

Weekly Connector: Discipleship Matters!

September 8, 2018

Hello, Church!

When we get to the end of May, I look forward to easing the schedule somewhat - breaking from Bible Studies on Tuesday morning and Wednesday nights, for example, so we can take time to enjoy the warmer weather and longer days. Vacations, Campmeetings, Vacation Bible Schools (our own Sports and Arts Camp), the Summer Lunch Program, and special time with family and friends take the place of the school-year routine. All of it is good and fulfilling and a refreshment.

Then, as we enjoyed last Monday, Labor Day arrives and along with it, the school-year activities, and a return to our Tuesday morning and Wednesday Night Discipleship opportunities.

This last Tuesday morning, the men began a deep dive into what we call the book of Hebrews but discover is more like a sermon than a book or a letter. The Supremacy of Jesus is a repeated theme and principle, reminding each of us how many times, even daily, we miss out on opportunities to recognize the reality of who Jesus really is and the authority He alone possesses. Like a cold drink on a hot day, we are jolted out of our complacency and refreshed by His love and leadership. Men, do not miss out on this opportunity to be jolted and refreshed by Jesus, Himself. We meet at 6:00AM at Lowrey's restaurant, a few blocks west of the church on US30.

Then, on Wednesday night, many of you returned to a good meal, unplugged worship, and powerful teaching as our Discipleship Nights kicked off for another year. Here is how you can grow in the Lord each Wednesday Night:

- KIDS experience Jesus as their teachers share the eternal truths of God's Word.
- Youth reflect on the importance of "Guardrails" - establishing crucial boundaries in our lives that prevent spiritual, physical, and emotional danger.
- Women challenge the strongholds that take authority in our minds as the Bible teaches us to "Think Differently".
- Men are "Stepping Up" to courage: being the man God is calling each man to be.
- Couples learn about two of the most important (and life-changing) words in a marriage: "Love and Respect"
- Those who are struggling with divorce learn important principles and practices in "DivorceCare"

Each of these studies JUST STARTED! There is room for more to come and it is a great time to use a few hours on Wednesday Night to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Do not miss it!

Remember, the schedule:

- 5:30 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Meals are only \$5. Max cost for a family is \$20!
- 6:20 Worship in Sanctuary
- 6:45 Discipleship classes for all ages (see above).

This Sunday, we were looking forward to our Family Fun Day (also called FROG Frenzy). This is a special opportunity to invite our friends to our church, enjoy a meal, and outside activities! This year, however, our weather is NOT cooperating and our outside events will not be available. However, **please be sure to bring a friend with you to celebrate Jesus in worship, learn from God's Word, and then enjoy a good meal together.** I look forward to seeing you then and there!

Also, this Sunday we learn about "**Boundaries**". Jesus teaches us that we need to do whatever it takes to stay on His path - His Way! Solid biblical boundaries put in place by His Holy Spirit will get us there. The trouble is - do we really think it necessary? What's the big deal? Are such Boundaries a blessing or just another restriction? I am so glad we have Jesus to show us His Way to live the life He has in store for each of us!

As you start this new school year, I pray this for you: *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13*

I love you, Church!

Pastor greg