

The Sermon Connection

Connecting Sunday's Teaching to Everyday Living

Volume 5 Issue 13



The Sermon Connection is a weekly handout to help you apply Sunday's sermon content to your everyday life. It is designed to give you additional insights and practical tools for applying the teaching throughout the week.

The application, reflection and connection questions may also serve as a springboard for discussion in your small group, your family time, or in one-on-one conversations.

15TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE Why We Do It ... Preaching Team March 31, 2019

Today's service was a celebration of 15 years of ministry for Destiny Church. In his opening remarks, Pastor Bob reviewed the history of Destiny as well as the vision. The preaching team then shared a team message entitled "Why We Do It." There is a book titled "Start With Why." In the book, the author maintains that no matter what type of organization, if people can explain the "why," they will be inspired. If we fail to understand why we are doing what we are doing, we will most likely grow distracted or discouraged. Each of the pastors handled a section of our process of Gather, Connect, Serve and Give.

Trent started with "Why We Gather." He shared from Matthew 22:37-40. The gathering of the Church is a time to corporately express our love for God through our worship of Him as fellow believers. It is a time of edification and fellowship. As we gather, we live out the two greatest commandments: to love God and to love others.

Rick then covered "Why We Connect." He based his thoughts on 1 Corinthians 12:27 which says "Now you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a part of it" A physical body is connected whether it wants to be or not. The same is true of the body of Christ. Rick used our district superintendent to illustrate his point. When a part of the body is punched (which he really did), the whole body hurts. On the other hand, when a part of the body is hugged, the whole body feels that as well. As believers, we connect so that we can live and grow together. We grow together as we feel each other's hurts and joys. We also grow deeper in our walk as we are knit together in a common desire to grow in Christ.

Calvin then handled "Why We Serve." He used Ephesian 2:10 to remind us that healthy, growing believers serve. Serving is living out what God has designed and prepared for us to do. We are not born-again to live selfish lives. Calvin used the example of a soccer player that he recently met. He had a servant's heart that radiated the love of Christ.

Bob closed with "Why We Give." The passage he used was 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. Bob maintained that we give because, as growing disciples, we grow in our love for God and for His kingdom. As we grow, we become more and more willing to direct our resources to God's work – and we do it cheerfully!

READING AND REFLECTION:

Read Matthew 22:37-40. Back up a few verses. Who was Jesus replying to? What was the question? Explain Jesus' answer.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. What do you learn about the body?

Read Ephesians 2:10. Do a word study on the word "workmanship." What do you learn?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. There are at least 5 principals for Biblical giving in this passage. Can you list them out?

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Do you gather? Is gathering with other believers important to you? Why, or why not?

Do you connect? Outside of Sunday mornings, what level of connection do you have with other people from Destiny? Have you allowed some others from Destiny to get close to you? Why, or why not?

Do you serve? If so, how? If not, what is keeping you from using your God-given gifts to serve others?

Do you give? If so, do you give cheerfully? How have you seen God bless you abundantly so that you could abound in every good work?

COMMUNITY CONNECTION:

When you meet with your family and/or small group this week, you are connecting! Take the time to discuss the importance of connecting. Is your family and/or group connecting well? Are you growing in intimacy and transparency? Are you encouraging and exhorting each other to be more like Christ?

KEY POINT:

If we know WHY we are doing what we are doing, we will live inspired lives and not grow weary!

RESOURCES:

[One-Year New Testament Bible](#) (Available at the Information Table on Sunday mornings)