March 31, 2013 John 20:11-18

**God Revealed**

1. In Creation

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

**Genesis 1:1**

**-We trade knowledge of the creator for knowledge of the created. Romans 1:21**

TV Idol – Bible book-app-tv show

1. To People - Humanity

*Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.* **Genesis 2:7**

**Unique gift of God to humanity – Image -**

**Smart people are Christians**

1. In Person-Jesus

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*

**John 1:14**

1. In The Garden – By Name

*Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “teacher”)* **John 20:16**

Parents know their children –they say their names in a unique way. When our names are said in a certain way it invokes feelings

1. To Our Hearts

Meditate

How do I see God through the created order of things?

How do I see God working through other people?

Who do I believe that Jesus is? What does the Bible say about it?

When have I felt like God was calling me out?

Have I given my heart to Jesus? What parts of my life do I need to trust him more fully with?

*Father in Heaven, your glory has been shown throughout the earth. Your creation shows our beauty, power, and wonder. I pray that my heart be drawn into worship of you. That I would no longer hold back pieces of myself, but I would surrender fully to your will for my life-this day and everyday here after. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday John 3**
* **Tuesday John 20**
* **Wednesday Genesis 1**
* **Thursday Genesis 2**
* **Friday Revelation 3**
* **Saturday Romans 2**

*The word of God is living and active sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**Hebrews 4:12**

April 7, 2013 1 John 4:7-18

**Know: Perfect Love**

*What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.* ~A. W. Tozer

1. The Longing Within

Loneliness when we were created for relationship

1. Jesus Displays It

*This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

**1 John 4:10**

1. The Spirit Encourages It

*We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.* **1 John 4:13**

1. Known Through Experience
2. A Step To Trust

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment.* **1 John 4:18**

Meditate

What are the things I think about God? (make a list)

Where so these thoughts come from?

What does it mean for me to live my life through Christ?

Do I believe the Holy Spirit speaks to me? How?

What is the biggest thing I need to trust God with?

*Lord God, it is such a great challenge to trust you with everything I am and have. I know that to trust you with my whole life means I have cannot leave anything out. What do I need to give you Lord? Let me know your perfect love which drives out fear as I lay my life in your hands. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday John 1:14-18**
* **Tuesday Romans 5:8-10**
* **Wednesday Romans 8:15-17**
* **Thursday Daniel 3:1-12**
* **Friday Daniel 3:13-30**
* **Saturday Malachi 3:10-12**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

April 14, 2013 Matthew 6:25-34

**Know: Providence**

1. Why Do Things Happen?

Fate : Chance : Astrology : Everything happens for…

1. Things In Order

*Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns yet your heavenly Father feeds them.*

**Matthew 6:26**

Lifeless matter, living plants, animals, humans Psalm 147:7-11

1. God Cares For People

*If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?* **Matthew 6:30**

Psalm 145:13-21

1. God Cooperates With Us

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.* **Matthew 6:33**

**God cooperates so as to allow the effects of our freedom but not applaud its defects.**

1. God is Working – Don’t Worry!

*Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.* **Matthew 6:34**

I will trust because the birds still fly and the grass still grows.

GIVING CHALLENGE -6 weeks give with trust TELL SOMEONE

Meditate

When I think of the reason things happen I think…

Where do I see God’s providing hand at work in the natural order of things?

What does it mean for me to know that God cares for people?

Where have I seen God cooperating with me?

What is my biggest worry? What will it take to release this worry to God?

*Father God, you have ordered all things for your glory and they function as you have designed them. Help me to trust in you as you have your hand on my life. Let me cooperate with your spirit as I seek to seek first your kingdom. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Psalm 104:14-16**
* **Tuesday Job 28:1-11**
* **Wednesday Psalm 90:13-17**
* **Thursday Matthew 6:25-34**
* **Friday Luke 10:38-42**
* **Saturday Luke 12:32-34**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

April 21, 2013 Ephesians 2:1-10

**Know: Redemption**

1. The Human Capacity of Evil

*You were dead in your sins.* **Ephesians 2:1**

1. God Creates With Capacity For Mercy
2. Jesus Cleans Our Mess

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith…* **Ephesians 2:8**

1. The Spirit Regenerates Us

*I will give them and undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.* **Ezekiel 12:19**

1. God Will Restore

*For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* **Ephesians 2:10**

*Redemption is the beginning of our participation in God’s work of restoration in our lives and in the world.*

~Gabe Lyons, *The Next Christians*

Meditate

What is my capacity for evil? When do I sin against other people?

Where have I seen people loving others? This ability to care comes from God.

How has my life changed by Jesus cleaning up my life on the cross?

Where is the Spirit regenerating me and making me new?

What is my part in God’s plan of restoration?

*Gracious Father, you have created this world with love and passion. In your love you have redeemed our lives so that we can participate in the redemption of your world. Help me to seek ways in which to participate in the restoration of your world. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Isaiah 29:22-24**
* **Tuesday Ephesians 1:7**
* **Wednesday Colossians 1:20-22**
* **Thursday Titus 2:14**
* **Friday 1 Peter 1:18-19**
* **Saturday Romans 3:24-26**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

April 28, 2013 Judges 4:1-16

**Know: Strength**

1. We Want To Be Free

*Because he had nine hundred iron chariots and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for 20 years, they cried to the Lord for help.* **Judges 4:3**

1. Unwilling To Trust God Completely

*Barak said to her, “If you go with me I will go; but if you don’t go with me I won’t go.”* **Judges 4:8**

1. God’s Proven Record

*“Go! This day the Lord has given Sisera into your hands. Has not the Lord gone ahead of you?”* **Judges 4:14**

1. God Is More Powerful Than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*With a shout he will raise the battle cry and triumph over our enemies.* **Isaiah 42:13**

1. God Has Made A Way

*I will turn darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth.* **Isaiah 42:16**

Meditate

What do I want to be free from in my mind, soul, and body?

