



ROOTS





# TRINITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## WEEKLY WORSHIP

### AT THE OWASSO SIXTH GRADE CENTER

Morning Discipleship 9am | Gathered Worship 10am  
8101 N 129th East Avenue, Owasso, OK 74055

## TRINITY HOUSE & CHURCH OFFICES

9210 N Garnett Road, Owasso, OK 74055  
918.516.2772 | trinityowasso.com

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



# LETTER FROM PASTOR **BLAKE**

Sharing the good news that grace changes everything is one of the greatest privileges of being the lead pastor of Trinity. After seven years together my fingerprints are completely covered by yours, as we hold high the gospel through the Trinity Vision. Each of us are essential components to show Owasso and Tulsa Metro that grace changes everything in Jesus Christ by equipping one another to rest in worship, grow in community and rediscover our calling. Together we make the Trinity Vision beautiful.

This ROOTS Journal is a tool to help make the Trinity Vision a reality in you and your family. As we enter an important stage in Trinity's history, we deepen our roots in the gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news that defines our life together. More than that, we enter a stage where the gospel bears fruit in our lives in remarkable ways through our generosity and sacrifice. As we look at each of our core values of worship, community, and calling, we will see our roots deepen for the sake of our neighbors who are not yet a part of the Trinity Vision, and the next generation yet to be born.

Please bring this ROOTS Journal with you to worship each Sunday from October 21st through November 18th. It is divided by weeks and each week has three sections. During the sermon you will use the "Planting the Seed" section to take notes. At community group you will refer to the "Establishing the Roots" section. In personal study, prayer and meditation, and family discipleship, please use the "Digging Deeper" section.

At the conclusion of the sermon each week, I will challenge you to join me to fast from one normal activity that week and dedicate time to pray for Trinity's ROOTS campaign and your participation in it. Richard Foster defines fasting as "the voluntary denial of a normal function for the sake of intense spiritual activity". It is my prayer that our longing for these normal things of life will propel us to be generous for the glory of God, who alone satisfies.

This journal is a labor of love from the Trinity staff and the ROOTS steering team. It is our prayer that the ROOTS campaign will equip you to be like a tree planted by the stream whose roots grow deep and who does not fear in the time of drought because their leaves are always green and they never cease to bear fruit (Jeremiah 17:7-8).

There is no limit to what a church can do if we care only that Jesus gets the credit. Let's go on this journey together. Welcome to the stream where roots grow deep. *"Father, renew each of us in the gospel as you deepen our roots to bear fruit for Christ's glory by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

Grace changes everything,

*Blake*

Blake Altman  
Lead Pastor

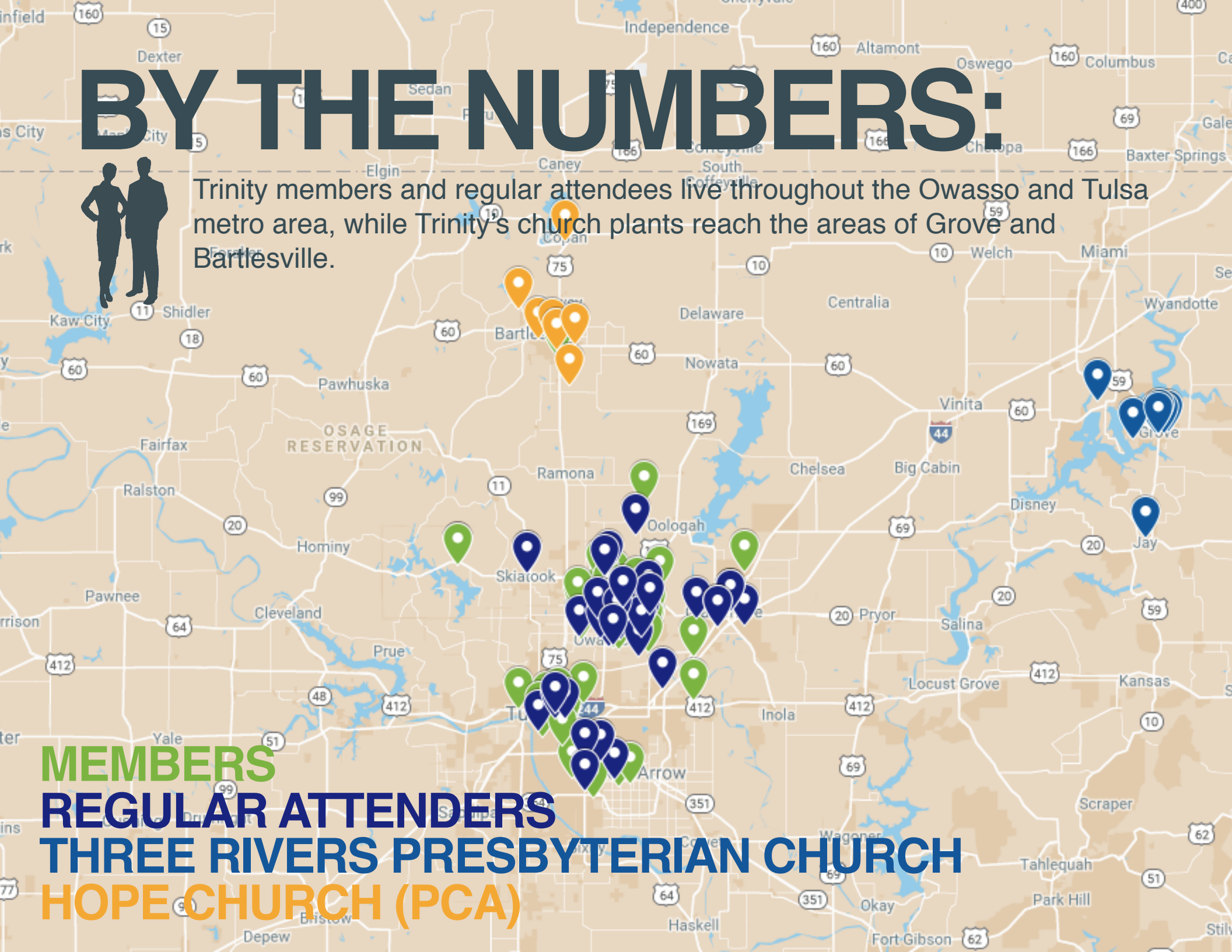


# BY THE NUMBERS:



Trinity members and regular attendees live throughout the Owasso and Tulsa metro area, while Trinity's church plants reach the areas of Grove and Bartlesville.

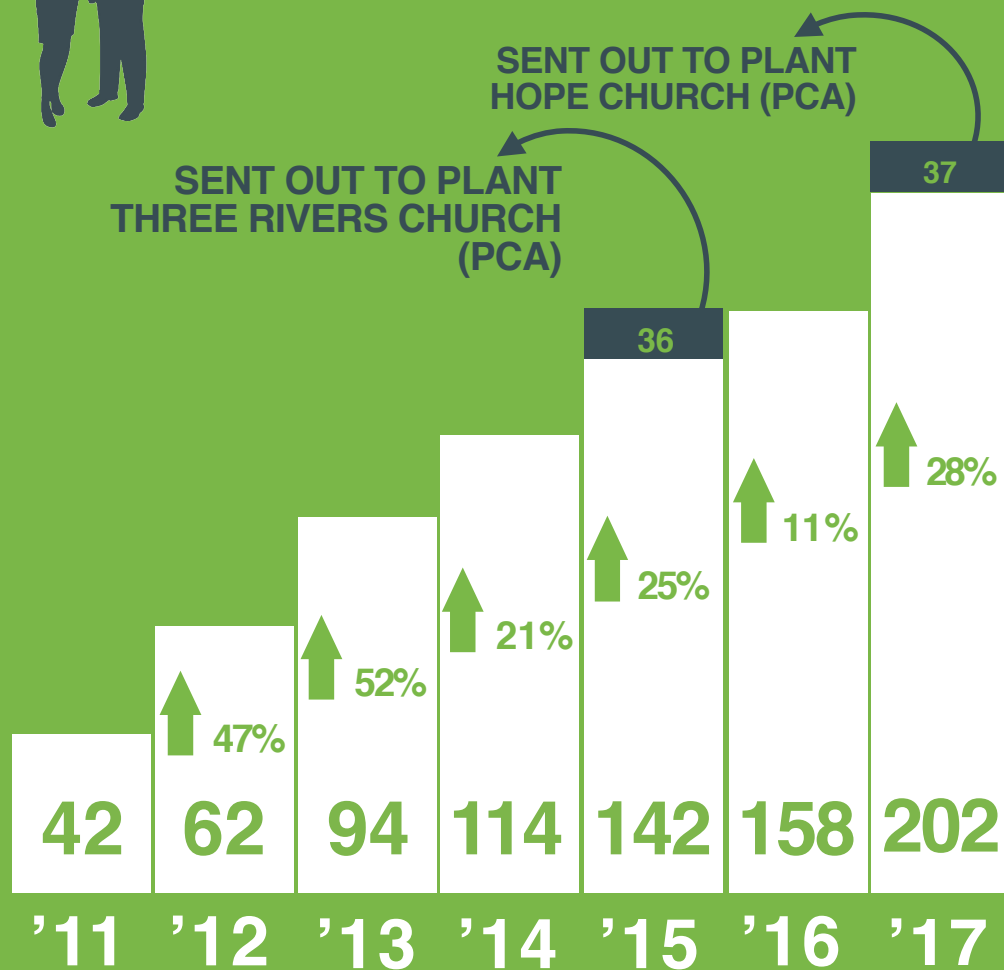
**MEMBERS**  
**REGULAR ATTENDERS**  
**THREE RIVERS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**HOPE CHURCH (PCA)**



