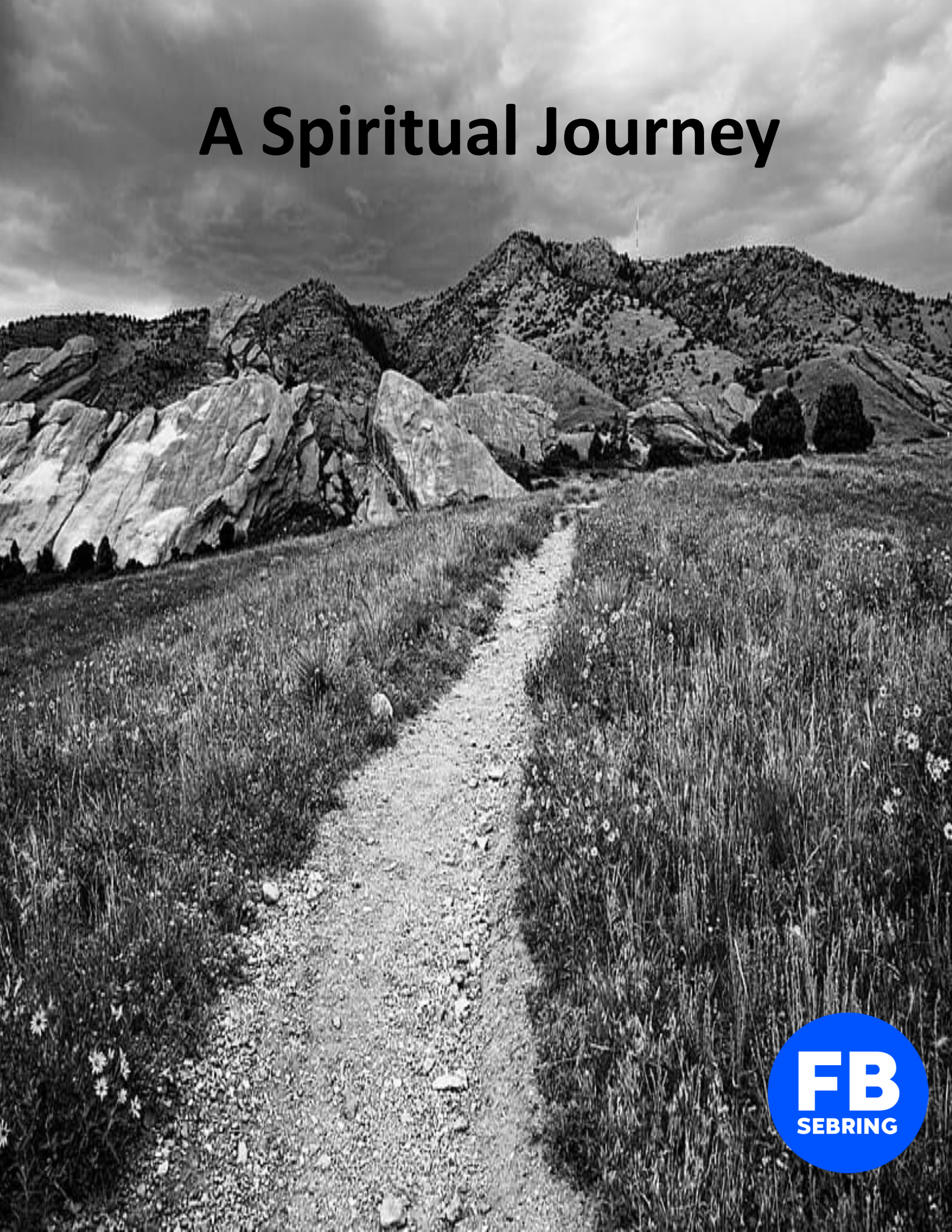


A Spiritual Journey



Welcome to the 42 Day Spiritual Journey. Here's a personal and difficult question to answer, "How healthy is your soul?" Unfortunately, many of us live out our daily lives detached from our spiritual health and find ourselves emotionally empty and spiritually dry. Our desire for you individually and for our church corporately is that we understand and engage in the spiritual disciplines in order to produce good fruit, glorify God, and have a healthy soul. The spiritual disciplines are a means to holiness as they are instruments of His grace as well as a response to God's grace in our lives. We cannot be passive if we are to grow in our sanctification. Our practice of the spiritual disciplines must be God-centered, Christ-centered, Gospel-centered, and Holy Spirit empowered. It is through this grace and the hope of glory in Christ that ought to motivate us to pursue godliness and the practice of taking the next 42 days to practice the disciplines of reading God's Word, thinking through Gospel-centered questions from the text, meditating on their truths, establishing a prayer habit, and attuning our hearts with God.

While there is not a prescribed way to walk through this spiritual journey, here are a couple suggestions:

- 1) Read the passage. Read it again, maybe out loud this time.
- 2) Look at the passage and answer the following Gospel-centered questions:
 - A) Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God's character, motives, and identity?
 - B) What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
 - C) Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
 - D) How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?
- 3) Read through the prompt on the lower left hand side of the page.
- 4) Write or draw what the prompt suggests in your daily prayer circle.
- 5) Spend some time with the Lord in prayer "The effective prayer of a righteous person has great power" (James 5:16).

Each day has a different theme: Mondays we will examine our own sanctification, Tuesdays we will consider church leadership in and through the Deacon ministry here at FBSebring as we prepare to nominate and affirm new Deacons, Wednesdays we will evaluate our various relationships, Thursdays will assess our Kingdom impact, Fridays lead us to appraise God's promises, Saturdays will reveal our position in Christ, and Sundays we will culminate our week with praise to the One who is worthy! Here's a simple truth, we all suffer from unbelief in some form in all these areas. This unbelief can take several forms: (1) we don't believe because we lack truth about God; (2) we believe lies about God; or (3) we fail to put our faith in what we know to be true of God. The Gospel is the Good News of Christ's life, death, burial, and resurrection over sin, death, and the grave! However, how does that truth apply to your daily walk? The Gospel not only is the power to save our souls, it is also the catalyst to change our lives today. We trust that as you commit the next 42 days and these spiritual disciplines unto the Lord that you will emerge from this endeavor with deeper spiritual roots that will serve as bedding and nourishment to produce godly fruit for the next step in your spiritual journey. Stay humble. Wait on the Lord. Remain centered on Jesus. Draw the circle.

Sanctification

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:3-6).

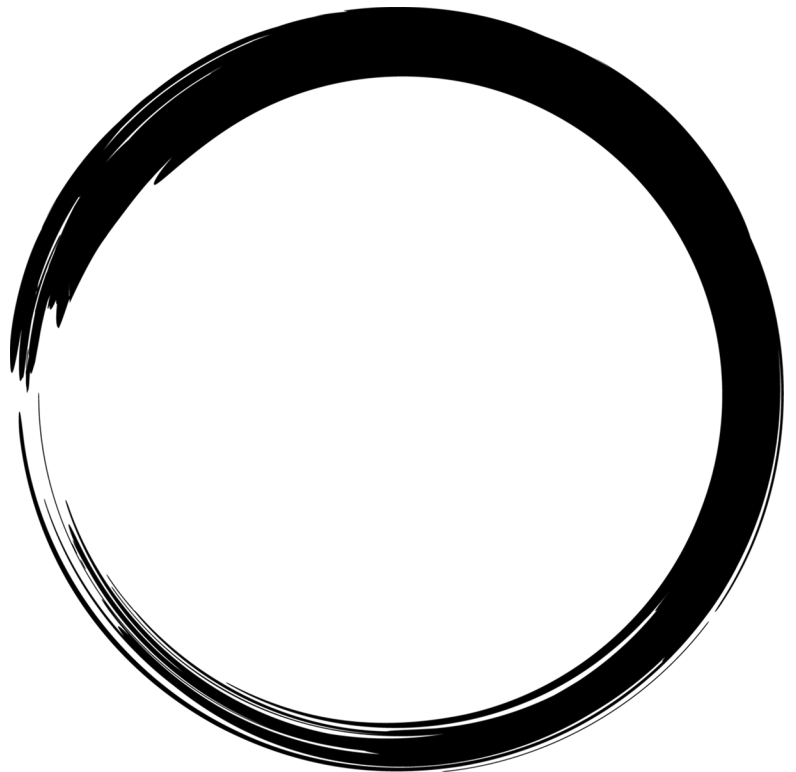
Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God's character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Consider salvation as a threefold work:

- The work God does *for* me—salvation.
- The work God does *in* me—sanctification.
- The work God does *through* me—service.

Write an area of your life that you are entrusting to God to continue to work in right now inside the circle as you pray today.



Deacons

“Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

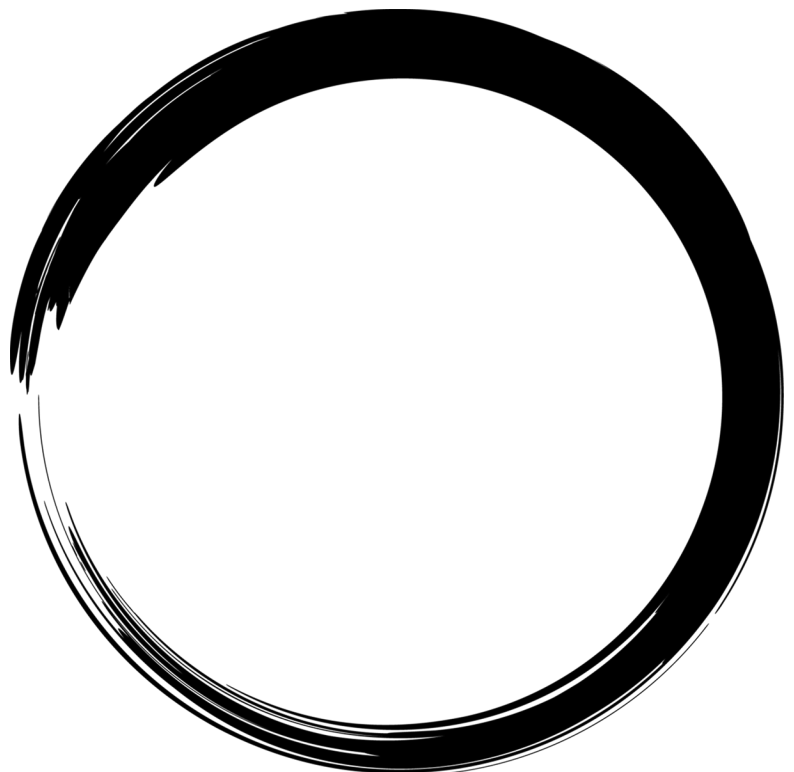
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4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

The English word for deacon is a transliteration of the Greek word *diakonos*, which simply means “servant.”

Pray over our deacon list today that these men would be faithful servants to:

- Support the Pastor.
- Advance the mission of the church.
- Promote unity and harmony.

Write their names in the circle as you pray for them today.



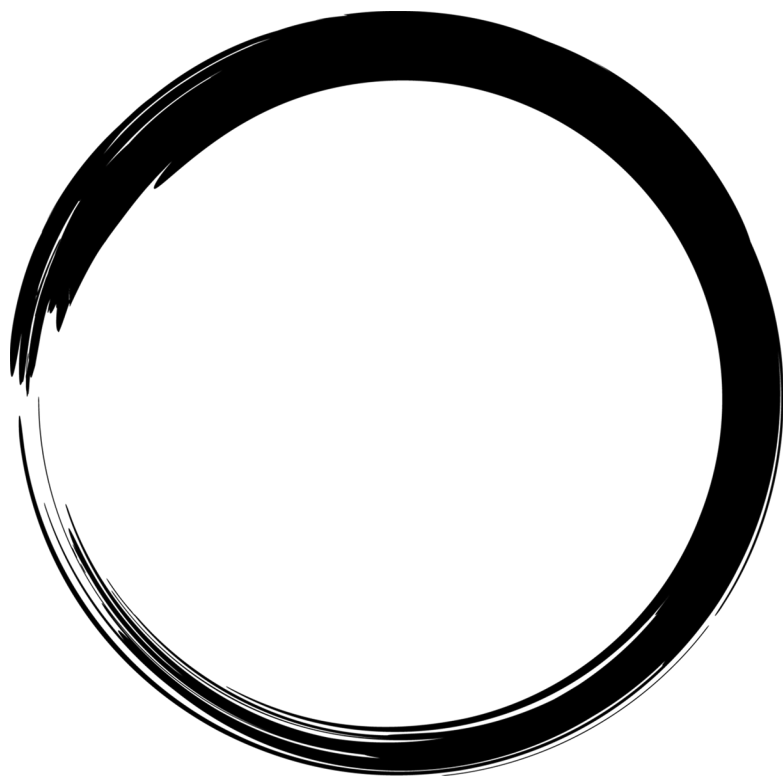
Relationships

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

God is who He says He is. Scripture states that without faith it is not possible for anyone to “walk with God” or to “please Him.” Use the circle to write out a declaration that the God of Scripture is the only real and true God who exists. Deuteronomy 4:35 declares, “...the Lord is God; there is no other besides him.” Pray and give praise for your relationship with God the Heavenly Father and that He is the one and only to reward our faith with forgiveness and righteousness.



