGACY**. A cornerstone of this effort is a campaign to raise the financial resources that will fund the expansion.

Our REACH Vision is to Renew a gospel movement, Engage all generations, Attract the next generation, Care for hurting people, and Help people leverage their time, talent and treasure. To expand our REACH, we must expand our facilities—especially for children and students—and increase our ability to serve our congregation, neighbors, and community for years to come.

LEGACY is part of a vision CPC leadership has been working diligently to realize for years. In prayerful anticipation, a separate non-profit, the People Meeting Christ Foundation (PMCF), which is aligned and affiliated with CPC, has been thoughtfully acquiring properties to the north and east of our church for more than 20 years.

Also, our current church leadership has been prayerfully discerning and discussing this opportunity for several years and believes the time has come to step out in faith and ask God to actively lead us into our future as a church.

The fundraising element is an important part of LEGACY, since it's a requirement for us to finance and realize the exciting vision for the future growth of CPC.

Q: Why is CPC doing this now?

A: Our Session originally voted to pursue a Capital Campaign/Building Project in February of 2020. Understandably, the pandemic put those plans on hold. In 2022, Session revisited the decision and decided to delay the project until more certain times, yet began to assemble an Exploration Committee.

At the time of that decision, our leadership agreed CPC was in a position of strength: spiritually, operationally, and in the growth and evolution of our congregation. Additionally, we had a strong cohort of pastoral and volunteer leadership that was aligned on our missional opportunities to reach more people for Christ, and help more people follow Jesus.

Providentially, long-term planning for both CPC and the Town of Danville had resulted in some unique and timely development opportunities on our campus, and for our community.

In February 2023, Session re-affirmed that God continues to build His church in and through CPC: to draw new attendees and members, call new believers to faith, baptize those committing themselves to Christ, and to serve our communities. Because of this, CPC is in an even stronger position to begin the effort to expand our REACH Vision, and Session voted to move forward with the project.

Q: Are the contributions to LEGACY in addition to a family's tithing to CPC?

A: Yes, this is an effort above and beyond our yearly operational budget. For some families, this additional generosity may not be a challenge, while we know for others it might be. Our hope is that each family will prayerfully discern God's will for them in supporting LEGACY as well as being an active part of it, and that all will be joyfully obedient to the Holy Spirit's calling—whatever that may be.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: What is the main goal of this effort?

A: Our Mission and Vision are BIG, yet our physical structures are limited. Our facilities and resources for Students and Youth are outdated and insufficient for the investment in discipling young people in our church and our community. Our church building has not been fundamentally upgraded/improved since 1988. The following improvements are being considered; if we are able to address even some of them, they will dramatically increase our ability to serve our congregation, attract our community, and accomplish our Mission and Vision.

New YOUTH CENTER for kids & students in our church and community
New SPORTS FIELD for the kids of our school, church, and community
New ENTRANCE FOR SANCTUARY to attract/connect people to CPC
New MINISTRY OFFICES/MEETING SPACES for ministries, staff and volunteers
New FOR CENTER to serve as "Volunteer Hub" for meeting needs of our
community

New OUTDOOR PAVILION for gathering/connecting people and families **EXPANDING SANCTUARY** seating capacity for worship services

Q: What is the timing of LEGACY and potential start of construction?

A: The fundraising commitments will be fulfilled over approximately three years, starting in June of 2024 through May of 2027. If the fundraising effort is successful, it is possible we could begin an initial phase of work sometime in late 2025 (at earliest) or in 2026 after we apply for and receive the necessary approvals from the Town of Danville. Planning is ongoing to define how phasing the project would work and its impact on timing. At this early stage, all estimates of timing represent initial thinking and not a comprehensive project plan; thus they are subject to change.

Q: What is the timing of the fundraising campaign? What should we expect over the next few months?

A: The early work on what we are now calling LEGACY began many months ago, through the continued work of the Committee, multiple consultants, meetings with the Town of Danville, and much prayerful discernment. Tyler and our staff hosted multiple meetings with leaders, volunteers, and members of our congregation from January through March 2024. The "public phase"/rollout of the project began in April 2024.

Q. If we don't reach the \$45M target, what specific plans do we have for prioitizing certain aspects of the phased buildout?

