

July 14 & 28
Seniors Ministry Coffee Klatch
10am

July 21-24 VBS 9am-12pm

July 24MLCC Night at the Waterpark
8-10pm

September 7th Fall Kickoff

Women's Fitness

Mondays & Thursdays 10am (Except during VBS)

Junior High Youth

Wednesdays 6-8pm

Senior High Youth

Sundays 6-8pm (Doors open at 5:30pm)

Children's Ministry available during the entire 11 am service.

Sermon Notes - July 13, 2025 Friendship Series

Speaker: Phil Payne

Friendship is HARD Work...

You and I are BUILT for Connection and Community

God created in creation...it is "good"...created man and said it is "very good" God created us From community and For community

You have a very Real Enemy and Isolation is his strategy...Lying is his weapon

"Did God really say".....Satan thrives Isolation

All Satan can do is counterfeit.....takes what exists and distorts...

In Isolation Lies are louder...and we begin to believe lies...

Alone we are vulnerable...and together we are Strong...

In Isolation – aloneness is a multiplier of stress/anxiety/ideation...

We all desire better friendships.... (some, more, better)

So what is the Problem? We are built for it...and we want it...so why don't we have better friendships? Deeper friendships? Why isn't friendship more common than it is?

Matthew 5:33 - ³³ "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.' ³⁴ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. ³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. ³⁷ All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

"Too much Talk...and not enough Action"
Yes be Yes...and your No be No...
Stop waffling...stop making promises you are not keeping.

When it comes to friendships...we are our own worst enemy sometimes.

When it comes to Friendships...vs Isolation there are things that are multipliers and things that are dividers...

Multipliers of Isolation...

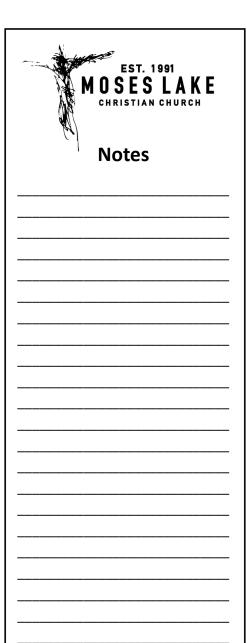
Pace

Power

Productivity

Procrastination

Passivity



Connect with us!





Dividers of Isolation...

Authenticity Attention Action

Be the friend you wish you had. Create it. Initiate it. Create an invite...ask for help.

What do you want...? Ask real questions...Initiate...honesty...integrity...depth conversation...lonely? Probably other people who are lonely...move toward friendship

Real Friendship take Real work.

Show up. Power of presence.

Stay when it is hard.... (toxic friendships...you may need to leave)

Have difficult conversations...be willing to say the hard thing...

Time...attention...sensitivity...(Plants)

"A true friend shows love at all times and is a brother who is born for times of distress" (Proverbs 17:17)

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)



Gerhard (Git) and Mignon Duvenhage are asking for prayer for healthy marriages and families in their community. Their team is training ministers to spread the Word in Africa through Jabulani Africa Ministries.

Love Inc (previously Serve ML): Love Inc. provides a central location for receiving and reviewing requests for assistance.

Pray for the Bong & Erlenmeyer families are they are in Brazil to serve and provide Vacation Bible School.