Kingdom Impact

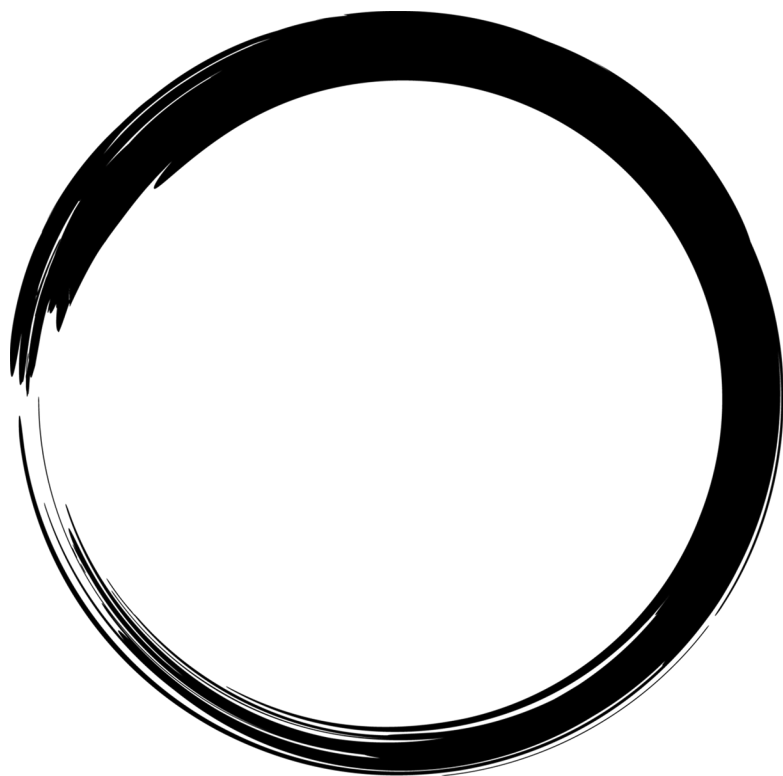
“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18).

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

The Universal Church, all those who have put their faith and trust in Jesus, is on the earth to glorify the Son of God. The church’s greatest ministry is yet to come, however, what we do here and now is preparing us for the eternal ages, when we shall glorify Christ forever. Write the name of the person or situation you are entrusting to God as you pray today. Pray bold prayers. Expect lives to be transformed. Expect the kingdom to advance into dark places. Expect our God to answer in a big way!



God's Promises

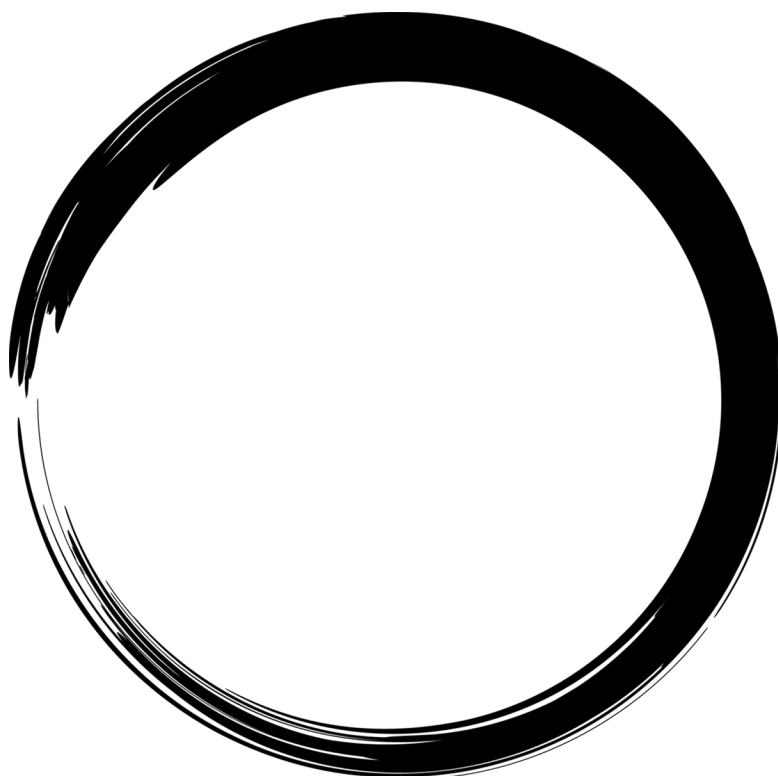
"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy" (Proverbs 28:13).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God's character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

"Any sin we cover, God uncovers.
Any sin we uncover, God covers."
—Johnny Hunt

God being merciful basically means that, when we deserve punishment, He doesn't punish us, and in fact blesses us instead. God fully demonstrates His mercy in the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf. In the circle, write down (confess) a sin that God has uncovered in your life right now and pray that God will reveal other areas that remain uncovered. Take a moment to praise Him for His grace and mercy.



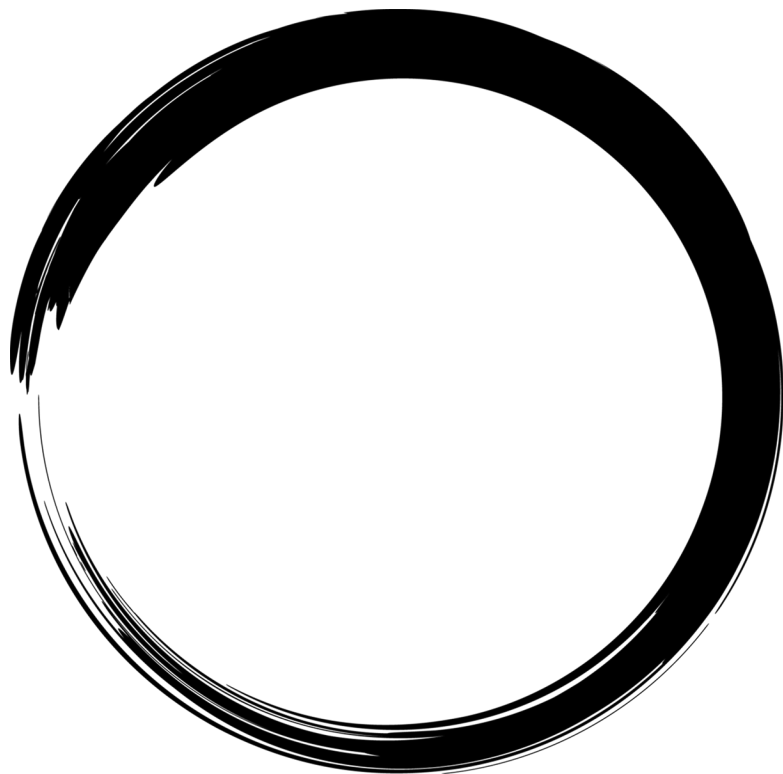
Our Position

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:1-2).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Do you remember when you accepted Jesus? Do you remember where you were? Do you remember who God used to share the Gospel with you? In the circle, write the date, where you were, or even who God created a divine appointment with. Take some time to consider how the Lord worked in your life and use it as a reminder of the fact that because of Jesus we are saved by the grace of God that originated in the love of God. Praise Him, *you* are a child of God now and forever! Make it a point today to share the Gospel, God uses people just like you to create new “when’s”, “where’s”, and “who’s” in the lives of others who have yet to know Him.



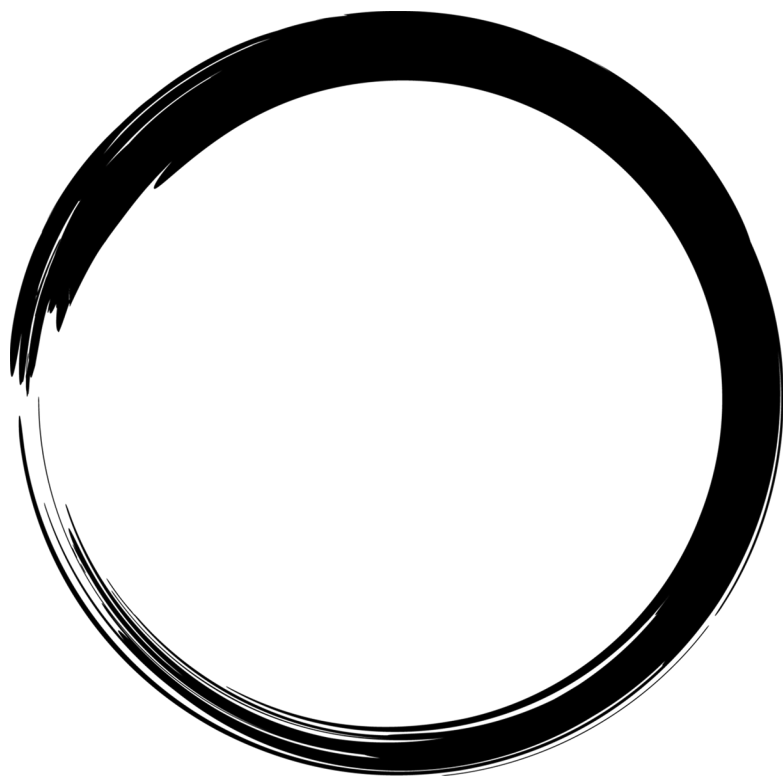
Praise

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy” (Psalm 92:1-4).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Although many of the psalms were sung throughout the week, Psalm 92 was penned specifically for Sabbath worship. We worship together on Sundays, but our worship should be a daily and natural outflow of a heart that loves the Lord and is grateful for His creation, His love, and His redemption. Worship is the fruit of our thankfulness to God, encircle what you are thankful for today and then give Him thanks!



Sanctification

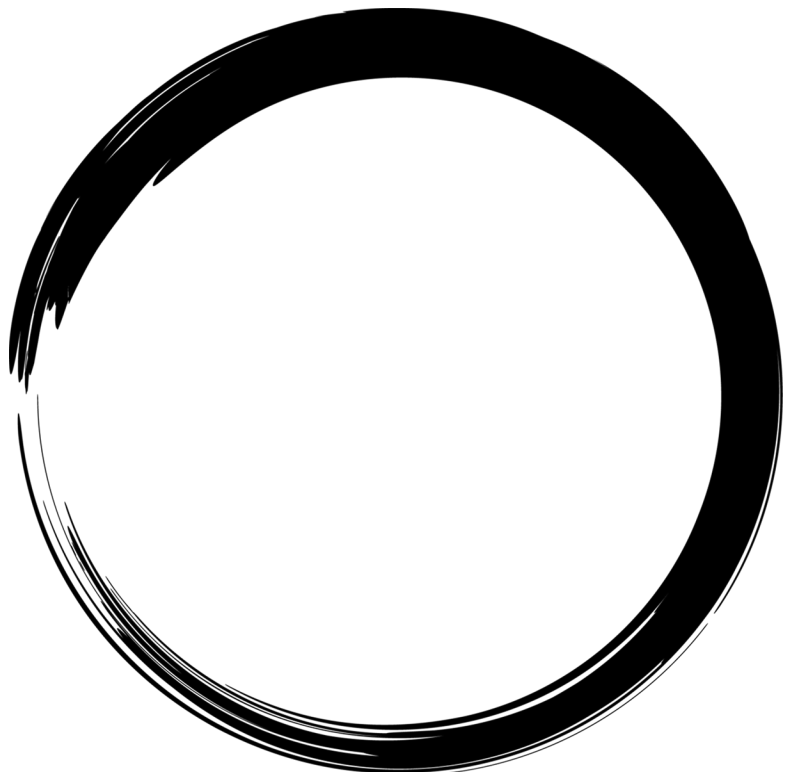
“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen” (2 Peter 3:18).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

The message of 2 Peter is that the joy of hope is the power of godliness. The knowledge of God’s promises is the pathway of His power. Our disbelief and our neglect of this power is to the detriment of our joy and hope.

However, the promises, the hope, the joy, and our growth in godliness are all because of His grace and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Thus, guard yourself by growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. The great goal of God in your life is that Jesus Christ be glorified, circle in prayer a spiritual discipline you will commit to in order to grow, guard, and glorify God.