A. The primary goal is 100% participation. The total project cost is \$45M. We will build in the order stated above and believe God will faithfully set the pace as funding allows of the project.

Q: What if I have more questions?

A: If you have any additional questions you can reach out to **Chris Callahan**, Co-Chair of the Legacy Committee at cwcal@comcast.net; **Matt Henry**, Co-Chair of the Legacy Committee at matt@mjhconsult.com **Paul Bianchi**, Clerk of Session at plbianchi@gmail.com



DEVOTIONS

Use these daily devotions to go deeper into each week's topic. Each day, take time to read the verse given and ask God to speak through His Word. Then take some time to reflect and write your response based on your reflection. Listen to God and what He wants to say to you during the weekend messages and your time of daily devotion. At the end of each week, take some time to consider what God would have you to do as a result of what you are learning.



By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Hebrews 11:8

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Pericles, an ancient Greek Philosopher, once said, "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." That's what LEGACY is and all of us are recipients of a LEGACY. Just start with your parents and grandparents and all the people who have spoken into and impacted your life. While not all of it has been positive, the negative can still lead to good. Life's hurts can help us become healers, and failure and trials can lead us to success. But it prompts the question: what kind of LEGACY do you want to leave?

For the next six weeks we will be studying the life of Abraham. And while Abraham lived over 4,000 years ago, the LEGACY he left is still alive and impacting people today. He was, like all of us, a person of faith and failure. And, like all of us, he had to make a decision about what kind of LEGACY he wanted to leave. He had the option to stay where he was or to step out into faith and be obedient to what God called him to. Abraham chose a legacy of obedience even though he didn't know where it would end up. What about you?

SERMON NOTES

DATE:
SERMON TITLE:

WEEK 1 / DAY 1

WEEK 1 / DAY 2

READ

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Hebrews 11:18

REFLECT

ou weren't? Why Go," but you don			

READ

For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

In your own words, what do you think it means to live a life worthy of God?

WEEK 1 / DAY 3

READ

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Phillippians 4:19

REFLECT

Often times, we may intellectually understand that God will meet our needs, but when it comes to living out that confidence, we grow fearful. How difficult is it for you to respond confidently that God really will meet your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus?
30

WEEK 1 / DAY 4

READ

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

1 Peter 1:3-4

blood.

WEEK 1 / DAY 5

READ

We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

Colossians 1:9-12

REFLECT
We are instructed to live a life worthy of the Lord and to please Him in every way. List some ways you can strive to do both of those as you go about your day.

WEEK 2 TRUST

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

ABOUT THIS WEEK

When the Bible talks about faith, it's a lot more than just intellectually understanding something or believing something others don't think is true. Real and biblical faith is about trust. As it says in James 2:19 "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder." Believing God exists isn't enough. We have to learn to trust Him.

Trusting God is easy when nothing is at stake. But what about when life doesn't make sense or God calls us beyond what is comfortable? What about when there's a price tag to living in faith? This week we continue to look at the story of Abraham and how he learned to trust God.

SERMON NOTES

DATE:
SERMON TITLE:

WEEK 2 / DAY 1

WEEK 2 / DAY 2

READ

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

REFLECT

How often do we default to "leaning on our own understanding?" What are some of the obstacles you encounter that keep you from fully trusting in the Lord?

READ

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

"Impossible" is a pretty strong word, but it captures just how serious it is when we are without faith. God is continuously calling us to live a life of faith (trust) and when we do, He rewards us as we seek Him. What are some ways you can trust Him more?

WEEK 2 / DAY 3

WEEK 2 / DAY 4

READ

Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

Luke 16:10

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Take some time to think about how we see this principle Jesus taught play out in our world and culture. How does this principle apply to your life?

READ

Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

Psalm 40:4

The "false gods" or idols the author is talking about here is anything we place above God in importance and priority. Are there any false gods or idols in your life that you need to address? What are some of them?

WEEK 2 / DAY 5

READ

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

Isaiah 12:2

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REFLECT
What is the connection between trust and fear? Could our tendency to fear be rooted in a lack of trust in the Lord's strength? List some ways you could increase trust in the Lord and in turn decrease some of your fears.



He [Jesus] replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

Mark 7:6

ABOUT THIS WEEK

What do you think about when you hear the word honor? Knights protecting a princess and castle? A military ceremony? Either way, the word isn't used a lot in our culture. So what is honor? It's the idea of giving high respect and esteem to someone. If that's true, then who deserves our respect more than God?