# BY THE NUMBERS



God continues to increase Trinity's message, that **GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING** through the gospel of Jesus Christ.



**AVERAGE WORSHIP**

## MEMBERS

# 229



**TRINITY**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**WEEKONE**

October 21, 2018

**ROOTS FOR  
REST**





## 1. PLANTING THE SEED GATHERED WORSHIP

### SERMON TEXT: JEREMIAH 17:5-8

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. <sup>6</sup>He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. <sup>7</sup>"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. <sup>8</sup>He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

## SERMON NOTES

- I. Source of the blessing
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- II. Symptoms of the curse
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- III. Search for rest



## WATERING THE SOIL A WORD ABOUT FASTING FROM PASTOR BLAKE

Each week of our **ROOTS** series, we invite you to join us in fasting from one thing that week. Fasting may be broadly defined as "the voluntary denial of a normal function for the sake of intense spiritual activity" (Richard Foster, Christian Theologian and Author). Fasting may be new to you. We only invite you to fast from food one meal this week, so please check with your doctor if you're concerned about skipping a meal. Fasting is like dieting and exercise. If you want to eat and someone is keeping you away from food, it feels unbearable. If you are voluntarily fasting, there is an initial hard period or exhaustion, as your body gets used to it. Eventually you feel a new burst of energy and a lack of craving. Resisting the urge to indulge is a powerful tool to intensify our prayer lives, strengthen our fight against temptation, and deepen our gratitude. Our ultimate goal in fasting is deeper self-awareness and gratitude for Jesus' work on our behalf. He kept the fast that humanity could not keep. The entire Biblical story is the story of humanity feasting on the world. But rather than abandon us, Jesus came to keep the fast Adam could not. Jesus saved us through His perfect obedience, sacrificial death and miraculous resurrection. Jesus eternally fasts from sin, so that we can eternally feast with Him! We remember this great news as we devote ourselves to fasting and prayer during our **ROOTS** series.

These weekly fasts make us aware of our dependence upon God. In John Piper's words: *"There is an appetite for God. And it can be awakened. I invite you to turn from the dulling effects of food and the dangers of idolatry, and to say with some simple fast: 'This much, O God, I want you.' For when God is the supreme hunger of your heart, he will be supreme in everything. And when you are most satisfied in him, he will be most glorified in you."*

Choose one meal to fast from this week. Commit to set aside a definite time in advance whether part of a day, an entire day, or a combination of days, to pray that God would help you crave Him over the comforts of the world. *It is easy to subtly advertise personal devotions, but here we are alone with Jesus. Remember that your voluntary practice of fasting is for God's eyes only.*



## 2. ESTABLISHING THE ROOTS COMMUNITY GROUPS

### READ: JEREMIAH 17:5-8

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. <sup>6</sup>He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. <sup>7</sup>“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. <sup>8</sup>He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

## DISCUSS

### THE SOURCE OF BLESSING

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man...”

1. Why do we tend to trust man (i.e., self or others) as a “first response”? Go deeper than: “well, it’s in our sinful nature.” What is appealing about trusting man?
2. How do the analogies of the shrub and tree in Jeremiah 17 shed light on what we are putting our trust in?

### THE SYMPTOMS OF THE CURSE

#### EXHAUSTION, DISTRACTION, LONELINESS

3. Like “a shrub in the desert” (v. 6) it is exhausting and empty to put your trust in man. Why so? In what way have you seen this to be the case in your life?

4. As Pastor Blake pointed out, the text doesn’t say in verse six “there is nothing good to see,” but rather “he shall not see any good come.” How might we be distracted from seeing the living water of God’s grace in our lives? What things are particularly distracting in day-to-day life? What can we do individually, or how can we help others, to live less distracted lives?
5. The shrub in verse six is presumably alone “in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.” It seems counterintuitive that trusting in man would be lonely, but why would that be the case?

## THE SEARCH FOR REST

The Bible challenges our default definition of trust and the object of our trust.

6. Faith, or trust, is to accept that something will happen in the future based upon what has been accomplished in the past (2 Peter 1:1-16). Biblical faith is not *blind* faith. How do you know if you *really* have faith/trust in something or someone?
7. The object of our faith is not “man” (i.e., ourselves or others) but Christ. How does having Christ as the object of our faith reverse the three symptoms of the curse as listed above?
8. Rest is conditioned upon trust. You can’t really rest upon something unless you trust its strength and security. What does biblical rest look like in these areas:
  - A. Relationships?
  - B. Occupation?
  - C. Finances?
  - D. Children?
  - E. Recreation?

## ROOTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

9. Does my spending define my generosity or does my generosity define my spending?
10. In what ways do I rest on what Christ has done for me in my generosity?



## PRAY

Go to the Father to seek him as the source of all blessing. Ask Him to be diligent in our attentiveness to the symptoms of the curse in our lives. Entreat Him to prevent us from putting our trust in man, circumstance, wealth, or ability; that our trust would be in Him alone.

### “LOVE REST IN GOD”

#### MY DEAR LORD

I depend wholly upon thee, wean me from all other dependances. Thou art my all, thou dost overrule all and delight in me. Thou art the foundation of goodness, how can I distrust thee? How can I be anxious about what happens to me? In the light of thy preciousness the world and all its enjoyments are infinitely poor: I value the favour of men no more than pebbles. Amid the blessings I receive from thee may I never lose the heart of a stranger. May I love thee, my Benefactor, in all my benefits, not forgetting that my greatest danger arises from my advantages. Produce in me self-despair that will make Jesus precious to me, delightful in all his offices, pleasurable in all his ways, and may I love his commands as well as his promises. Help me to discern between true and false love, the one consisting of supreme love to thee, the other not, the former uniting thy glory and man's happiness that they may become one common interest, the latter disjointing and separating them both, seeking the latter with neglect of the former. Teach me that genuine love is different in kind from that wrought by rational arguments or the motive of self-interest, that such love is a pleasing passion affording joy to the mind where it is. Grant me grace to distinguish between the genuine and the false, and to rest in thee who art all love.

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Prayers from The Valley of Vision, ed. Arthur Bennett (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975; reprint 2001) used with permission.



## 3. DIGGING DEEPER INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE AND FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

**INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE:** Confidence in Self or Christ?

### JEREMIAH 17:7-8

Cursed is the man who trusts in man... blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

How do we know if we're trusting in self or Christ? As Christians we are children of God, forgiven and dearly loved. Nothing can change that truth. But too often we live as though we are orphans, trying to find affirmation and our very worth from our good works, or finding satisfaction from someplace other than our Father. The list below will help you see to what extent that might be happening to you. The shrub in the desert is like the orphan. The tree is like the child of God.

#### BEFORE YOU BEGIN, CONSIDER...

It is true that as Christians, we might be able (at one time or another), to check most of the items on either side: "Tree/Children" or "Shrub/Orphan".