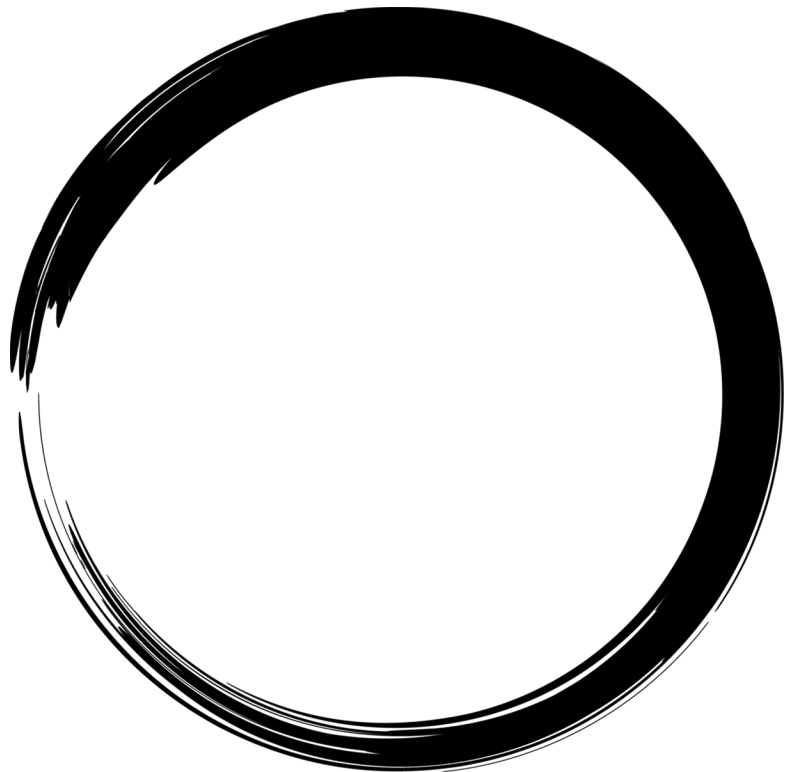
Deacons

“Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them” (Acts 6:1-6).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

These seven men were humble servants of the church who were highly regarded for their faith and wisdom as well as men who were yielded to the Spirit of God. The result was that the blessing of God continued and multiplied in and through the church. As we approach nominating men from our church body to be Deacons (one’s who serve), write in your circle the names of men you know that meet this standard. Pray for them and ask them if they would accept your nomination to the church for consideration.



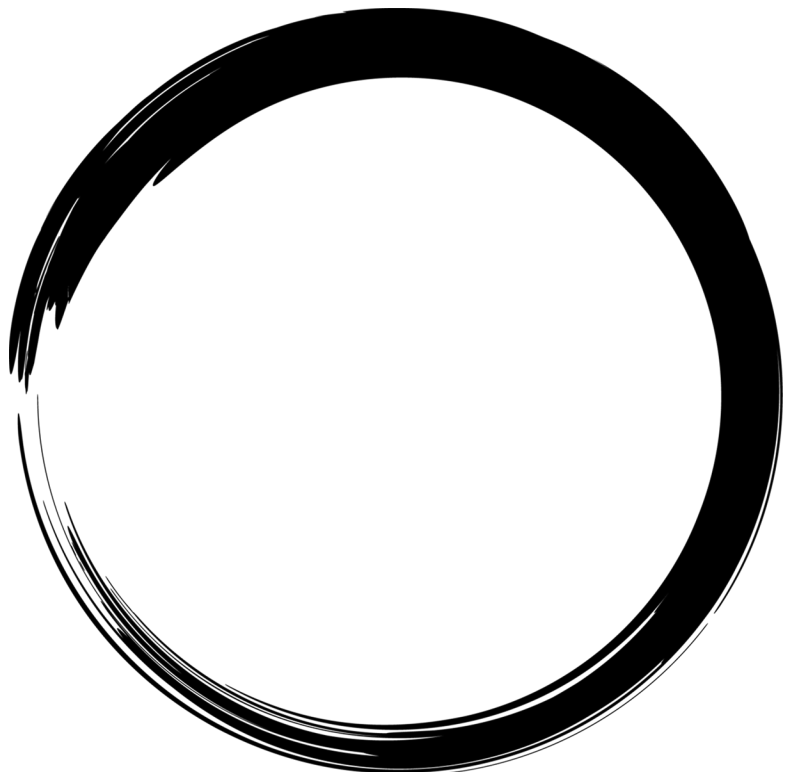
Relationships

“If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ” (1 John 5:9-13).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

God the Father offers eternal life to those who will believe in Jesus Christ. What a relationship, what a gift! Eternal life is a gift: it is not something you or I can earn. But this gift received by faith is a Person—Jesus Christ. True life is only in Him, as such, it is impossible to have life without Him. Write the word “Life” in the circle and then a name of someone you could share the life-changing, life-giving message of Jesus with this week. Be a witness! Be bold! Share the gift of true life!



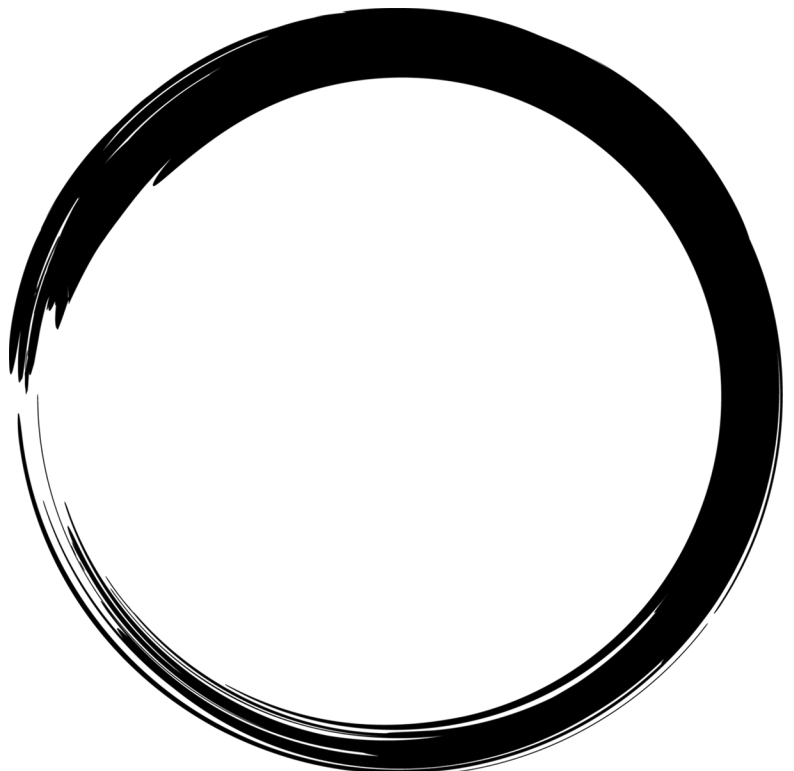
Kingdom Impact

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”
(1 Timothy 2:1-4).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

What kind of Kingdom impact can we have as believers in the context of our country? Biblically, we are to be subject to the governing authorities and to honor them, even when they are not honorable, because it is ultimately God who has placed them in authority over us. It is good to be patriotic, however, a Christian’s ultimate faith, love, and obedience are to be reserved for God alone. Consider our elected officials, write some of their names (even ones you don’t agree with) in the circle as you pray for God to grant them wisdom, guidance, and opportunities to impact others for His Kingdom and glory.



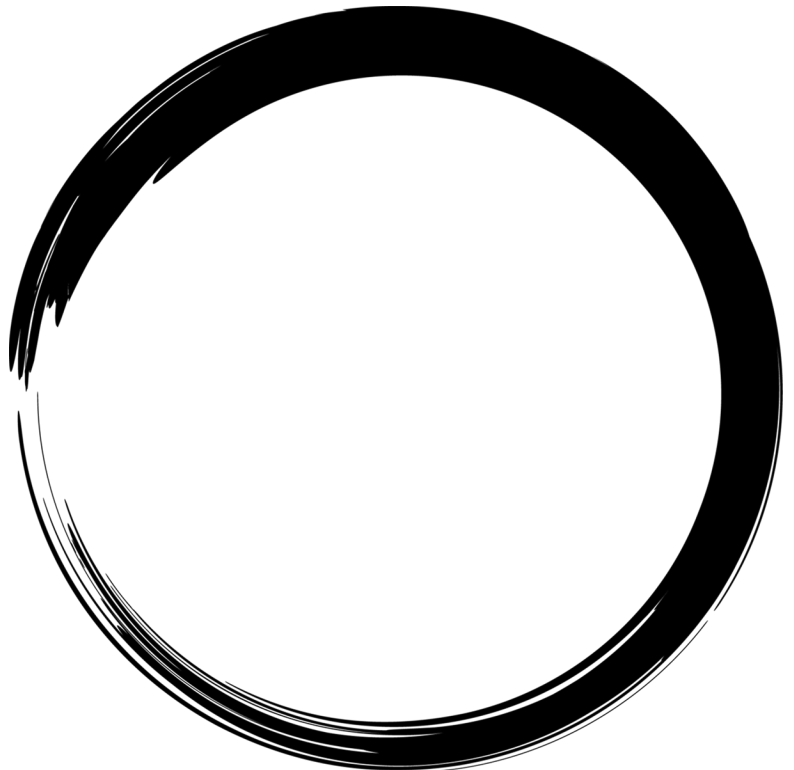
God's Promises

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

"Come", "Take", and "Learn." Jesus is inviting you and me to trust Him, to receive what only He can give, and to keep pursuing Him into a deeper peace. As we surrender, yield, and abide in Jesus we rest in the peace with and of God. In Him we can victoriously turn from ourselves and our fruitless efforts to escape our brokenness. Circle the issue you need rest from and lay it before His Throne of Grace and Mercy as you pray this promise of God into your situation.



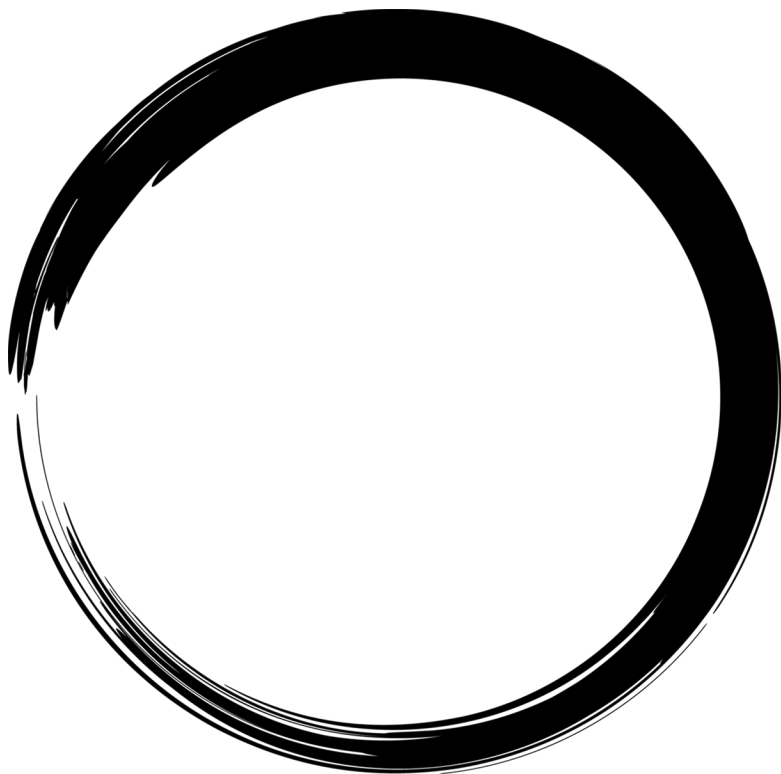
Our Position

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do” (Galatians 5:16-17).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

As a believer, you have the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit and the power to live in a manner pleasing to the Lord. This “walk” is our daily lives, either we are progressing and growing in our spiritual life or we are not. Take your choice, either you live by the power of the Holy Spirit resulting in righteous behavior and spiritual attitudes or by the law and flesh which can only produce unrighteous behavior and attitudes. Circle the small step you’re committing to take as an offering to God today. Abide in Him!



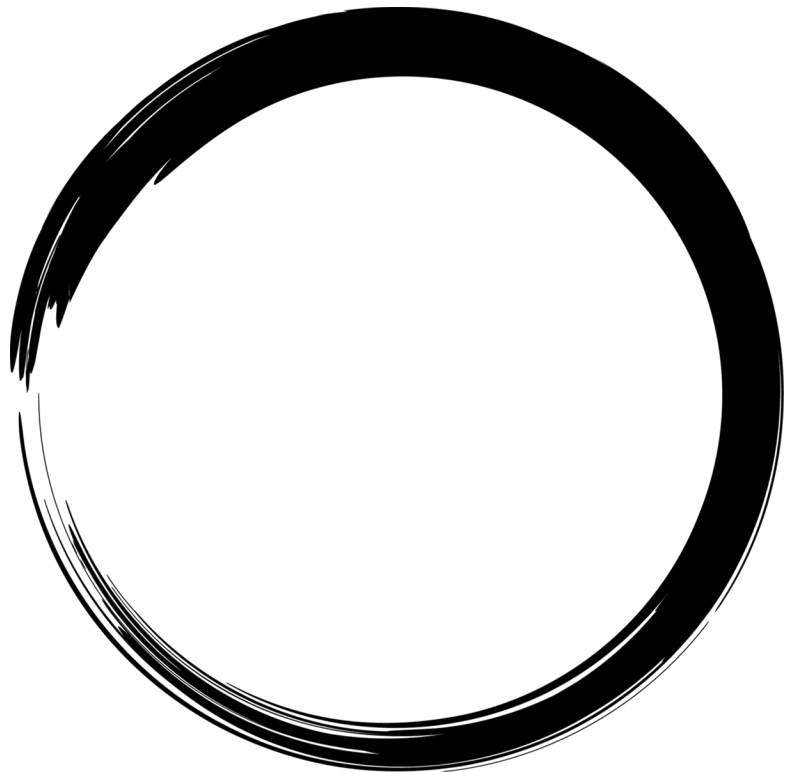
Praise

“O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.” (Isaiah 25:1)

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

“O Lord, You are my God.” This section of Isaiah is very personal. Isaiah knows YAHWEH. This is the Hebrew name for God that specifies an immediacy, a presence. Yahweh (God) is present, accessible, near to those who call on Him for deliverance, forgiveness, and guidance. For this reason Isaiah appeals to Him as friend, Savior, and Sovereign! Take a moment to contemplate the total faithfulness of God to His plans, promises, and purposes. In the circle, surrender anew to the Lord today by writing and affirming:
“O Lord, You are my God!”