This week, we'll see we often struggle with honoring God in consistent ways. In Mark 7, Jesus describes people who honor God with their lips and yet their hearts are far from Him. What does it look like to be people who do more than just give lip service to the idea of honoring God?

SERMON NOTES

DATE:
SERMON TITLE:

WEEK 3 / DAY 1

WEEK 3 / DAY 2

READ

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.

Proverbs 3:9

REFLECT

READ

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

This verse reminds us that God is the creator of all things and the sustainer of our lives.

Revelation 4:11

REFLECT

He is worthy of all glory and honor and power. What are some tangible ways in which we can glorify God and honor Him in our daily lives? List some of your thoughts.

WEEK 3 / DAY 3

WEEK 3 / DAY 4

READ

What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help.

2 Corinthians 8:19

REFLECT

The early Macedonian Christians were not only suffering financial hardship but physical hardship, as well. Yet they joyfully took up an offering to send with Paul to the church in Jerusalem in their time of need. They did this not only to help but to honor the Lord through their sacrificial giving. Take some time to capture some thoughts about what sacrificial giving means in your life as you seek to honor God with your resources.
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READ

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever.

1 Timothy 1:17

We don't relate much in our time to kings, however, in biblical times the king represented absolute authority in all aspects of life. But God is the ultimate, eternal King and deserves our full honor in every aspect of our lives. Take a moment to write a brief prayer to acknowledge your desire to live a life that seeks to bring honor to the one true God of the universe.

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WEEK 3 / DAY 5

READ

But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:9

WEEK 4 TRANSFORMATION

For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.

Philippians 2:13

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Transformation is the name of the game for God. It's what He does. In fact, when people in the Bible encountered God, it often resulted in a change (transformation) of even their name. From Abraham in the Old Testament to Paul in the New Testament—God wants to transform us completely.

Transformation takes more than just a one-time commitment or a simple yes. It requires a radical, full and total reorientation. Think of the metamorphosis of a butterfly. That's what God wants to do in your heart, mind, soul, and whole self. It won't be easy. It'll probably be painful. But, it's totally worth it! Are you open and ready for that kind of transformation?

SERMON NOTES

DATE:
SERMON TITLE:

WEEK 4 / DAY 1

WEEK 4 / DAY 2

READ

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

REFLECT

This verse reminds us that we are in the process of being changed into Jesus' image. What are some of the ways you are different today than you were in the past because the transforming power of God?	of

READ

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

What does it mean to you that you are a new creation? What does that transformation look like?

WEEK 4 / DAY 3

WEEK 4 / DAY 4

READ

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5

REFLECT

God's Word speaks frequently about our relationship to money and possessions. Many of the references are about the dangers of a wrong relationship to wealth. What do you think it looks like to keep your life free from the love of money and how do you think that relate to contentment?	

READ

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

God wants us to be thinking differently than the world thinks. What are some of the things you think God is protecting us from by not aligning with the thinking of the world? List some things that come to mind.

WEEK 4 / DAY 5

READ

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Luke 19:1-2, 8

REFLECT

Take a minute to read the first 8 verses of Luke 19. Zacchaeus was a hated tax collector who had betrayed his fellow Jews by not only working for the Romans but also by cheating people by taking extra tax money for himself. But Jesus called out to Zacchaeus and his life was instantly changed in that interaction. It is notable that the very first response to his new relationship with Jesus was financial. Zacchaeus went from hoarding money to using money as a vehicle to express his newfound relationship to Jesus. How does your money express your relationship to Jesus?

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WEEK 5 SURRENDER

What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ.

Phillippians 3:8

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Surrender isn't often thought of in positive terms. We often think of it as losing or giving up. But the surrender that God invites us into is ultimately how we win. The temptation we all face is the belief that we can have it both ways—our way and God's way. But that isn't surrender.

As we will discover this week in looking at Abraham's life, sometimes we need to be reminded that God's way is always the best—even if it will cost us everything. Because the life of surrender is choosing God before anyone and anything else.