What have I done to keep myself in bondage? What behavior or thought process keeps me in this place?

Why is it hard for me to trust God? What do I feel God will not take care of?

Where do I want God to prove himself in my life? (Ask him to prove himself in this area)

What do I feel God is unable to overcome?

What are the paths God is making for me to have a fuller knowledge of him?

*Mighty God, I have been convinced by many that you are not to be trusted and I should only trust myself. Let me know your power and your might. And let me put my whole trust in your strength, not in others, not in things, but in you.*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday 2 Chronicles 16:9**
* **Tuesday Isaiah 40:28-31**
* **Wednesday Exodus 15:2**
* **Thursday 1 Corinthians 10:13**
* **Friday 2 Timothy 4:17**
* **Saturday Joshua 1:9-11**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

July 27, 2014 1 Peter 3:13-15

**Be Ready**

1. When we are passionate about something it can draw a response from those around us

*Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?* **1 Peter 3:13**

1. Suffering because of a passionate life for Jesus is the right thing to suffer for.

*But even if you should suffer for what is right you are blessed* **1 Peter 3:14**

1. It only makes sense if you KNOW Jesus Christ as Lord.

*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.* **1 Peter 3:15a**

1. Take every opportunity to talk about your faith!

*Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.* **1 Peter 3:15b**

Meditate

What are you most passionate about, how do family and friends feel about that?

Where have you seen people react negatively to a person’s passion?

What does it mean for you to suffer because of your faith in Jesus?

Do you KNOW Jesus as Lord in a way that it changes your life?

What do you do when you have an opportunity to share your faith? How can you be more prepared?

*Jesus, you are my Lord. My whole life belongs to you and I will live according to that understanding. Teach me to live in such a way that people can see my passion. Give opportunity to share the reason for the hope I have in you. I will glorify you to others! In Your Name I Pray, Amen*

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Matthew 24:44**
* **Tuesday 1 Corinthians 16:13**
* **Wednesday Matthew 25:1-46**
* **Thursday Proverbs 6:6-8**
* **Friday 1 John 2:28**
* **Saturday Romans 13:11-14**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord I have nothing to offer you.*

*I beg you to hear my prayers.*

*I offer them in faith*

*And humbly accept your will.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

Have you acknowledged Jesus’ divinity?

What difference does a humble spirit make in our lives?

Do you approach God with what you think you deserve, or appreciative of what he will offer?

August 2, 2015 Mark 7:24-30

**Grow Desperate**

1. Our growth begins when we recognize who Jesus is and who we are not.

*… a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet…she begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.* **Mark 7:25-26**

1. It is possible that our faith will be tested.

*“…for it is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”* **Mark 7:27**

1. We are spiritually bankrupt and in need of whatever the Lord will give us.

*“Lord,” she replied, “even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”* **Mark 7:28**

1. God honors the humble and broken-hearted.

*Then he told her, “For such a reply you may go; the demon has left your daughter.”* **Mark 7:29**

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday James 4:6**
* **Tuesday Luke 14:11**
* **Wednesday Proverbs 22:4**
* **Thursday 1 Peter 5:6**
* **Friday Colossians 3:12**
* **Saturday Romans 12:3**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord I today I abide in you.*

*You are everything I need.*

*May my heart align with yours.*

*And may my life reflect your glory.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

What are some things which you abide in which are limited?

Do you see God as sufficient for your needs?

How will you intentionally reflect the love of God?

December 27, 2015 John 15:5-8

**Grow Desperate**

1. We abide in many things that are good but limited.

Abide-to remain, continue, or stay

1. God is the only sufficient source of our needs.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.* **John 15:5**

1. When we are abiding in God our hearts line up with His.

*If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.* **John 15:7**

1. Our lives will reflect what we are abiding in.

*This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.* **John 15:8**

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday 2 Corinthians 3:5**
* **Tuesday Philippians 4:13**
* **Wednesday 2 Corinthians 12:9**
* **Thursday 2 Corinthians 9:8**
* **Friday Philippians 4:19**
* **Saturday James 1:1-27**

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**Hebrews 4:12**

Action

**Begin each morning with this prayer:**

*Lord I desire wisdom*

*Rid me of my self ambition*

*Cleanse me of my bitter envy*

*May my life reflect your love.*

**Read study verse for the day.**

**Mediate on these questions:**

After reflecting on the message what is some wisdom that is earthly?

What parts of verse James 3:17 do you struggle with the most?

What kind of life do you want to reflect?

February 7, 2016 James 3:13-18

**Grow Wise**

1. Just because you know things it does not make you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*Who is wise and understanding among you?*

1. You were created to be more than an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.* **James 3:15**

1. Check the list before you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and act.

*But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.* **James 3:17**

1. Your life will reap what you have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.* **James 3:18**

Study

*(Weekly Readings that are related to the sermon theme)*

* **Monday Proverbs 3:13-18**
* **Tuesday Ephesians 5:15-17**
* **Wednesday Proverbs 10:23**
* **Thursday Proverbs 17:27-28**
* **Friday Colossians 3:16**
* **Saturday Proverbs 24:3-7**

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**Hebrews 4:12**