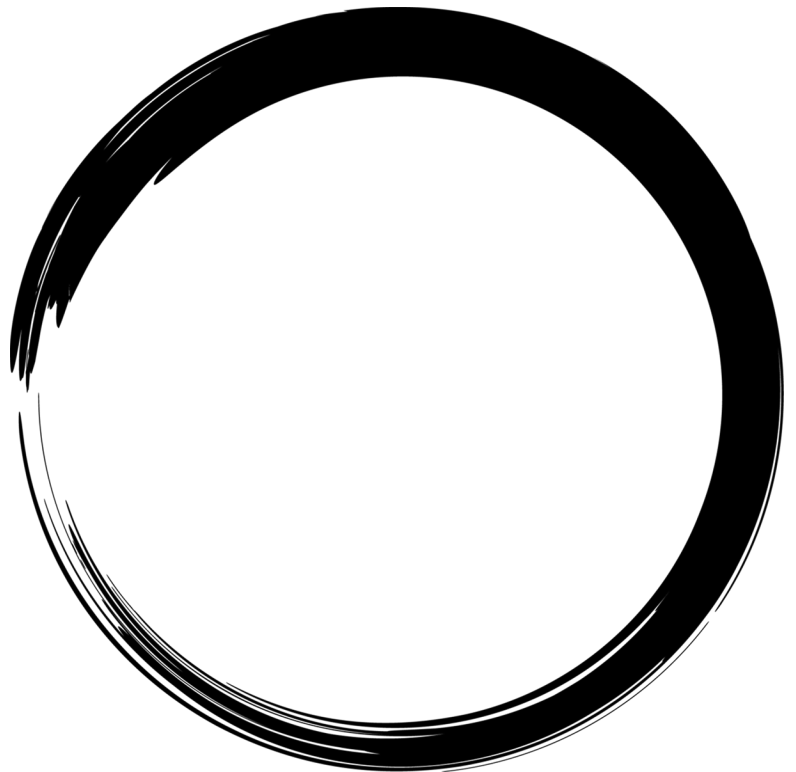
Sanctification

“Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy’”
(1 Peter 1:13-16).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Peter is calling us to get our heads in the game—remove the distractions and frenzy of the world to focus on the grace of God as we remain steadfast and self-controlled. We glorify God best by being like Him. Here is the argument: Children inherit the nature of their parents. God is holy: therefore, as His children, we should live holy lives. Although God is distinct from us, we are made in His image and redeemed by His Son. Draw or write down an attribute or characteristic of God you can “put on” today for His glory and your good.



Deacons

“Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers
and deacons” (Philippians 1:1).

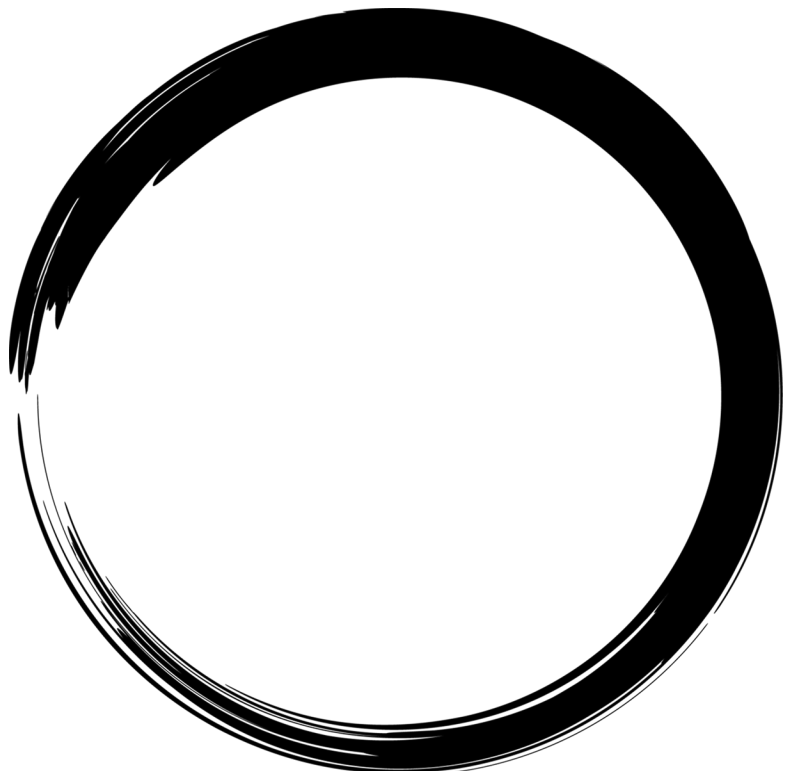
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4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Most people run right past the greetings in the New Testament letters. However, it is our hope that you will see how integral they are to the content of the rest of the letter; they introduce themes that are developed later and, therefore, we ought to diligently reflect upon them.

1. Recognize and appreciate that in the church we are all servants no matter how “high” or “low” our profile in the body of Christ may be. Every member of every church should be serving in some way, with humility and love.
2. Learn to appreciate other Christians by thanking God for their ministries and contribution to the body.

Write down an area of ministry God is calling you towards, if you’re already involved in a ministry, who could you invite to serve alongside you?



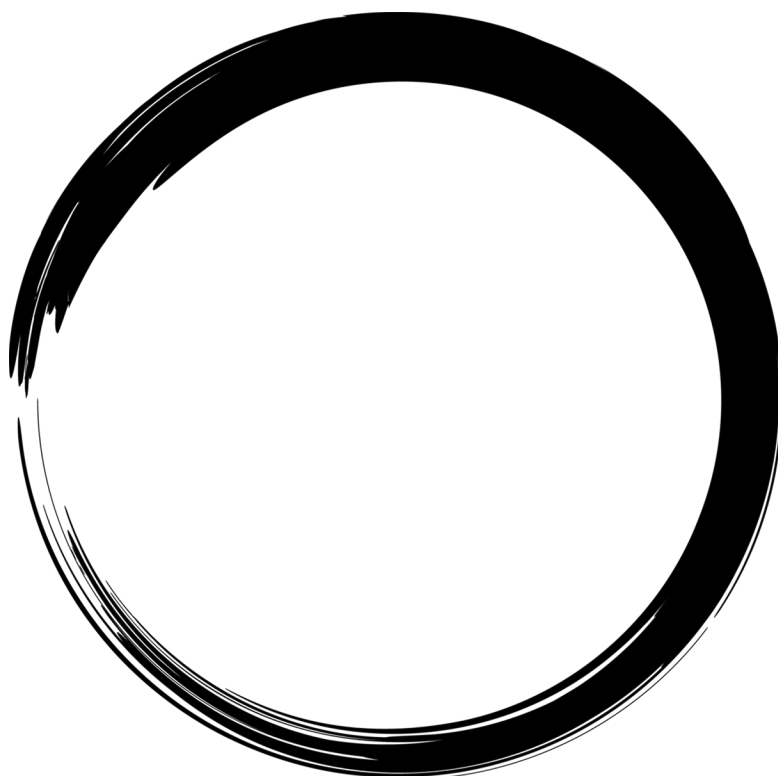
Relationships

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God's character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

You are not your own. You belong to the Father who made us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who indwells us. We also belong to the people of God, the church, and our sins can weaken the testimony and infect the fellowship we have in these relationships. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be empowered and controlled by the Spirit. We need the Holy Spirit to experience renewal, to respond in obedience, for boldness to witness and share the gospel, and to live in the freedom from the power of sin. Encircle and meditate on the reality of this powerful proclamation: "I am not my own." Then, seek forgiveness or offer forgiveness where needed.



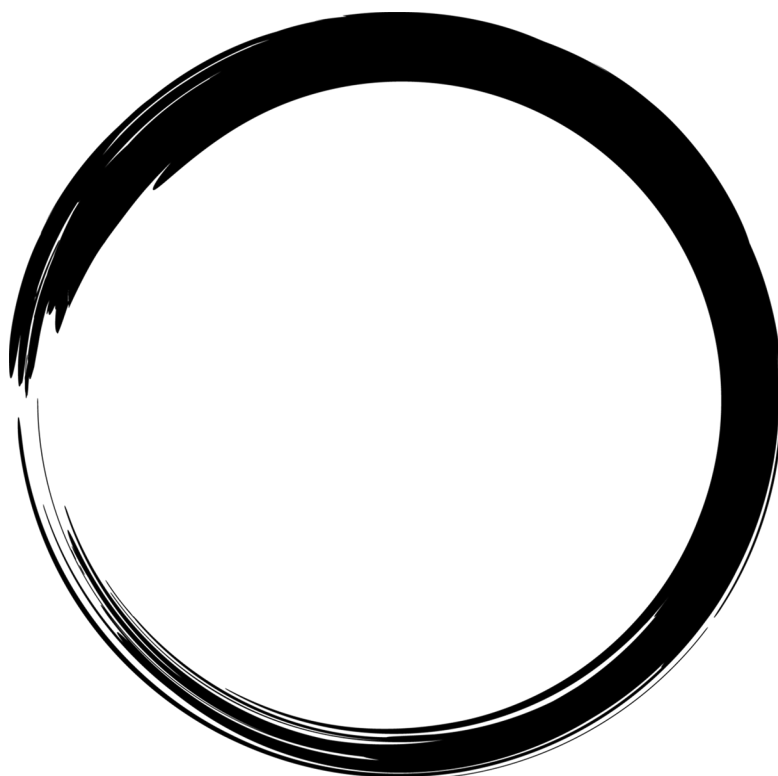
Kingdom Impact

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full” (John 15:4-11).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Each year area churches come together for the ABIDE 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. As a community of churches, pastors, and believers we trust His Spirit to move among us and through us. Today as we consider our Kingdom impact in Highlands county, pray with us that God will stoke the embers of our hearts, igniting in each of us a desire to see the love of God infuse our daily walk. Draw the word “Abide”, or a heart, or a fire to represent your part in impacting our community for His kingdom. May your joy be full.



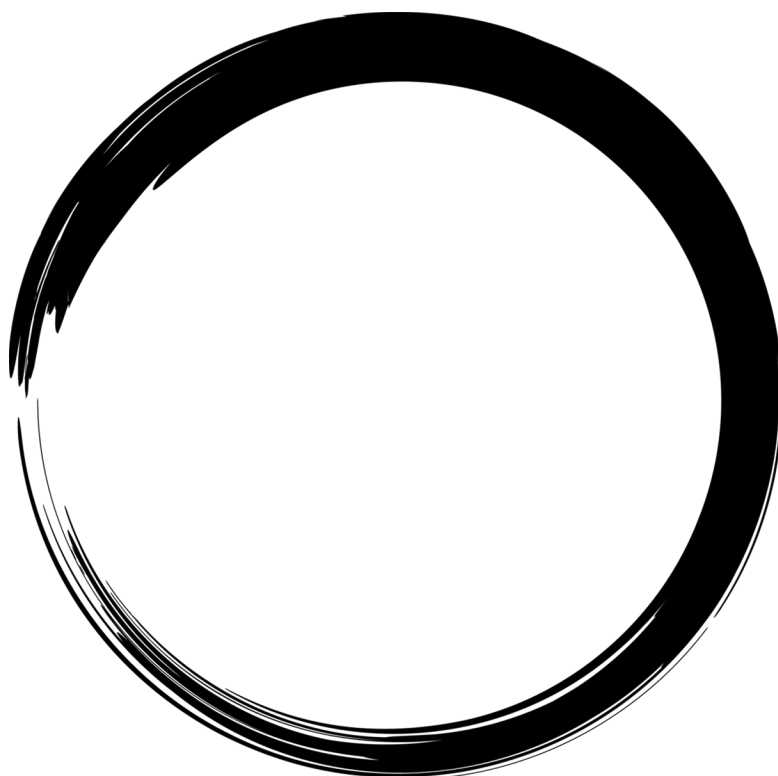
God's Promises

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you” (Philippians 4:4-9).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Inner calm or tranquility is promised to the believer who has a thankful attitude based on unwavering confidence that God is able and willing to do what is best for His children. God is peace, makes peace with sinners through Christ, and gives perfect peace in trouble. Circle the specific request you’re praying for God’s peace to guard in your heart and mind today and then rejoice in His promise to be with you.