Therefore, to make this exercise more meaningful, place a number, 1 to 3, next to each item on both sides.

1 = This rarely describes me.

2 = This describes me occasionally.

3 = This is often true of me.

And since there is often more than one idea in each paragraph, underline words or phrases that most apply to you at this time in your life.

Do not spend a lot of time on evaluating each one. Go with your gut feeling.

#	<b>SHRUB / ORPHAN</b> <i>"Cursed is the man who trusts in man..." (Jeremiah 17:7)</i> <i>"I will not leave you as orphans..." (John 14:18)</i>	<b>TREE / CHILDREN OF GOD</b> <i>"...blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord." (Jeremiah 17:8)</i> <i>"But he has given us the Spirit of sonship and by Him we cry, 'Abba, Father!'" (Rom. 8:15)</i>	#
	Feels alone. Lacks a vital daily intimacy with God. Is full of self-concern.	Has a growing assurance that "God is really my loving heavenly Father."	
	Anxious over felt needs: relationships, money, health. "I'm all alone and nobody cares. I'm not a happy camper."	Trusts the Father and has a growing confidence in His loving care. Is being freed up from worry.	
	Lives on a succeed/fail basis. Needs to "look good" and "be right." Is performance-oriented.	Learning to live in daily, conscious, partnership with God. Is not fearful.	
	Feels condemned, guilty, and unworthy before God and others.	Feels loved, forgiven, and totally accepted because Christ's merit really clothes him/her.	
	Has little faith, lots of fear, lots of faith in him/herself: "I've got to fix it."	Has a daily working trust in God's sovereign plan for him/her life as loving, wise and best. Believes God is good.	
	Labors under a sense of unlimited obligation. Tries too hard to please. Burns out.	Prayer is the first resort: "I'm going to ask my Daddy first." Cries, "Abba, Father!"	
	Rebellious. Resists authority. Heart is hard. Is not easily teachable.	Has strength to be submissive. Has a soft (broken and contrite) heart. Is teachable.	

	Defensive. Can't listen well. Bristles at the charge of being self-righteous (thus proving the point).	Open to criticism since he/she consciously stands in Christ's perfection, not their own. Is able to examine his/her unbelief.	
	Needs to be right, safe, secure. Unwilling to fail. Unable to tolerate criticism. Can only "handle" praise.	Able to take risks and even fail, since his/her righteousness is in Christ. Needs no "record" to boast in, to protect or to defend.	
	Excessively self-confident or self-loathing. Discouraged, defeated. Lacks spiritual power.	Confident in Christ and encouraged because of the Holy Spirit's work in him/her.	
	Unbelieving effort. Relies mainly on his/her gifts to get by in ministry.	Trusting less in self and more in the Holy Spirit—a daily, conscious reliance.	
	Tends to be ungrateful. Is complaining, bitter. Has a critical spirit. Tears down others.	Relies on the Holy Spirit to guide the tongue. Praises, edifies, gives thanks, encourages.	
	Tends to point out what is wrong. Is often dissatisfied about something.	Not blind to wrong, but chooses instead to focus on what is good and lovely.	
	Gossips (confesses other people's sins). Needs to criticize others to feel right. Has the "gift of discernment."	Is able to freely confess his/her faults to others. Is finding that he/she is often wrong. Is eager to grow.	
	Tends to compare him/herself with others—leading either to pride or depression.	Stands confidently in Christ. His/her self-worth comes from Jesus' righteousness, not his/her own.	

	Feels powerless to defeat the flesh. Has no heart-victory over pet sins, yet has lost his/her sense of being a "big sinner."	As he/she rests in Christ, he/she is seeing more and more victory over the flesh. He/she sees themselves as a "big sinner."	
	Relatively prayer-less. Prayer is a last resort. Prays sometimes in public, seldom in private.	Prayer is a vital part of the day, not confined to a quiet-time. Loves to talk to the Father.	
	The Bible's promises of spiritual power and joy mock him/her. "What has happened to all your joy?"	God's promises of power and joy are beginning to describe him/her.	
	Boasts. Points out his/her own accomplishments for fear that someone might overlook them.	Finds that Jesus is more and more the subject of his/her conversation. He/she boasts in his/her weaknesses.	
	Concerned about building a record of deeds that needs noticing and defending.	Christ's righteousness is his/her "record" so he/she stands complete in Him.	
	Wishes people would see things his/her way. Needs to be in control of situations and other people.	Becoming Christ-controlled. Loves others in power of the Spirit, not in strength of his/her sinful nature.	
	Looks for satisfaction in positions, possessions, or pacifiers (idols). Something other than Jesus makes him/her feel worthy, worthwhile, or justified.	Christ is his/her meat and drink. God truly satisfies his/her soul. "And having Him, I desire nothing on earth."	

From the shrub/orphan's side, list the five that are most characteristic of you. Confess these areas to your Father and ask Him to change you through our **ROOTS** journey together.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

# FAMILY DISCUSSION

## WEEK ONE: ROOTS FOR REST

October 21, 2018

### MONDAY

#### READ: MATTHEW 11:28

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

- » When we think about “rest,” what do we usually think we are doing?
  
- » Why do we rest?
  
- » Would you try to rest on a broken chair or a rickety bed?
  
- » When we rest on Jesus, what does that mean?
  
- » Trusting Jesus is necessary to rest in Him? Why?
  
- » How can we show by our words and actions that we are resting in Jesus?

*Children, ask your family to tell you a time they knew they were resting in Jesus.*

### TUESDAY

#### READ: JEREMIAH 17:5

Thus say the Lord: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength whose heart turns away from the Lord.

*Children, ask your family to explain what the word “cursed” means.*

- » In this verse in what does the cursed man put his trust? Is it God? Is it himself?
  
- » When our hearts are turned away from the Lord, what does that mean? Where should our hearts be turned?
  
- » What would someone be doing and saying, if their hearts were turned away from the Lord?

## WEDNESDAY

### READ: JEREMIAH 17:5-6

Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

- » So the man who trusts in anything other than God has turned his heart away from the Lord. In verse six, what is this man like?
- » What is a desert like? As a family, make a sketch of a desert. As you are sketching, discuss what it would be like to live there.
- » How would living in a desert be like turning our hearts away from the Lord? What would our hearts be filled up with?

*Children, ask your family to explain why it would be difficult to “rest” in a desert.*

## THURSDAY

### READ: JEREMIAH 17:7

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

- » What does the word “blessed” mean?
- » What does it mean when we say, we trust in the Lord?
- » Trust has two main attributes: faith and confidence. Faith is trusting that something will happen in the future based upon something that happened in the past. Confidence is living in light of the reality of what we trust.
- » How are the cursed man and the blessed man different?

*Children, ask your family to tell you about how they came to trust in the Lord.*

## FRIDAY

### READ: JEREMIAH 17:7-8

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

- » A healthy tree requires water and its roots move toward water, looking for what it needs to live. Why is the blessed man compared to a tree?
- » If a tree has deep roots, what happens when the wind blows? What happens to a tree with shallow roots when the wind blows?
- » What is a drought? Why is a drought difficult for vegetation? Is the tree described by Jeremiah worried about drought? What does this have to do with our trust in the Lord?
- » Make a sketch of a healthy tree by a stream with strong roots. Discuss what makes this a good comparison to the man who trusts in the Lord.

*Children, ask your family to give examples of the good fruit we produce when we trust in the Lord.*

## SATURDAY

Prepare for Sunday worship.

### READ: JEREMIAH 17:5-8

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. <sup>6</sup>He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. <sup>7</sup>"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. <sup>8</sup>He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

Pray, thanking God for His beautiful picture of the healthy tree with strong roots, and ask Him to give you a clear understanding of what it means to trust in the Lord.



**WEEKTWO**

October 28, 2018

**ROOTS FOR  
COMMUNITY**







Insight into this Spiritual Practice: Jesus did not abolish fasting as a practice but rather assumes it. How do we know this? Jesus said in Matthew 6:16-17, “And *whenever you fast*, ... But you, *when you fast*,...” Jesus expected his disciples to fast. Jesus himself fasted. The Spirit lead him into the wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan, where he fasted for 40 days. He didn’t have too. In fact Jews were only commanded to fast one day a year, on the Day of Atonement (Lev 16). Yet here Jesus thinks it wise to fast in order to 1) fight temptation, 2) pray and 3) know himself better.