SERMON

DATE:
SERMON TITLE:

WEEK 5 / DAY 1

READ

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Genesis 14:18-20

REFLECT

The first mention of the tithe (a tenth) is seen here in Genesis 14 when Abram (Abraham) gives a tithe to Melchizedek who represented a higher spiritual authority in Abraham's life. This is such a beautiful picture of the tithe. When we present our tithe to God, we are acknowledging His authority over us and His incredible love for us in a very tangible form. Why do you think the tithe has been a struggle for many and so often been misunderstood?

WEEK 5 / DAY 2

READ

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Acts 2:44-45

REFLECT

The early church in Acts consisted of mostly poor believers who were committed to living out the teachings of Jesus. One of the tangible ways they did that was by selling their possessions to provide for anyone who had a real need. They expressed their faith in Jesus by sacrificing financially for a greater purpose. Acts 2 also tells us that the love and sacrifice of the early church was a major reason so many people sought out Jesus and were saved. List some ways we could better utilize the resources God has provided to make a difference like the early church in Acts 2.

WEEK 5 / DAY 3

WEEK 5 / DAY 4

READ

You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18a

REFLECT

God's Word confirms that everything was created by God and belongs to God. As a result we must recognize that He is the Owner, and we are His managers or stewards. But it's easy for us to feel that since we earned our money, we are the owners. Deuteronomy 8 reminds us that God has given us the ability to earn wealth, and without His provision, we would have nothing. List some ways in which an owner is different from a manager or a steward.

READ

And He [Jesus] died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:15

What does it mean, practically, for you to no longer live for yourself but for Jesus?

WEEK 5 / DAY 5

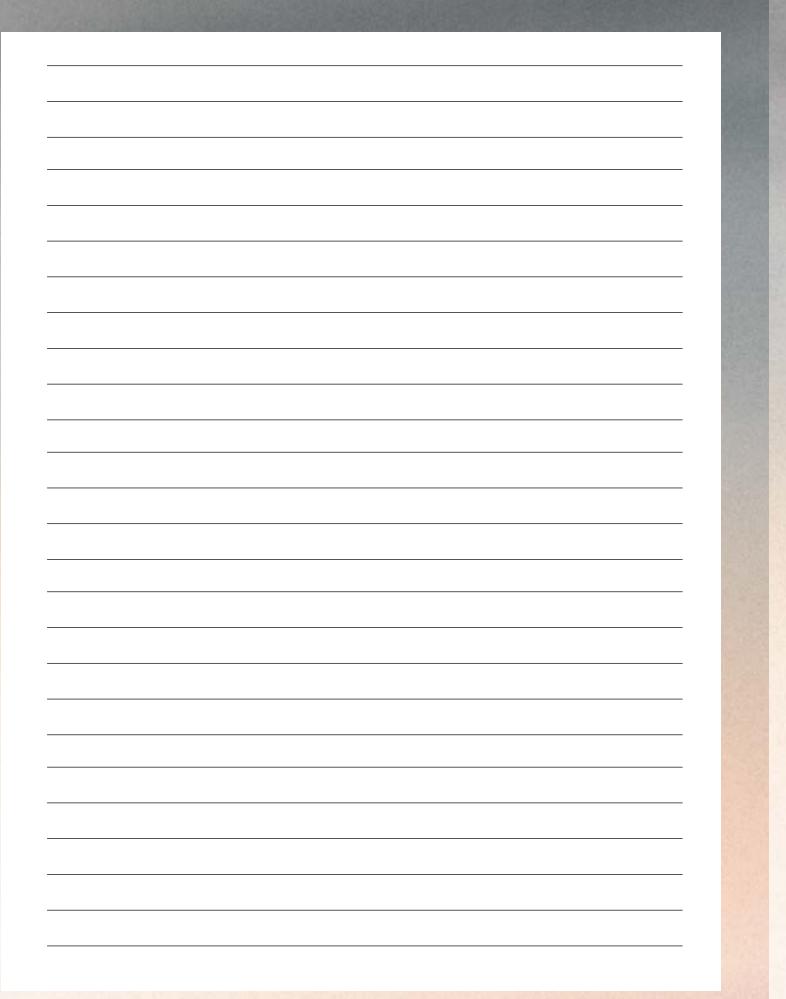
READ

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23

REFLECT
This is a core verse to the heart of our church and represents our desire to follow Jesus by taking up our cross on a daily basis. What does that specifically mean in your life as you approach each day?

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