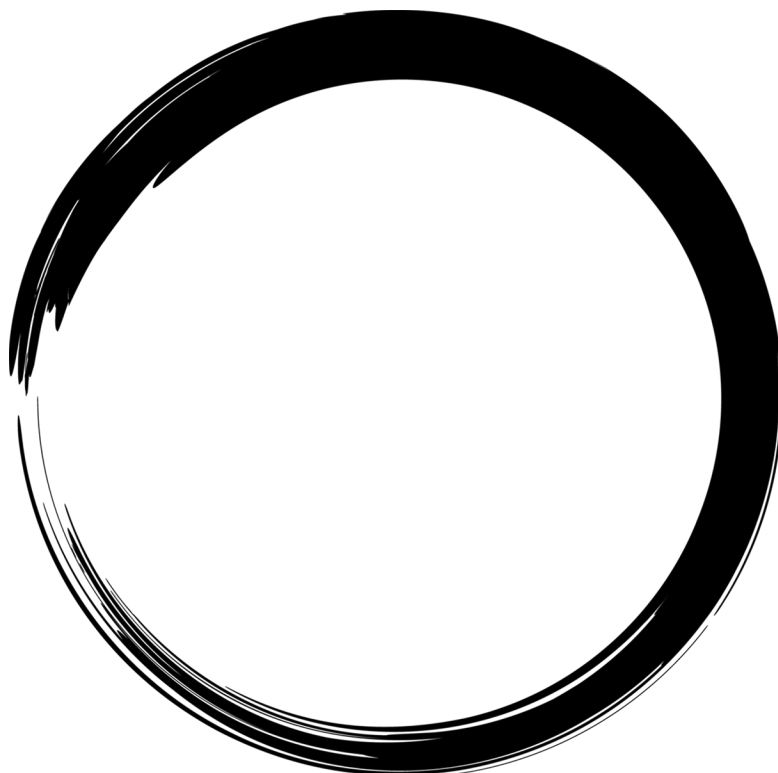
Our Position

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:9, 24).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Christ died that you might live! As a believer you are a chosen generation (a grace recipient), a holy nation (set apart to and by God), and a part of God’s people (no longer of the world). All of these privileges carry with them a great responsibility: we are called to reveal the praises of God to a dark and lost world! The nature of light is to shine, and darkness cannot exist in the presence of light. Think about your position and circle an action you can do today to show the light of Jesus.



Sunday (Day 21)

Part of David's Song of Thanks

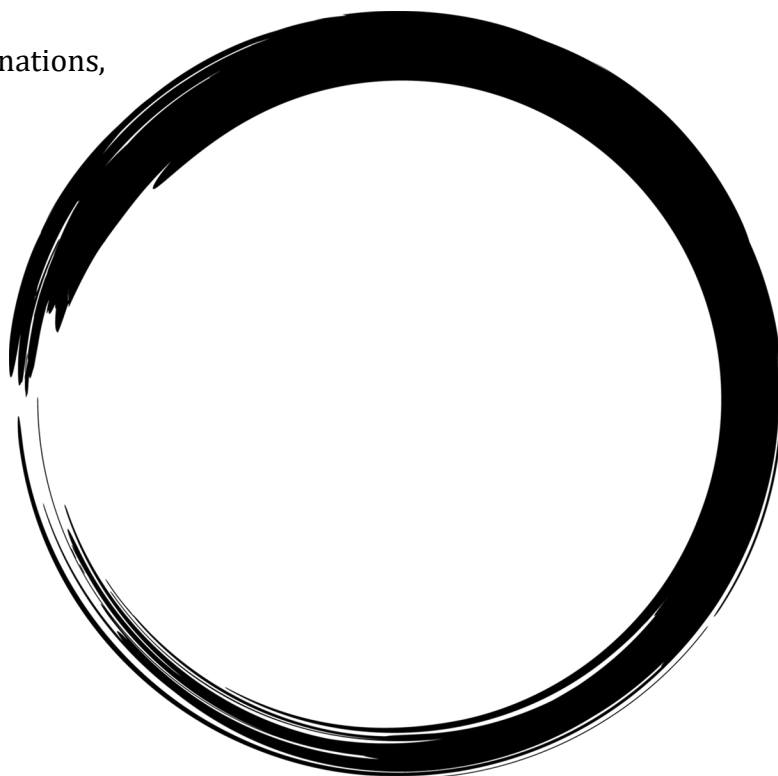
"Sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and he is to be feared above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and joy are in his place.
Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come before him!
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth;
yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, 'The Lord reigns!'
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it!
Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Say also:
'Save us, O God of our salvation,
and gather and deliver us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!'
Then all the people said, 'Amen!' and praised
the Lord" (1 Chronicles 16:23-36).

The Lord reigns! Write the word
"Amen" in the circle and reread
today's passage in a prayer of
praise to our Great, Good,
Gracious, and Glorious God.

Praise

Use these four questions to focus the
Scripture reading on Gospel truths for
you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God's character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?



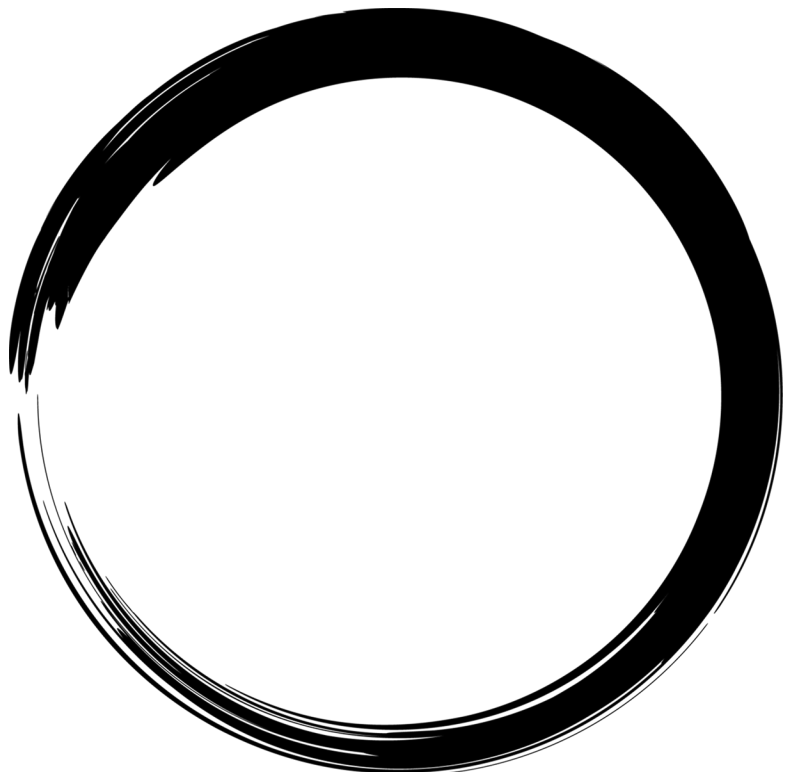
Sanctification

“I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth” (John 17:14-19).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

We are *in* the world, but not *of* the world, and we must not live *like* the world. The idea of sanctification is the setting apart of something for a particular use. Accordingly, believers are set apart for God and His purposes alone. With the mind we learn God’s truth through the Word. With the heart we love God’s truth. With the will, we yield to the Spirit and live God’s truth day by day. Write your name in the circle, asking God to continue His work in and through you.



Deacons

“Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him” (Matthew 4:11).

“He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him” (Matthew 8:15).

“There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him” (Matthew 27:55)

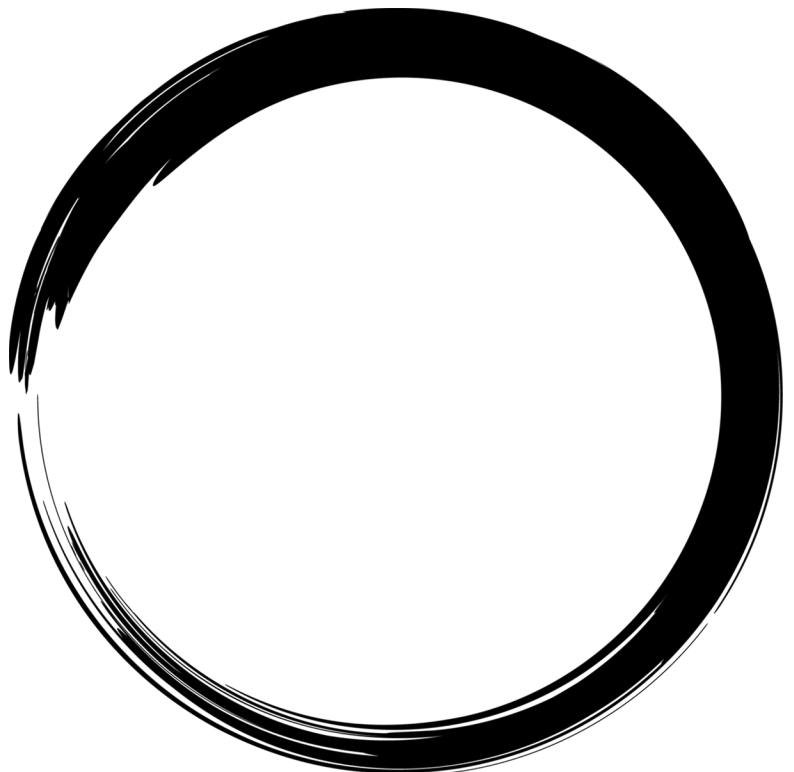
“But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me’” (Luke 10:40).

“At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints” (Romans 15:25).

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2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

The basic meaning of the Greek word behind the English translation of "deacon" (*diakon-*) suggests the notion of service and servanthood (John 2:5; Romans 15:8; Matthew 20:26; Luke 10:40; Acts 11:29; 12:25), especially in regard to providing practical help, being willing to serve, and loving Jesus. Deacons fulfill their calling so that the pastors can focus on the ministry of the Word and prayer. As we grow our relationship with God, our conversations should turn from self-focused interests to the needs of others. Pray about and write in the circle to what and to where God is calling you to serve!



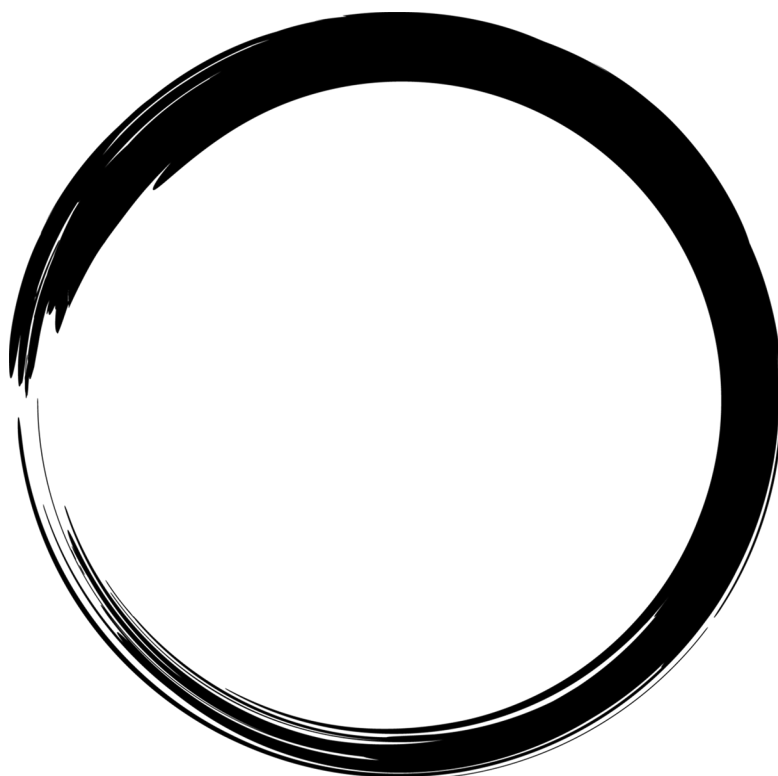
Relationships

“Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body” (Ephesians 5:22-30).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Our text is based upon a principle, which is vitally important and yet little understood in our times: God has established certain relationships in this world that are earthly symbols of heavenly realities. Marriage is a beautiful picture of the relationship between Christ and His church. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of His love and sacrifice for you as you are part of ("the Church") and the fact that marriage is an opportunity (if married) to emulate Him. Encircle the name of your spouse or a couple you know and thank the Lord God for teaching you and/or showing you how to sacrificially love and serve others in marriage.