*Father, please give us a humble spirit of fasting, that will enable us to fight daily temptations, to pray with greater understanding and depth, and to know ourselves better in order to serve You more fully.*



## 2. ESTABLISHING THE ROOTS COMMUNITY GROUPS

### SERMON TEXT: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again

the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

## DISCUSS

### THE DYNAMICS OF COVENANT COMMUNITY

1. Notice verse 27, “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.” We are members who work toward the health of the body, not the individual. How do our individual spiritual lives affect others in the covenant community?
2. In what way do we actually *need* (v. 21) one another?

### THE FUNCTION OF COVENANT COMMUNITY

3. Pastor Blake said, “The church of Jesus Christ is not defined by how similar we are, but by how we work together for something bigger than each of us.” What is the difference between a community built upon similarities and a community built upon purpose?

4. "Ultimate beauty comes not from a lover or a landscape or a home, but only through them" (Cornelius Plantinga, Author and Theologian). We, then, are called to be conduits, not cul-de-sacs, in God's covenant community. What might a covenant community of "conduits" look like? What might it look like in these four areas: means of grace, bearing one another's burdens, accountability, shaping the next generation?

## THE UNIQUENESS OF COVENANT COMMUNITY

5. In what way is the covenant community different from other communities (e.g., families, neighbors, sports teams, non-profits, etc.)?
6. "The enticing invitation of the gospel is the scandalous belief that no problem, situation, or circumstance is beyond the redemptive work of God." As you reflect upon your time at Trinity, what have you seen that echoes this thought? What excites you about a covenant community that holds this truth dearly?

## ROOTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

7. Who has had the most impact on my life in the area of generosity? (This could be a spouse, a teacher, a church leader, someone in your small group, a family member, a friend, a public figure.)
8. Do I believe that my generosity can influence others? How have I seen this happen, either for the positive or for the negative?

## PRAY

Go to our Triune God to see that in Him all the fullness of community dwells. Ask Him to impart a heart of generosity and hope for our brothers and sisters. Invite Him to give you the very attitude that Christ had toward His church.

## "FIRST DAY MORNING WORSHIP"

We commune with thee every day, but weekdays are worldly days, and secular concerns reduce heavenly impressions. We bless thee therefore for the day sacred to our souls when we can wait upon thee and be refreshed; We thank thee for the institutions of religion by use of which we draw near to thee and thou to us; We rejoice in another Lord's Day when we call off our minds from the cares of the world and attend upon thee without distraction; Let our retirement be devout, our conversation edifying, our reading pious, our hearing profitable, that our souls may be quickened and elevated. We are going to the house of prayer, pour upon us the spirit of grace and supplication; We are going to the house of praise, awaken in us every grateful and cheerful emotion; We are going to the house of instruction, give testimony to the Word preached, and glorify it in the hearts of all who hear; may it enlighten the ignorant, awaken the careless, reclaim the wandering, establish the weak, comfort the feeble-minded, make ready a people for their Lord. Be a sanctuary to all who cannot come, Forget not those who never come,

And do thou bestow upon us benevolence towards our dependants, forgiveness towards our enemies, peaceableness towards our neighbours, openness towards our fellow-Christians.

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Prayers from The Valley of Vision, ed. Arthur Bennett (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975; reprint 2001) used with permission.



### 3. DIGGING DEEPER

#### INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE AND FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

**INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE:** What's so important about being united to other believers?

The gospel brings us into a new community of believers. As we are united to Christ, so we become united to one another. Separating ourselves from the community of believers brings nothing but coldness. Life in the new community is the opposite of selfishness. The ideas we are discussing in our **ROOTS** series have value, as they are lived out in the context of this new community.

**Read the following “one another” passages from the Bible.**

Leviticus 19:11	Do not deceive one another.	1 Corinthians 16:20	Greet one another.
Zechariah 7:9	Show mercy and compassion to one another—wash one another's feet.	2 Corinthians 13:12	Greet one another.
John 13:14	Wash one another's feet.	Galatians 5:13	Serve one another in love.
John 13:34	Love one another...you must love one another.	Galatians 6:2	Bear one another's burdens.
Romans 12:10	Be devoted to one another. Honor one another above yourselves.	Ephesians 4:2	Show forbearance to one another.
Romans 12:16	Live in harmony with one another.	Ephesians 4:32	Be kind and compassionate to one another. Forgive one another.
Romans 13:8	Love one another.	Ephesians 5:19	Speak to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..
Romans 14:13	Let us not judge one another.	Ephesians 5:21	Submit to one another.
Romans 14:19	Pursue the things which make for peace and for the building up of one another.	Colossians 3:9	Do not lie to one another.
Romans 15:5	Be of the same mind with one another.	Colossians 3:13	Bear with one another. Forgive one another.
Romans 15:7	Accept one another.	Colossians 3:16	Teach and admonish one another.
Romans 15:14	Instruct one another.	1 Thessalonians 3:12	Increase and abound in love for one another.
Romans 16:16	Greet one another.	1 Thessalonians 4:18	Encourage one another.
1 Corinthians 1:10	Agree with one another.	1 Thessalonians 5:11	Encourage one another.
1 Corinthians 12:25	Care for one another.	Hebrews 3:13	Encourage one another.
		Hebrews 10:24	Stimulate one another to love and good deeds.
		Hebrews 10:25	Keep meeting together and encourage one another.
		James 4:11	Do not slander one another.
		James 5:9	Do not complain against one another.
		James 5:16	Confess your sins to one another. Pray for one another.
		1 Peter 1:22	Love one another.
		1 Peter 4:8	Love one another.
		1 Peter 4:9	Be hospitable to one another.
		1 Peter 5:5	Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another.
		1 Peter 5:14	Greet one another.

1 John 3:11	Love one another.
1 John 3:23	Love one another.
1 John 4:7	Love one another.
1 John 4:11	Love one another.
1 John 4:12	Love one another.
2 John 5	Love one another.

After looking at this diagram and the previous verses, are you surprised at how many “one anothering” passages there are in Scripture?



3. After considering the above verses and diagram, what are some of your impressions?

## FAMILY DISCUSSION

### WEEK TWO: ROOTS FOR COMMUNITY

October 28, 2018

#### READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-13

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

- » Begin this week with an outline of the human body including a few major organs like the heart, lungs and stomach or use a picture from a science book. Discuss how the parts of the body work together. How would our hearts work without our lungs?
- » What does it mean that the church has many members? Name some of the members of the church. Discuss how people serve each other at church.
- » What does it mean that the church is one body?
- » The body is bound together. Our organs do not work outside our bodies and our legs and hands do not function apart from the rest of our body. How are people in the church bound together?

*Children, ask your family to describe a way that someone in the church has served them.*

## MONDAY

### READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:14-20

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

- » What would happen if our entire body was an eyeball? What would happen if our entire body was an ear? We would be in a great deal of trouble!
- » What if suddenly your eye decided it was not part of the body and hopped away?
- » God arranged the parts of our body for different purposes, but they must work as a whole. How do we demonstrate in church, that we believe we are all sinners bound to God and to one another? What do we do during worship that reflects this belief?
- » Children of all ages are important parts of the church body. How does each child show they are part of the Trinity family?

*Children, ask your family what they see their purpose in the church body might be.*

## TUESDAY

### READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:21-26

The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

- » This section of scripture may seem difficult to understand. It is telling us that everyone in the church is important. Pastor Blake and Pastor Scott are not more important to Trinity than the youngest baby or the oldest man or woman. Each person is necessary, valued, and loved.
- » What does this mean for you? Are you important to Trinity? Think of ways on Sunday we show that every person is important. Think about the nursery, morning discipleship classes (Sunday School), the various parts of worship, and what we do after worship.

*Children, ask your family to tell about ways they have been made to feel that they are needed and important to the church body.*



## FRIDAY

### READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:27-31

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

- » The church is the body of Christ. Each member has their part to make sure the body works well. No one person is more important than the other. We are a community and a family of people who trust in the Lord.
  
- » What is a community? What is a family?
  
- » How can we help each other when people are discouraged, sad, sick or feeling lonely?
  
- » Why is serving and helping others our “job”?

Children, ask your family to tell you what being part of a church means to them.

## SATURDAY

Prepare for Sunday worship.

### READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

<sup>5</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you,’ nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Pray, thanking God for the different members of Trinity and for the way they love and help each other. Ask God to show us ways to serve and to support the work of the church. Pray for a heart of generosity and giving, as we grow in service to others.

# WEEKTHREE

November 4, 2018

## ROOTS FOR TRANSFORMATION







# 1. PLANTING THE SEED

## GATHERED WORSHIP

### SERMON TEXT: MATTHEW 24:42-51

<sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. <sup>45</sup>“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup>Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. <sup>47</sup>Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. <sup>48</sup>But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ <sup>49</sup>and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, <sup>50</sup>the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know <sup>51</sup>and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

## SERMON NOTES

### I. What is the doctrine of calling?

Upward Calling:

Inward Calling:

Outward Calling:

Vocation vs. Occupation

### II. Why we need it?

Bible mandated it

Fourth Century Confused it

Reformation Returned it

Modern Church Abuses it

### III. How we get it?

Look Up:

Look In:

Look Out:

#### IV. What it gives us?

Wholeness

Single Mindedness

Integrity

## WEEKLY FAST RADIO & MUSIC

Fast from radio or music this week. Let's create space for intentional conversations, especially in the car (with your spouse, kids or friends). As we turn down some of the noise around us, we may be surprised how much more clearly we can hear and be heard.

*Father in Heaven, help us to hear what you're doing in our family and in our lives. Give us focus to be fully present with people and grow in our ability to listen and pray for others. Thank you that Jesus endured the silence of the cross when he cried to you, "Father, why have you forsaken me?", so that you would never forsake us.*



## 2. ESTABLISHING THE ROOTS COMMUNITY GROUP

### READ: MATTHEW 24:42-51

<sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. <sup>45</sup>"Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup>Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. <sup>47</sup>Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. <sup>48</sup>But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed,' <sup>49</sup>and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, <sup>50</sup>the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know <sup>51</sup>and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

## DISCUSS

### WHAT IS CALLING OR VOCATION?

1. God calls us into His Kingdom (upward calling) to lead a life (inward calling) in service to Him (outward calling). How do these three "callings" complement each other?
2. *Occupation* tells me how I am to provide for the material needs of my life and my family. But *vocation* tells me a deeper truth. It tells me how I am to provide for the Lord's Kingdom. Discuss how we might think of occupation and vocation as both separate and overlapping.

## WHY DO WE NEED IT?

3. We live in a society that still maintains the significant Roman Catholic distinction between “sacred” work and “secular” work. Pastors and missionaries are seen as those with “calling,” whereas engineers and janitors are seen as those with “occupations.” Why might we tend to make such unbiblical distinctions?
4. The reformer Martin Luther once remarked: “The maid who sweeps her kitchen is doing the will of God just as much as the monk who prays—not because she may sing a Christian hymn as she sweeps, but because God loves clean floors.” How does a remark such as this reverse our distinction between the sacred and the secular in terms of calling?

## HOW DO WE FIND IT?

5. Theologian and poet, Frederick Buechner said, “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” Yet most of us don’t know exactly how to find this “place.” Discuss your “place” (and encourage each other!) in the following:
  - a. *Look outward:* Affinity—what “people needs” do I resonate with?
  - b. *Look inward:* Ability—what are my abilities and deficiencies?
  - c. *Look upward:* Opportunity—where does the community tell me I am needed?

## WHAT DOES CALLING GIVE US?

6. Discuss how understanding our calling frees us:
  - a. In our relationships.
  - b. In our mundane, daily choices.
  - c. In our finances.
  - d. In our time management.

## ROOTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

7. Has my giving become comfortable and routine or does my giving allow God to change and grow me?
8. How might my calling be used to extend generosity?

## PRAY

Go to the Father and ask Him to reveal more of your true calling, how you might be a kingdom-blessing to the world through all that you are and have.

## “SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT”

### THOU GOD OF MY END,

Thou hast given me a fixed disposition to go forth and spend my life for thee; if it be thy will let me proceed in it; if not, then revoke my intentions. All I want in life is such circumstances as may best enable me to serve thee in the world; To this end I leave all my concerns in thy hand, but let me not be discouraged, for this hinders my spiritual fervency; Enable me to undertake some task for thee, for this refreshes and animates my soul, so that I could endure all hardships and labours, and willingly suffer for thy name. But, O what a death it is to strive and labour, to be always in a hurry and yet do nothing! Alas, time flies and I am of little use. O that I could be a flame of fire in thy service, always burning out in one continual blaze. Fit me for singular usefulness in this world. Fit me to exult in distresses of every kind if

they but promote the advancement of thy kingdom. Fit me to quit all hopes of the world's friendship, and give me a deeper sense of my sinfulness. Fit me to accept as just desert from thee any trial that may befall me. Fit me to be totally resigned to the denial of pleasures I desire, and to be content to spend my time with thee. Fit me to pray with a sense of the joy of divine communion, to find all times happy seasons to my soul, to see my own nothingness, and wonder that I am allowed to serve thee. Fit me to enter the blessed world where no unclean thing is, and to know thee with me always.

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Prayers from *The Valley of Vision*, ed. Arthur Bennett (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975; reprint 2001) used with permission.



### 3. DIGGING DEEPER INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE AND FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

#### INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE: WHAT IS MY VOCATION?

Read the following article and reflect upon the questions that follow. Put a “!” by something that excites you and “?” by something that perplexes you.

#### **VOCATION: DISCERNING YOUR CALLING**

Dr. Timothy Keller

As Christians we are stewards of the resources God gives us for serving the human community. Our vocations are one avenue for doing God's work in the world.

Stewardship is the cultivation of resources for God. The Bible tells us that one of the most important resources

God has given us is our gifts, aptitudes, talents, and abilities.

One of the sacraments of the medieval church was the Sacrament of Holy Orders, which divided the world into the “religious” and the “secular.” Those who went into full-time church ministry as priests, monks, or nuns were on a completely different spiritual footing from those who did not. One of the Protestant Reformation's main planks was to overturn this view with the biblical teaching of the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9). Martin Luther insisted that *all* forms of work are God-honoring callings. To be a farmer, a craftsman, or an artist was just as much a vocation, a calling from God, as to be a preacher. Why?

#### **ALL FORMS OF WORK ARE PARTICIPATION IN GOD'S WORK<sup>(1)</sup>**

God made the created world by his Spirit (Gen. 1:1-3) and continues to care for and sustain it by his Spirit (Ps. 104:30), watering and enriching it (Ps. 65:9-13) and feeding and meeting the needs of every living thing (Pss. 145:15-16 and 147:15-20). Indeed, the very purpose of redemption is to massively and finally restore the material creation (Rev. 21-22). God loves this created world so much that he sent his Son to redeem it. This world is good in and of itself; it is not just a temporary theater for individual salvation.

If the Holy Spirit is not only a preacher that convicts people of sin and grace (John 16:8-11; 1 Thess. 1:5) but also a gardener, an artist, and an investor in creation who renews the material world, it *cannot* be more spiritual and God-honoring to be a preacher than to be a farmer, artist, or banker. To give just one example, evangelism is temporary work, while musicianship is permanent work. In the new heavens and new earth, preachers will be out of a job! Ultimately the purpose of evangelism is to bring about a world in which musicians will be able to do their work perfectly.

#### **ALL FORMS OF WORK ARE WAYS OF SERVING OTHERS**

Imagine how much time it would take to make a chair by yourself. You would not only have to cut and shape the

wood yourself, but you'd also have to make the tools. To make the tools, you'd have to mine the ore to make metal. It would take months, perhaps years, to do all the things necessary to create the chair. When you share in the work of others, however, you can buy a chair with money equivalent to some number of hours' worth of your time, not months or years of effort. Even if you want to make the chair yourself, you can buy tools made by someone else.

All work, according to God's design, is service. Through work we enrich one another and become more and more interwoven. When Christians do "secular" work, they function as salt and light in the world (Matt. 5:13-16). Farming and business, childcare and law, medicine and music—all these forms of work cultivate, care for, and sustain the created world that God made and loves. We are all ministers (priests) to the human community on God's behalf.