Kingdom Impact

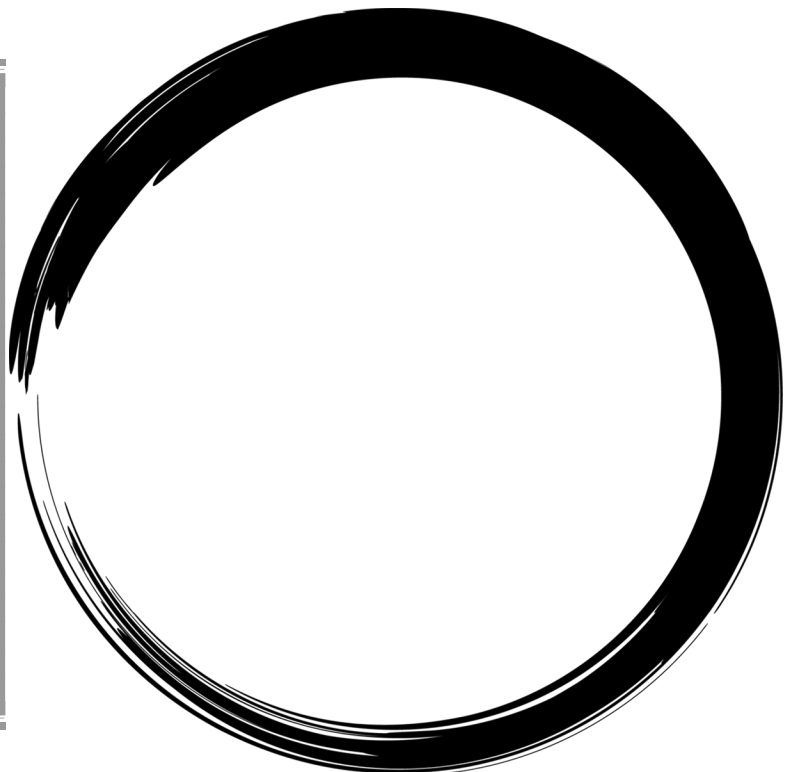
"I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man. So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 2:4-11).

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It is said that man has three basic needs in life: love, purpose, and significance. Many times, we attempt to find purpose and significance in work itself.

In Ecclesiastes 2:4-11, Solomon details his search for meaning in a variety of projects and works of all kinds. His conclusion is that being busy or work is of no value except when God is in it. Write down your place of work or where you find yourself "busy" a lot and pray that the Lord would use you in this place to demonstrate love, righteousness, faithfulness, and excellence.



God's Promises

"Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD" (Psalm 31:24)!

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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David's exuberant praise does not mean that his battles are over. In fact, there is no indication that his circumstances have changed at all. Rather, David has found strength in the battle as by faith he has taken refuge in the Lord. Through the Lord we are prepared to overcome new conflicts every day. Write today's verse in the circle to remind yourself that God will do all that He has promised. You and I can wait on the Lord in eager anticipation, knowing that He is with us and in control of our lives. Trust in Him as the sovereign, active, involved, personal Savior He is.



Our Position

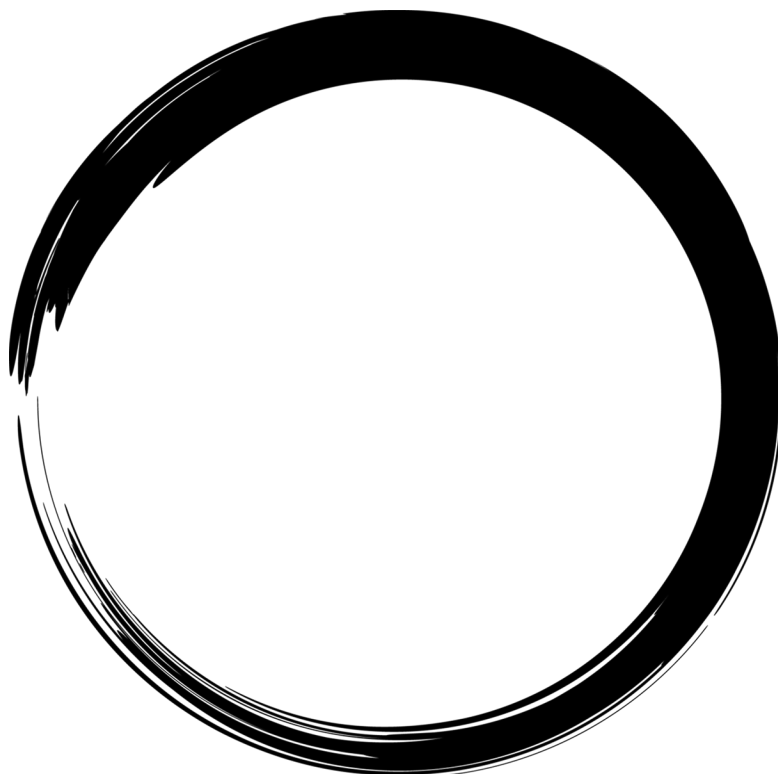
“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ” (Ephesians 2:13).

“For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more” (Hebrews 8:12).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Because we are in Christ, God sees Christ’s righteousness covering us. Only “in Christ” is our sin debt cancelled, our relationship with God restored, and our eternity secured. Rather than seeing your sin, God sees the righteousness of His Son. He sees you as justified, redeemed, sanctified, even glorified. Write in the circle “Forgiven” and praise the Lord that “in Christ” God doesn’t see our imperfections, but rather we have peace with God and we are called His children! Hallelujah!



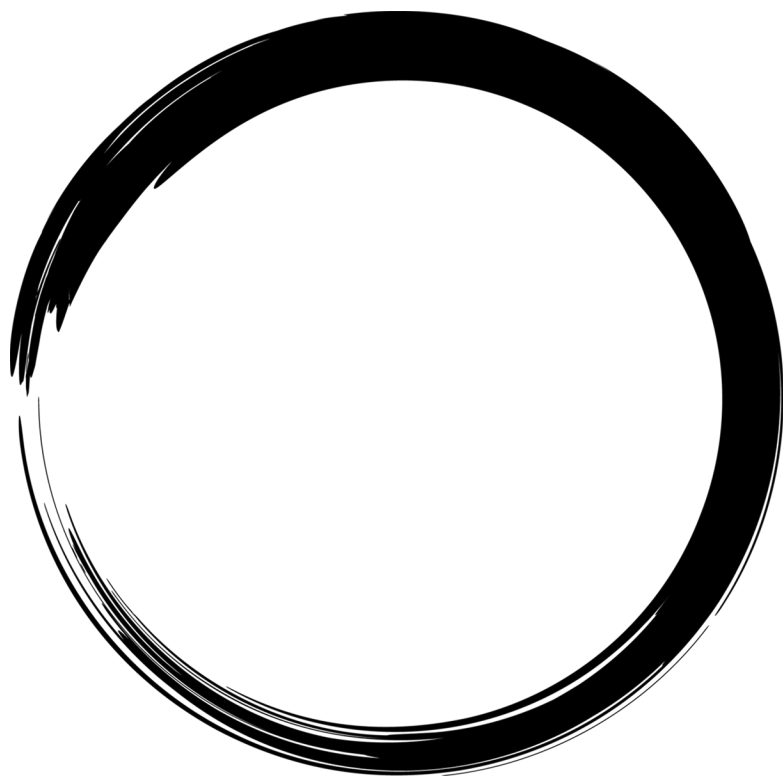
Praise

“For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all” (Ephesians 1:15-22).

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God’s great power, that very power which raised Jesus from the dead and lifted Him by ascension back to glory to take His seat at God’s right hand, is given to every believer at the time of salvation and is always available. Paul therefore did not pray that God’s power be given to believers but that they be aware of the power they already possessed in Christ and use it. Divine power is at work in you to do far more than you can ask or conceive. Draw an empty grave in the circle, praise the Lord, we serve a risen and living Savior! Share this powerful news!



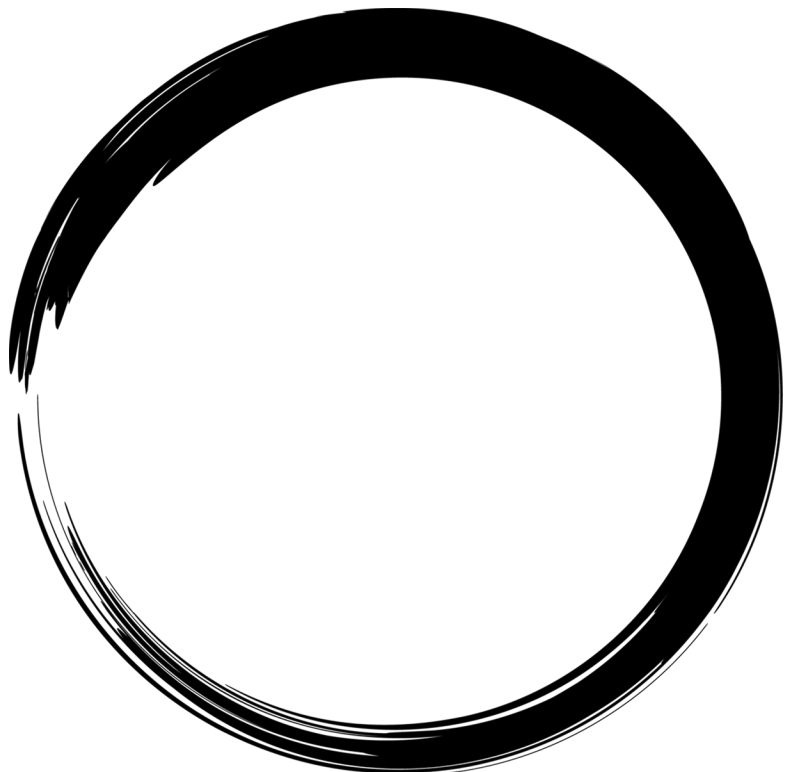
Sanctification

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:10-14).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

The word “sanctify” means to “make holy,” to be set apart from sin for God. As a sinner who has put their faith and trust in Jesus we can be confident that all of our sins are forgiven, all our guilt can be relieved, and that we have a continuing, permanent condition of holiness in Christ. This positional sanctification is ours as believers and yet we are called to be progressively sanctified as we walk daily by the will and Word of God, empowered by the Spirit. Ponder the reality of holiness as you circle this statement: “I am set apart for God!”



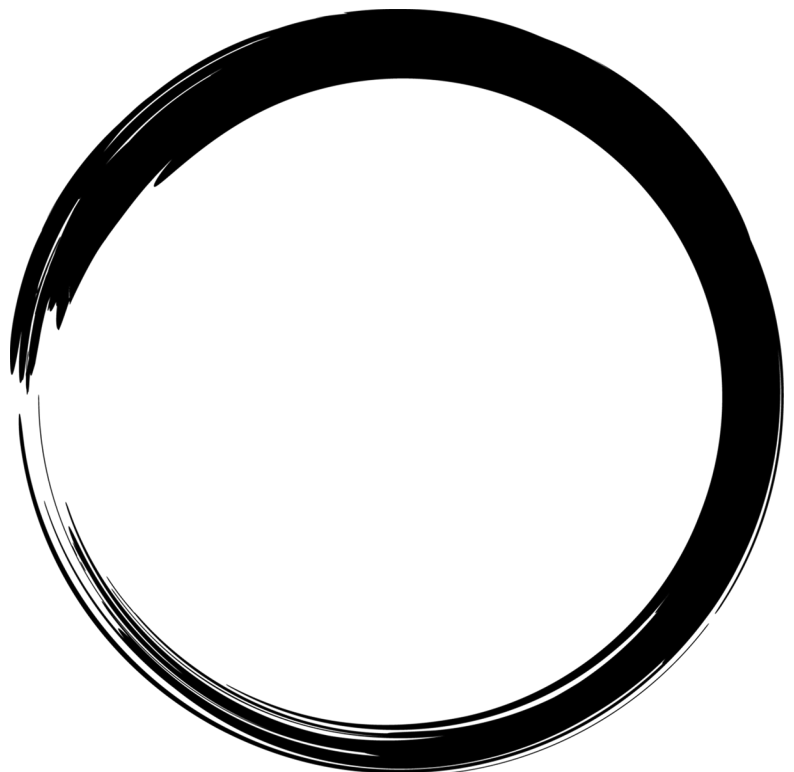
Deacons

“When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them” (John 13:12-17).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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Jesus is the supreme example of servanthood, humility, and of true Christian ministry. All Christians are servants of Christ; some are called to be “official servants.” According to the Word, the office of deacon is both an honor and a blessing. Wiersbe writes about our daily walk and true joy, “Be sure to keep these lessons in their proper sequence: humbleness, holiness, happiness. Submit to the Father, keep your life clean, and serve others. This is God's formula for true spiritual joy.” As we pray for our Deacons today, encircle this fact: “I am a servant of God!” Now, go and be a humble, holy, and happy servant of God.



Relationships

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” (Matthew 10:34-37).

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Though the ultimate end of the Gospel is peace with God, the immediate result of the Gospel is frequently conflict. This can be a difficult passage to consider, so what does this look like in our lives? How do we give ultimate priority to Jesus while at the same time love our families? Consider these biblical points:

1. Families are to prioritize the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Families are to prioritize family worship.
3. Families are to prioritize being at church.

We won’t draw closer to God just living our lives. Either we will live for Christ, or we will live for ourselves. Draw a cross in the circle, pray that you and your family will continue to live for Him no matter the cost.



Kingdom Impact

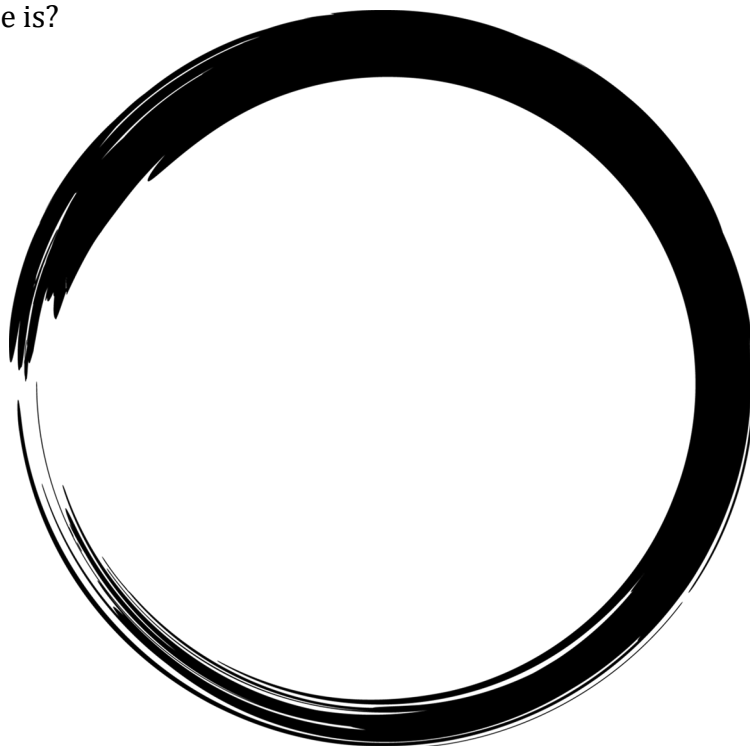
“And he answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.’ And he said to him, ‘You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.’ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’ Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?’ He said, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘You go, and do likewise” (Luke 10:27-37).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?

Our neighbor is anyone in our proximity with whom we can share God’s love. We are called not only to love those who are similar to us or with whom we are comfortable, but all whom God places in our path. We are to love our neighbors, including our neighbors who seem like enemies to us, by acting towards them with a heart that first is attuned to and loves God. We love our neighbors out of an overflow of God’s love for us and as a way of demonstrating our love toward God. Encircle the names of your neighbors, pray that the Lord would open the door of opportunity to show them God’s love this week, and then do it! Be creative and enjoy this challenge.

4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?



God's Promises

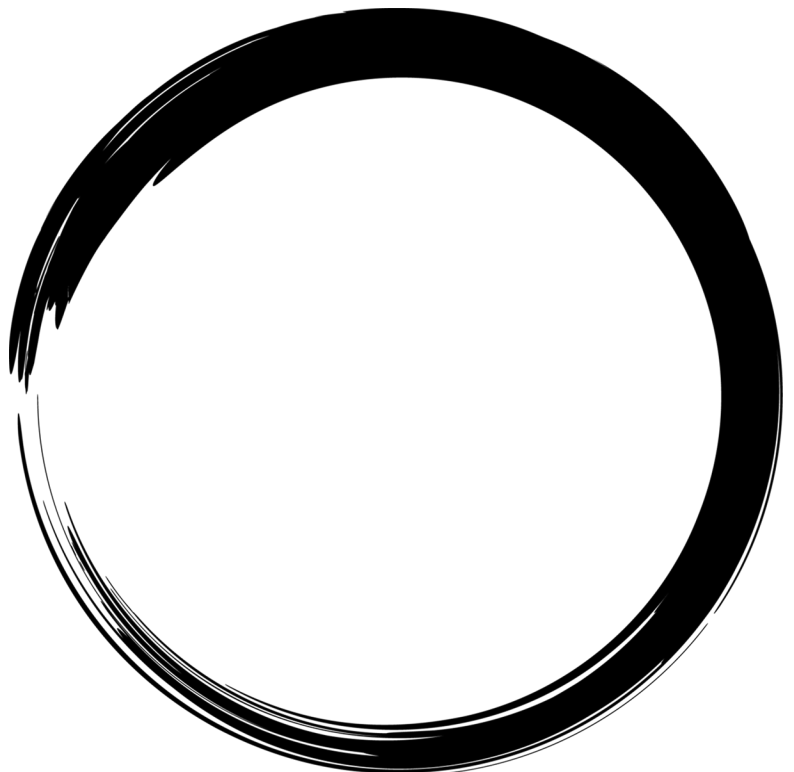
“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him’” (John 14:1-7).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?

Heaven is a real place described in the Bible where God dwells and where Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. This passage centers on the promise that Jesus is the One who gives the believer comfort, not only in His future return but also in the present with the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Heaven is a place of “no mores.” There will be no more tears, no more pain, and no more sorrow. Eternal life in heaven is made possible only through Christ. May the promise of the presence of our Lord and Savior help to calm your troubled heart today as we will be face to face with the Lamb of God who loved us and sacrificed Himself so that we can enjoy His presence in heaven for eternity. In the circle, challenge yourself to think of a “no more” you will realize in your heavenly home.

3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?



Our Position

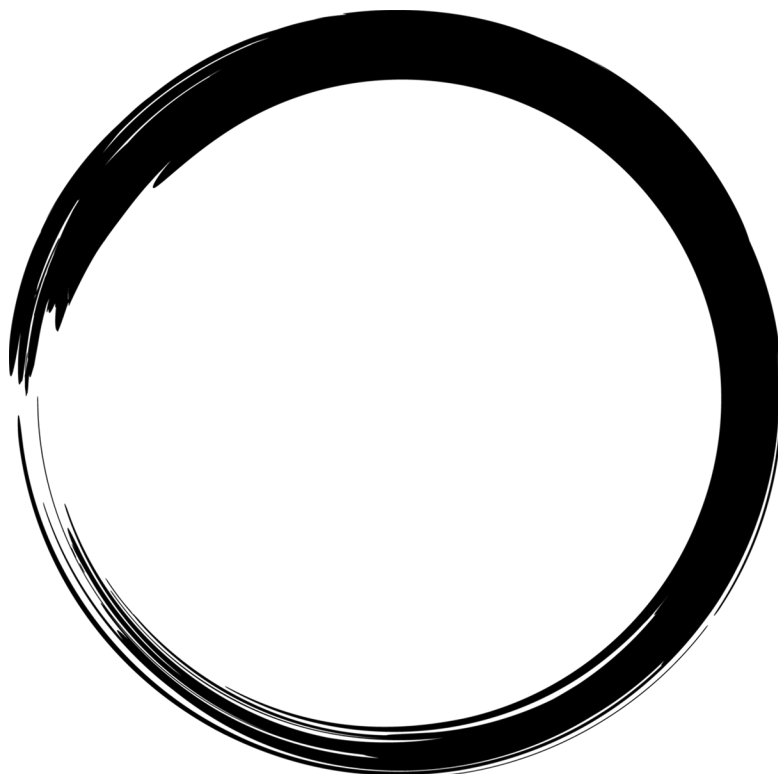
“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1).

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:37-39).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
2. What has He done?—What do we see God doing in this passage? What work do we observe?
3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so! Chapter 8 of Romans reveals that as believers we are completely victorious in Christ and that He has great love for you. In Christ there is no judgment, no defeat, no discouragement, no fear, no condemnation, no frustration, no separation. In Christ we are over-conquerors, we have the ability to conquer all things in life’s path because of and through the fact that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. Draw a heart in the circle and then write “Jesus loves (Your Name)!”



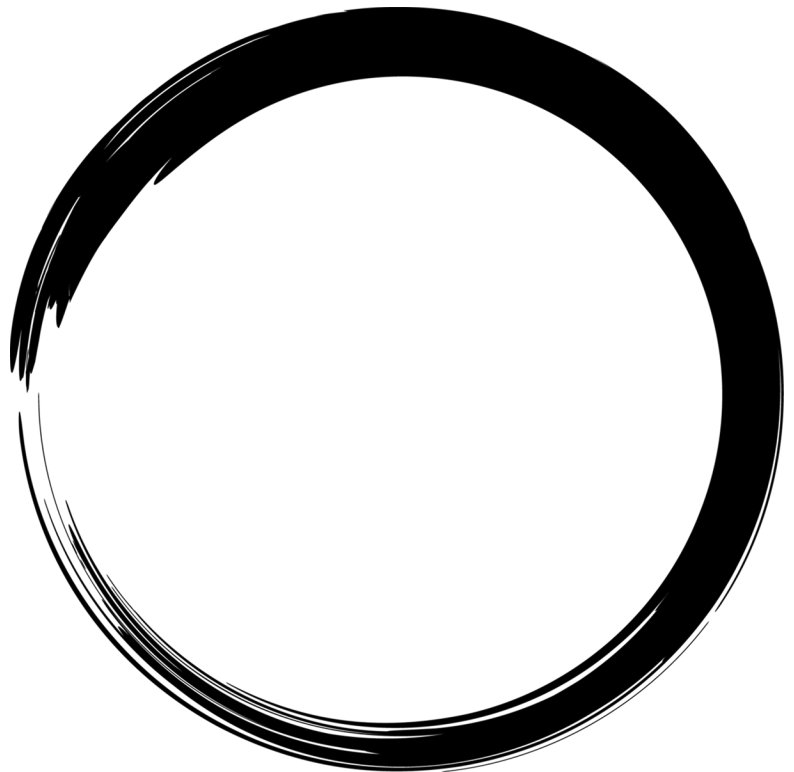
Praise

“I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable”
(Psalm 145:1-3).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
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This Psalm is a commitment to celebrate and praise the King of Eternity for who He is, what He has done, and what He has promised because of God’s awesome greatness. Encircle and meditate on this truth today as you pray “God is GREAT!” Make it a goal today to tell someone else how great God is!



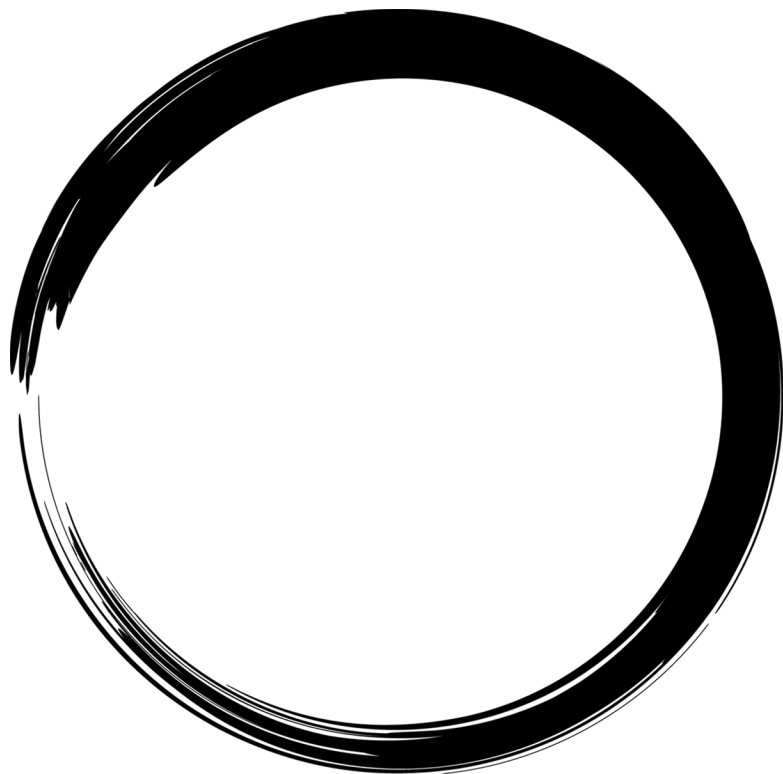
Sanctification

“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it” (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

With our eyes on Jesus, our practical sanctification, the daily dealing with our sins and growth in holiness, provides us with a great motivation for holy living. The point is that the call of God to save believers and bring them into a vital relationship with Himself does not end His loving care. In His character as faithful, He continues His work to produce spiritual growth and change. As the One who calls and justifies by grace, so He sanctifies by grace too. Write today’s date in the circle as a testimony that on this day you embrace the grace and encouragement to live for the Lord, not in our own strength, but in His.