Work is taking the raw material of creation and developing it for the sake of others. Musicians take the raw material of sound and bring the meaning of art into our lives. Farmers take the raw material of soil and seed and bring food into our lives. This means we are God's ministers in our work not only when we are witnessing or talking directly about Jesus, but when we are simply doing our work. A musician is serving God when she makes great music, not solely when she is singing about coming to Jesus.

### **ALL FORMS OF WORK ARE BASED ON GOD'S GIFTING**

Isaiah 28:24-29 says, "When a farmer plows for planting" and "has leveled the surface... does he not plant wheat in its place, barley in its plot, and spelt in its field? His God instructs him and teaches him the right way... All this also comes from the LORD Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom." Isaiah is teaching that anyone who becomes a skillful farmer *is being taught by God*. In Isaiah 45:1 we read of Cyrus, a pagan king whom God anoints with his Spirit and chooses for world leadership. This is remarkable. It shows that God's Spirit can equip people for work—even though they are not believers and are not directly witnessing to him. God gives wisdom, courage, and insight to people to do their work well.

Indeed, James 1:17 says that "Every good and perfect gift is from above... from the Father of the heavenly lights." This means that every act of goodness, wisdom, justice, and beauty—no matter who does it—is being enabled by God. It is a "gift," and therefore some form of grace, even though it is non-saving grace. What this means is that God gives all people (not just Christians) talents and abilities that will equip them for serving the human community through particular forms of work.

The Bible speaks also of *spiritual* gifts (Eph. 4, Rom. 12, and 1 Cor. 12-14) that are abilities to minister to others in Jesus' name.<sup>(2)</sup> As people created in God's image, Christians have natural talents, and as people regenerated by the Holy Spirit, they also have spiritual gifts that equip them for ministry in and through the church. It is not always easy or necessary to make distinctions between natural talents and spiritual gifts, since ultimately they are all from the Spirit of God. For example, in Exodus 31:1-4, we read how Bezalel was filled "with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts— to make artistic designs." There is nothing in the spiritual gift lists of the New Testament about artistic gifts; yet, here we see that artistic skill comes from God (James 1:17 says it would *have to come from God*). In the play and the movie *Amadeus*, the character Salieri describes Mozart's sublime music as "the voice of God." He was right.

### **KNOWING YOUR WORK**

How does this work out for Christian believers? First, a Christian has to consider both of these questions: What has God called and equipped me for as my work/career? And how is God calling me to serve in and through the church?

In some rare cases, a person's church ministry becomes one's full-time career as well. Then the answers to the two questions coincide. In most cases, however, Christians must answer each question separately. Sometimes what you do in your "secular" calling is very similar to what you do inside the church. You may be a teacher or strategic planner or artist outside the church and use those same abilities inside. In other cases, you may find God calling you to do an almost completely different sort of work in

the church than you do out in the world. The banker might be a wonderful Sunday school teacher for children.

Nevertheless, I always propose a three-part method for discerning a call, whether to secular work or church work or anything else. To discern a ministry call, consult three factors: Affinity, Ability, and Opportunity.<sup>(3)</sup>

### **1. AFFINITY: WHAT “PEOPLE NEEDS” DO I RESONATE WITH?**

Contrary to what many books on spiritual gifts say, do not start with yourself. Don't start with an abstract inventory of your gifts and skills to discern your aptitudes. Aptitude tests are based on past experience and self-knowledge, and your self-knowledge is limited. Even though it is one of the ways God shows you your ministry, I don't suggest starting there.

Rather, look at concrete needs in the community (context) around you. What needs do you “vibrate” to? What problems or kinds of people or ministry needs move you? Where do you discover an affinity? Paul experienced inner grief and turmoil as he saw the idols of Athens (Acts 17:16), so that led him to begin a ministry of apologetics (Acts 17:17). It is important that we get into ministry with a passion for a certain cause or unmet need.

One of the reasons not to start with a knowledge of your abilities is because gifts often “pop out” and surprise us as we participate in a great variety of ministries. For example, before I came to New York City I would never have said that I had the gift of evangelism, but I now know that this was largely because it had been years since I had been in a setting where there were a lot of non-Christians. My “teaching” gift turns out to have a strong “evangelism” component that I would never have discovered unless New York City had brought it out. I had a burden for New York, and that led me to a deeper understanding of my own heart. I did not say, “I have a gift of evangelism. Where should I use it? I know—New York City!” Of course, the longer you are a Christian, the more likely you are to know yourself well and not to have such surprises, so a very mature Christian can begin this schema of “three factors” with any one of them. For most Christians, however, it is best to start with the needs of real people.

### **2. ABILITY: WHAT ARE MY ABILITIES AND DEFICIENCIES?**

It is important to look at your abilities. Many people become burdened to see a ministry begin, but they are not realistic about their own abilities and limitations. For example, they themselves want to be leaders even though they do not have the gift of organizing and galvanizing people to follow them.

You must be very aware of the part you are able to play in a ministry. What should you be doing, and what do you need someone else to be doing? Also, have the maturity to recognize how young or old you are in the faith. You may realize that your godliness does not cover your gift deficiencies very well, and you therefore need a strong team around you.

It is important to understand that every kind of ministry needs “prophetic,” “priestly,” and “kingly” gift-mixes.<sup>(4)</sup> This is one of the many reasons why we don't look to our abilities first. For example, it might be thought that if you have a priestly gift, you should be a deacon, but if everyone on the diaconate had only priestly gifts, it would be a disaster! You need vision casters and leaders and so on in every ministry. That is why we don't say, “All prophets should go into teaching ministries, all priests to mercy and justice ministries, and all kings to administrative duties.”

### **3. OPPORTUNITY: WHERE DOES THE COMMUNITY TELL ME I AM NEEDED?**

Finally, we must refuse to be individualistic in the way we discern our ministry. The doctrine of sin alone should be enough to prove that you should not be trying to make this decision yourself. Additionally, the Bible teaches that when we become Christians, we become “members of one another” (Eph. 4:25 NRSV). We cannot understand ourselves without paying attention to what our brothers and sisters can see. There may be opportunities for us to serve that we have never considered, but for which we are perfect.

Also, we are under the authority of our leaders (Heb. 13:7, 17), and we should bow to what they may tell us are the

church's needs. God put us into a community, and we discern his will and calling together.

### SUMMARY

Your vocation is a part of God's work in the world, and God gives you resources for serving the human community. These factors can help you identify your calling.

### AFFINITY—"LOOK OUT."

Affinity is the normal, existential/priestly way to discern call. *What people needs do I vibrate to?*

### ABILITY—"LOOK IN."

Ability is the normal, rational/prophetic way to discern call. *What am I good at doing?*

### OPPORTUNITY—"LOOK UP."

Opportunity is the normal, organizational/kingly way to discern call. *What do the leaders/my friends believe is the most strategic kingdom need?*

Your life is not a series of random events. Your family background, education, and life experiences—even the most painful ones—all equip you to do some work that no one else can do. "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Eph. 2:10).

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(1) The forms of work discussed are understood not to be exploitative or unethical.

(2) See Timothy Keller, "Discerning and Exercising Spiritual Gifts" (2011), [gospelinlife.com](http://gospelinlife.com).

(3) These categories are derived from the works of John Newton.

(4) See Keller, "Discerning and Exercising Spiritual Gifts."

## FAMILY DISCUSSION

### WEEK THREE: ROOTS FOR TRANSFORMATION

November 4, 2018

### SUNDAY

**READ: MATTHEW 24:42B**

Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know what day your Lord is coming.

- » Jesus' parable in Matthew 24 is about time. What is a parable? A parable is a simple story used to give a picture of a moral or spiritual lesson told by Jesus in the Gospels.
  
- » What do we know about time? How is time measured? Look around your house for the different ways time is measured. How many can you find? Remember calendars, planners, an hourglass, and timers all measure time.
  
- » Jesus tells us to stay awake because we do not know when (the time) the Lord is coming. Does this mean we should not sleep? How do we "stay awake" to be ready for the coming of the Lord?
  
- » During earlier discussions we talked about resting in Jesus. Now we are told to stay awake. How can we do both?

*Children, ask your family to tell why time is important to notice. Ask why Jesus used time in the parable.*

## MONDAY

**READ: MATTHEW 24:42-44**

Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

- » We do not know the time of the Lord's return, only that He will return. When He returns what would we want Him to find us doing or saying or thinking?
  
- » Jesus is the thief in this parable. Do we know when a thief is coming? If we did know what would we do?
  