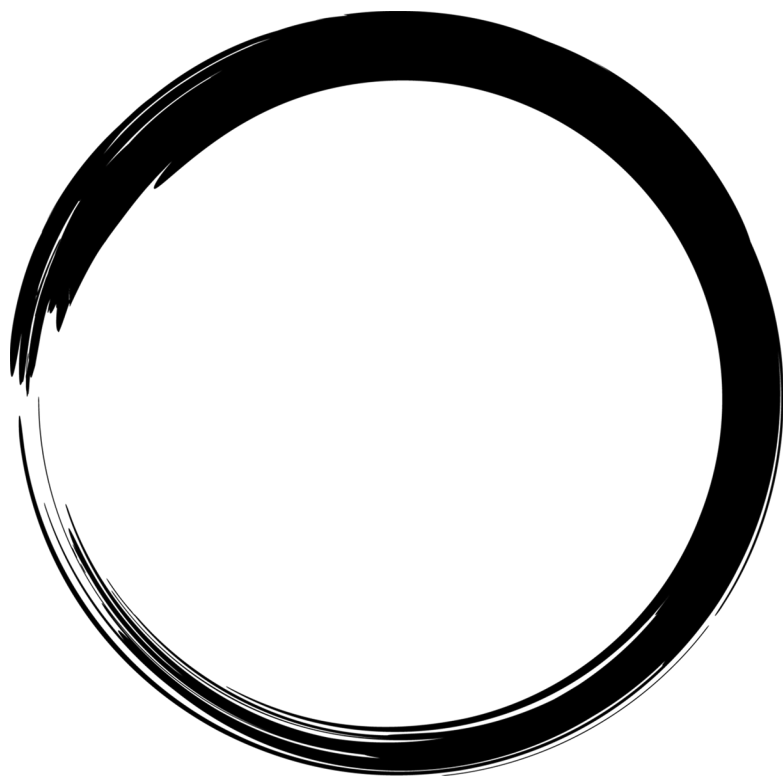
Deacons

“Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them” (Acts 6:3-6).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

1. Who is God?—What does this passage tell us about God’s character, motives, and identity?
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3. Who am I?—What does this passage tell me about my identity found in Him?
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In our church constitution, the qualifications for a Deacon state that they must be church members who are mature as believers, gifted as servants, above reproach, wise, and respected throughout the church body. They must be in agreement with the mission and direction of the church family. They must fulfill in general the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-7. In addition, they must be faithful in attendance, tithing, service and outreach. Be in prayerful consideration for those men who the Lord affirms in your heart to meet these qualifications to serve FBSebring. Write “FBSebring” in the circle and pray for our church and it’s leadership.



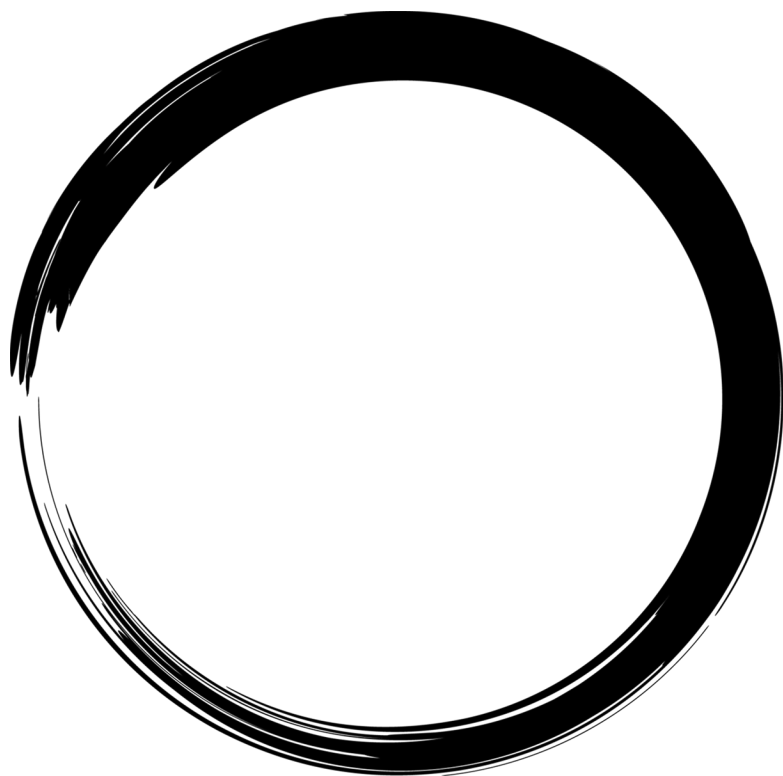
Relationships

“He entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.’ So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, ‘He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.’ And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, ‘Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost’” (Luke 19:1-10).

Use these four questions to focus the Scripture reading on Gospel truths for you today:

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The lost are dead. Spiritually dead. Unresponsive to God. In Luke 19:10, Jesus said, “The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” The lost don’t just need finding; they need saving. This is why Jesus came into the world — not only to find people, but to save people. “You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Jesus is still seeking the lost and yearning to save them. Has He found you? Encircle the name of someone you know who needs to trust Jesus. Pray for them today because Jesus saves!



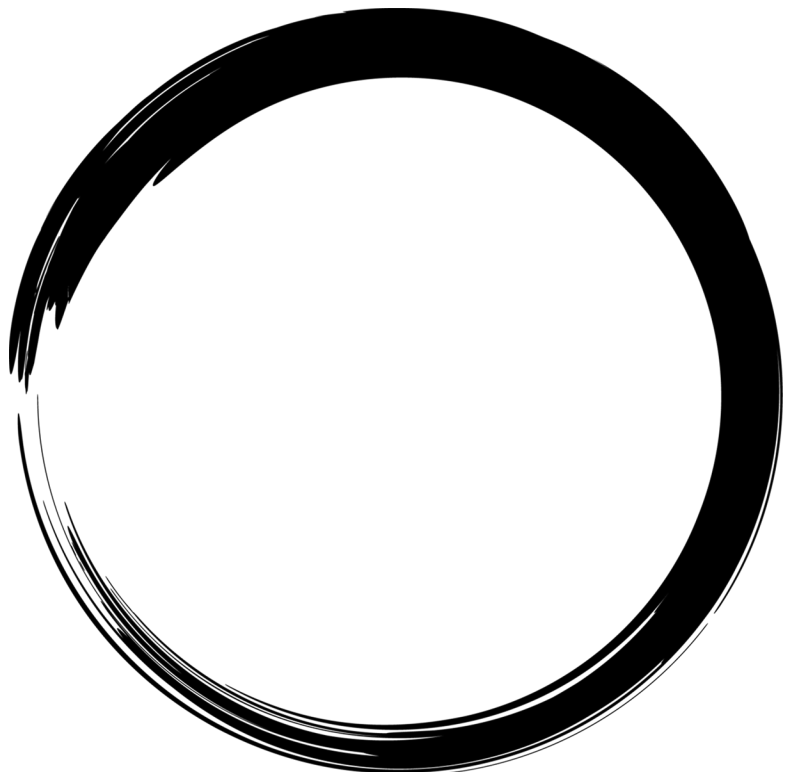
Kingdom Impact

“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him” (Romans 8:14-17).

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4. How do I respond?—How is God calling me to live based on who I am, what He has done, and who He is?

When we are born, we’re born into a physical family, but when we are “born again,” we are born into a spiritual family. Upon accepting Christ as Savior, we are adopted into God’s family. So what does the Bible say about family and what kind of Kingdom impact do I have in my family? The physical family is the most important building block to human society, and as such, it should be nurtured and protected. But more important than that is the new creation that God is making in Christ, which is comprised of a spiritual family, the Church, made up of all people who call upon the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. Impact the Kingdom by writing down the names of your family members as you pray and entrust them to God.



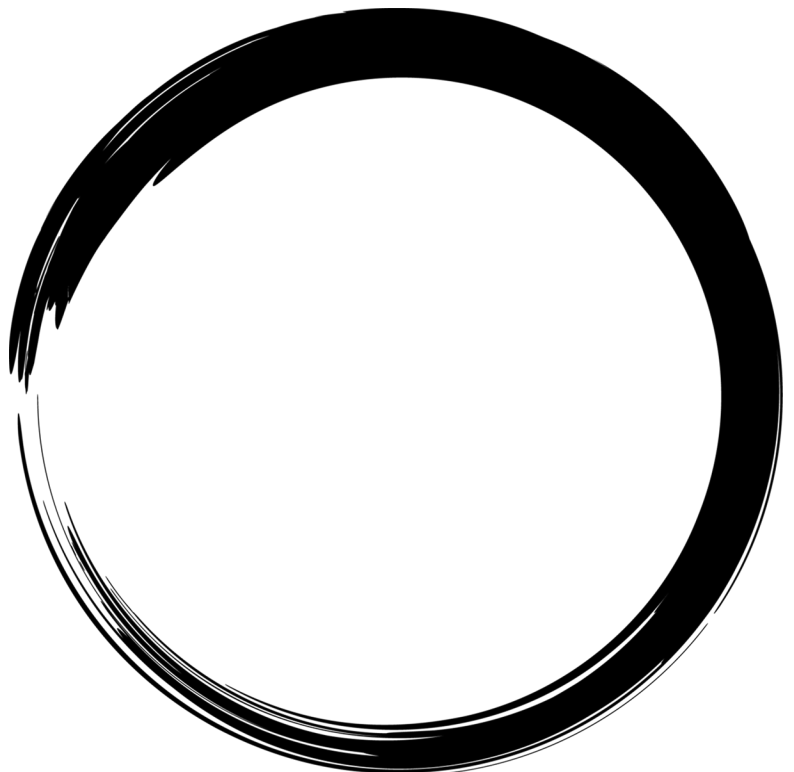
God's Promises

"For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory" (2 Corinthians 1:20).

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All God's Old Testament and New Testament promises of peace, joy, love, goodness, forgiveness, salvation, sanctification, fellowship, hope, glorification, and heaven are made possible and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. "Amen" is a word of affirmation, here Paul is reminding the Corinthian church that they had said a collective "yes" to the truth of his preaching and teaching. Encircle the word "Amen" affirming your confidence in the promises of God. Remember, an "Amen" attests to the conviction of the hearer that the sentences which they heard were true, just, and certain. Although out of many of our comfort zones, as the Spirit leads, give an audible "Amen" this Sunday.



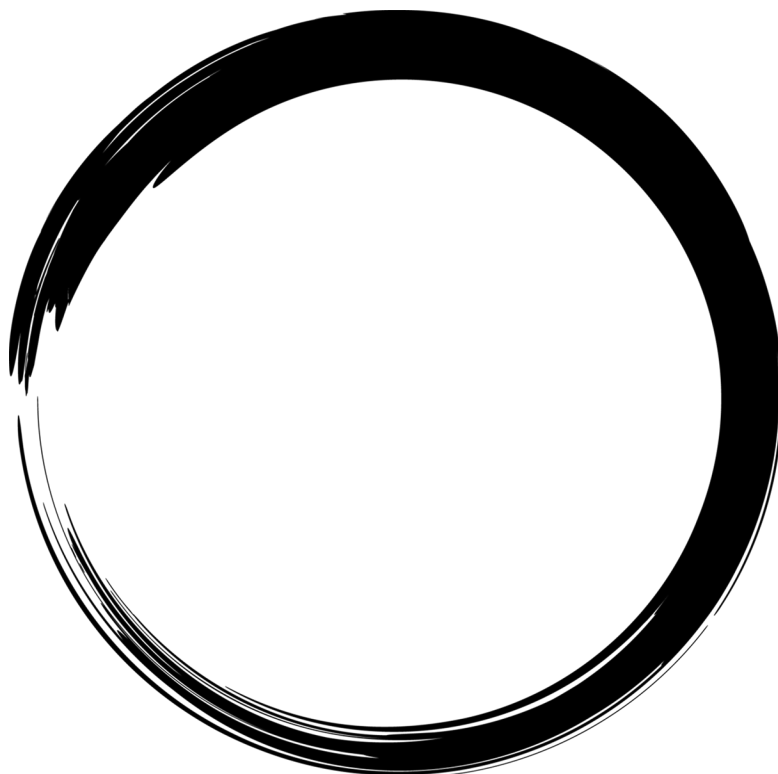
Our Position

“The LORD is good,
a stronghold in the day of trouble;
he knows those who take refuge in him”
(Nahum 1:7).

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The Hebrew name Nahum means “compassion” or “comfort.” This fact is interesting in light of God’s promises throughout the book of Nahum that speak of comfort and deliverance for His people. Hold on to your position in Christ as God is Good, God is Great, God is Gracious, and God is Glorious. He is compassionate, a stronghold or fortress to those who put their hope in Him. Trusting in the Lord, you can stand the test even in the day of adversity, when the troubles of life come rushing in like an overwhelming flood. Do you have an absolute and exclusive trust in Jesus? Write something in the circle you are trusting the Lord for today. Be comforted, God cares for you!



Sunday (Day 42)

"Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!
Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord!
For he commanded and they were created.
And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
Praise the Lord from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!
Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.
Praise the Lord" (Psalm 148)!

Psalm 148 is a glorious psalm of praise. It is easy to see that praise is the theme. The command to praise the Lord is repeated nine times in the first five verses and twelve times in the entire psalm. We hope that our 42 days in reading, reflection, and prayer has fanned the flame of your desire to be a person of praise and an instrument of the Gospel to those around you. Encircle your ongoing pledge to pursuing and growing in your walk with Jesus through these disciplines!

Praise

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