- » Since we do not know the time that Jesus is returning, what does that mean we should do with our time?

*Children, ask your family what they want to be doing when Jesus comes back.*

## TUESDAY

**READ: MATTHEW 24:45-47**

Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his will so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

- » The parable continues using the role of a servant and a master. A master would be the person who gave the servant his jobs or tasks. What job was the servant given?
  
- » When the master finds the servant completing his work, how does the master react?
  
- » What has God given us to do? He has a purpose for each of us.
  
- » How do we approach what he has given us to do with a desire to honor God?

*Children, ask your family how they make sure they are serving God.*



## WEDNESDAY

### READ: MATTHEW 24:48-51

But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed,' and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- » This servant decides to use his time for himself (he eats and drinks) and to put himself above the other servants (beats them). How is the master's response different from the master of the obedient servant?
- » How do we use time for ourselves? What activities do we get involved in that take up time that could be spent in better ways?
- » If we are trying to serve God and others, what activities might we have to let go of?

*Children, ask your family how they spent today. Would they do something differently after considering this parable?*

## THURSDAY

Pastor Blake has been teaching us that God calls us into His kingdom to lead a life of service to Him. How can we know what we are called to do?

- » Look out. Look around you. What do people around you need? Consider the needs of your family, your friends, and the church.
- » Look in. Look at what you are able to do. What can you do with what you have and with the things you know?
- » Look up. Rely on others to help you decide where you can serve. We are members of Christ's church and needs arise that we may not know about. We may have the talents and attributes to meet those needs. How can we know the needs of others? Who in the church can help us reach out to others?

*Children, ask your family how knowing we are to lead a life of service changes the way we think about church. Consider, is church about Sunday service? Is church about our friends?*

## FRIDAY

### READ: MATTHEW 22:37-39

You shall love the Lord your God with all our heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

» How do we learn to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength?

» When you tell someone you love them, what does that mean?

» When we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves, what must happen to our individual and personal desires and wants?

*Children, ask your family to give an example of how we love God with our mind.*

## SATURDAY

Prepare for Sunday worship.

### READ: MATTHEW 22:37-39

And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

Pray that God will work in our hearts so that when Jesus returns, we are found to be good and faithful servants. Pray that as we buy the land to build a place for Trinity, we would never forget God's mercy and grace toward us. Pray we would love our neighbors.

# WEEKFOUR

November 11, 2018

## ROOTS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS





## 1. PLANTING THE SEED GATHERED WORSHIP

### SERMON TEXT: PSALM 78:1-8, 70-72

<sup>1</sup>A Maskil of Asaph. Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! <sup>2</sup>I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, <sup>3</sup>things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. <sup>4</sup>We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. <sup>5</sup>He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, <sup>6</sup>that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, <sup>7</sup>so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; <sup>8</sup>and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God. <sup>70</sup>He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; <sup>71</sup>from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. <sup>72</sup>With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

## SERMON NOTES

I. Tell of his miracles

II. Teach his ways

III. Two results

a. The next generation sets their hope in God.

b. The next generation remembers the gospel and lives in light of it.

## WEEKLY FAST SHOPPING FOR NON-ESSENTIALS

Commit to abstain from all purchases that are not essential for this week. How could shopping be filling a temporal need in your life and distracting from the real issue at hand? Ask the Lord to help you see your money as a tool He wants to use to accomplish His purposes. Invite your children into this journey and discovery with you.

*"Father, remind us of the comfort we have in Jesus Christ, your one and only Son, whom You sent and who alone is able to satisfy the longing of our souls."*



## 2. ESTABLISHING THE ROOTS COMMUNITY GROUP

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:7

<sup>1</sup>Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you.

### READ: PSALM 78:1-8, 70-72

<sup>1</sup>A Maskil of Asaph. Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! <sup>2</sup>I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, <sup>3</sup>things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. <sup>4</sup>We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. <sup>5</sup>He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, <sup>6</sup>that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, <sup>7</sup>so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; <sup>8</sup>and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God. <sup>70</sup>He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; <sup>71</sup>from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. <sup>72</sup>With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

## DISCUSS TELL OF HIS MIRACLES

1. God works through every facet of life, both “naturally” and miraculously. Describe a time in which you witnessed God work in a seeming miraculous way with regard to:
  - a. Spiritual growth and/or salvation
  - b. Health
  - c. Generosity
2. Why is it important to tell of his miracles to others in the covenant community? To our covenant children?
3. If you had a Macgyver-esque thirty seconds to tell your children of the Lord’s kindness to you, what might you say?

## TEACH HIS WAYS

4. How can we teach our covenant children of the Lord’s ways that are not law-driven but gospel-driven?

## TWO RESULTS

5. Pastor Blake mentioned two results from the passage: that the next generation 1) sets their hope in God, and 2) remembers the gospel and lives in light of it. How do we live in such a way that diligently seeks to have our future generations hope in God and remember the gospel, yet trust God for the “results”?

## ROOTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

6. What am I intentionally doing right now to ensure that my children or others whom I influence around me are learning the value of generosity?

## PRAY

Ask the Father to give you a godly heritage that is both physical and spiritual, and that your generations would rest in the God of grace.

### “THE FAMILY”

#### O SOVEREIGN LORD,

Thou art the Creator-Father of all men, for thou hast made and dost support them; Thou art the special Father of those who know, love and honour thee, who find thy yoke easy, and thy burden light, thy work honourable, thy commandments glorious.

But how little thy undeserved goodness has affected me! how imperfectly have I improved my religious privileges! how negligent have I been in doing good to others! I am before thee in my trespasses and sins, have mercy on me, and may thy goodness bring me to repentance. Help me to hate and forsake every false way, to be attentive to my condition and character, to bridle my tongue, to keep my heart with all diligence, to watch and pray against temptation, to mortify sin, to be concerned for the salvation of others. O God, I cannot endure to see the destruction of my kindred. Let those that are united to me in tender ties be precious in thy sight and devoted to thy glory. Sanctify and prosper my domestic devotion, instruction, discipline, example, that my house may be a nursery for heaven, my church the garden of the Lord, enriched with trees of righteousness of thy planting, for thy glory; Let not those of my family who are amiable, moral, attractive, fall short of heaven at last; Grant that the promising appearances of a tender conscience, soft heart, the alarms and delights of thy Word, be not finally blotted out, but bring forth judgment unto victory in all whom I love.

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Prayers from The Valley of Vision, ed. Arthur Bennett (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1975; reprint 2001) used with permission.



## 3. DIGGING DEEPER INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE AND FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

**INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE:** Your Great Grandchildren

In Genesis 15 & 17, God promises a childless, wandering Abram that he will be blessed with children, land, and a legacy of blessing the nations. God did not choose Abram because of anything in Abram; rather, God chose Abram out of free grace. Consider the following questions as one, who like Abram, has experienced God's free grace:

1. What legacy would you like to leave to your children? How would you want to be remembered by your great-grandchildren?
2. What legacy would you like to leave to those in whom you have invested spiritually?
3. If you were to write an ideal epitaph, what would it say? What must happen in order for that epitaph to be true?
4. What does generosity have to do with your legacy? How, like Abram, do you envision being a blessing to future generations?



## TUESDAY

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:7

Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders and they will tell you.

- » Sketch a family tree going back several generations. Talk as a family about how God has worked in the lives of different family members. If you are the first in your family to trust in Jesus, talk about how God put you in a place where you could hear the gospel. How will your family tree look as you share the gospel and others in your family believe?
  
- » As we remember how God has worked in past generations, brainstorm attributes of God. How have these attributes been shown in His work in past generations? In your own life?

*Children, ask your family to draw a picture that shows an attribute of God. For example, a picture of a family might show God's love. A picture of a flower might show His creative power.*

## WEDNESDAY

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:7

Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders and they will tell you.

- » Moses says “ask your father, and he will show you” but for some of us, our fathers may not be able to show us the work of God in their lives. We must remember that we have a heavenly Father who can show us the good things He has done.
  
- » How can knowing that God is our Father change our lives?

*Children, pray for your family. Thank God that He is our Father, and that we can rest in His goodness and love.*



## THURSDAY

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:7

Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders and they will tell you.

- » In the last part of this verse, we are told to ask our elders and they will tell us about the “days of old”. They will tell us about God’s work and faithfulness in their own lives and the life of the church. Elders can be older people and can also be the elders in our church.
  
- » Who are some older people you could talk to about God? Think of people in your family and in the church.
  
- » Do you know who the elders of our church are? If you do not, go to the Trinity’s website and see who they are. Then, find them at church and introduce yourself.

*Children, ask your family to help you write a few questions about God you could ask an elder (older person or Trinity elder).*

## FRIDAY

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:1-3

Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distill as the dew, like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb. For I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God!

- » As Trinity buys the land to build a church building upon, how do we make certain God’s name is proclaimed there?
  
- » How can future generations use our church building to proclaim God’s name?
  
- » The youngest members of Trinity will most likely see how God uses the church building as a place to proclaim His name. What do you think these youngest members will be able to tell the next generation about what they have seen and heard?

*Children, listen, watch and remember as our church family establishes roots in Owasso through the building of a place to worship God and serve others. You will be telling the next generation.*

## SATURDAY

Prepare for Sunday worship.

### READ: DEUTERONOMY 32:7

Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders and they will tell you.

Pray, thanking God for the generations of people who have told us about God, and His work in their lives, and for their faithfulness. Ask God to create in this generation of children clear and deep memories about their walk with Jesus that can be told to future generations. Pray that Trinity will always be a place where God's name is proclaimed.



# WEEK FIVE

November 18, 2018

## ROOTS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES





# 1. PLANTING THE SEED

## GATHERED WORSHIP

### SERMON TEXT: MATTHEW 28:16-20

#### THE GREAT COMMISSION

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

## SERMON NOTES

- I. Power of disciple making.
  - A. All are called to do this.
    1. In every age.
    2. With every temperament.
      - a. worshipful
      - b. doubting.
    3. In every place.

## II. Practice of it.

- A. Covenant renewal in the Church and through the Church
- B. Teaching them all I have commanded you
  1. Idolatry (→evangelism) - sharing good news
  2. Exile (→hospitality) - welcoming sinners and outcasts
  3. Kingdom (→justice) - covenant community that heals the world

## III. Presence of the Power.

- A. Christ is with us by
  1. His Holy Spirit
  2. continual intercession before the Father

## WEEKLY FAST

### HEART CHECK

Ask the Lord what to abstain from this week.

Take time to reflect on the previous weeks and deal with any idols or heart issues that may have been exposed. Quiet your heart and meditate on the passage below.

*"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight..."*  
Hebrews 4:12-13

*Father in Heaven, reveal how deeply our heart needs you. You see us and you understand. Show us one thing that has a hold of our heart, and give us the courage to yield it to you.*



## 2. ESTABLISHING THE ROOTS COMMUNITY GROUP

### READ: MATTHEW 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

## DISCUSS

### THE POWER OF DISCIPLE MAKING

1. To whom specifically is the Great Commission addressed?
2. Why is it important to see that the Great Commission is given to the Church?

### THE PRACTICE OF DISCIPLE MAKING

3. Although the word “Go” (v. 19) in the Greek is a participle (lit. “going”), English versions typically translate the word as “Go.” Greek scholars rightly justify this translation by noting that the word is an attendant circumstance participle, and it would be inappropriate to translate the word as “going” or “as you go” (cf. Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 642-645). How would the meaning of the text change if the text were to read “As you go...”?

4. What is the practical difference between making converts and making disciples?
5. What does covenant renewal look like when done in the Church and through the Church?

### THE PRESENCE OF THE POWER

6. In what way is Jesus with us in fulfilling the Great Commission? What about when we fail?
7. What does the Great Commission have to do with Trinity’s Roots campaign? Why might land and a building be important?

### ROOTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE

8. Do I see money as a tool for God or a tool for me? Reflect on this as honestly as you can.

## PRAY

Ask the Father to have His kingdom come through you and Jesus' church, and for His will to be done through you and Jesus' church.

### "REQUESTS"

**O GOD,**

May I never be a blot or a blank in life, cause the way of truth to be evil spoken of, or make my liberty an occasion to the flesh. May I by love serve others, and please my neighbour for his good to edification. May I attend to what is ornamental as well as essential in religion, pursuing things that are lovely and of good report. May I render my profession of the gospel not only impressive, but amiable and inviting. May I hold forth the way of Jesus with my temper as well as my tongue, with my life as well as my lips. May I say to all I meet, I am journeying towards the Lord's given place, come with me for your good. May I be prepared for all the allotments of this short, changing, uncertain life, with a useful residence in it, a comfortable journey through it, a safe passage out of it. May I be in character and conduct like the dew of heaven, the salt of the earth, the light of the world, the fullness of the fountain. May I never be ashamed of Jesus or his words, be deterred from fulfilling a known duty through fear, be discouraged from attempting it through weakness. May I see all things in a divine light so that they may inform my judgment and sanctify my heart. And by all the disciplines of thy providence, and all the ordinances of religion, may I be increasingly prepared for life's remaining duties, the solemnities of a dying hour, and the joys and services that lie beyond the grave.

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## 3. DIGGING DEEPER INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE AND FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

**INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE:** Heart of the Matter

- » In giving the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus assumes that he is telling disciples to make disciples. What must you lay down, or take up, in order to more devotedly follow Jesus?
- » Meditate for a moment on how God might use you to make a single disciple. Who might this be? How would this come about? What might be done?
- » Why is our relationship with money so important in the discipleship process?

# FAMILY DISCUSSION

## WEEK FIVE: ROOTS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES

November 18, 2018

### SUNDAY

#### READ: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

*Children, ask your family what this scripture is typically named or called.*

- » Since this is the Great Commission, we need to understand the meaning of "commission." It is an instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group of people. Who gave this commission?
- » When was the commission given? Was this during the life of Jesus or after his resurrection?
- » Why would Jesus give the commission at this time? What was going to happen next?
- » What is a disciple? It refers to someone who takes up the ways of someone else. So, to make disciples for Jesus, we must first be a disciple of Jesus.
- » Are you a disciple? How do you know?

### MONDAY

#### READ: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- » Jesus says that "all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." What does that mean? What is authority? Authority is the power or right to give orders, make decisions and enforce obedience.
- » How does Jesus have this authority? Who is he?
- » Since Jesus has all authority and he commissions us to make disciples of all nations, what should we do?

*Children, ask your family who else can say they have all authority in heaven and earth.*

## TUESDAY

### READ: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

- » When Jesus says we must "go" and make disciples of all nations, does he mean we should all go to another country, city, or town to find people to tell about Jesus? If he doesn't mean we should all travel somewhere else, how do we find people to tell about Him?
- » Who do you know that does not yet trust in Jesus? Who do you know that needs encouragement and teaching in becoming more like Jesus through prayer, Bible study, and becoming part of a church family?
- » Who has Jesus sent into your life to make you a disciple?

*Children, ask your family to talk about how they tell others about Jesus.*

## WEDNESDAY

### READ: JOHN 3:16

God so loved the world that He gave his one and only son so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but shall have eternal life.

- » When we share the good news of Jesus, what are we sharing?
- » What do we mean when we say we want to share the gospel of Jesus?
- » How are we saved?

*Children, ask your family to tell you the gospel of Jesus.*



## THURSDAY

### READ: ROMANS 5:8

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- » Remember, Jesus commissioned (commanded) us to make disciples (followers of Jesus). What does this verse tell us about sin?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- » If God knows we are all sinners, how should we treat people who do not yet know Him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- » Why is it so important that people know about Jesus?

*Children, ask your family about ways in which they sin. What is the good news about our sin?*

## FRIDAY

### READ THE GREAT COMMISSION: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- » Part of the commission (task, command) Jesus has given us, is teaching about what Jesus has commanded us to do. How do we know what Jesus commanded us to do?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- » Are we left on our own to work up lots of strength and energy to follow the commands of Jesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- » Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to live in us and Jesus sits at the right hand of God praying for us. How does this help us to follow His commands?

*Children, talk to your family about what it means to them to have Jesus with them always.*

## SATURDAY

Prepare for Sunday worship.

### READ: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Pray, thanking God for his wonderful work of salvation. Ask Him to work in the hearts of our children, and to use us to disciple them and the people God puts in our path. Pray that God will give us roots, in the form of a church building, to better share the work of Christ and to make disciples.









# TRINITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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