

Foundations – Jesus Refocused

Connect Guide January 6 & 7

Take this paper and take the sermon home with you. Reflect on the passage and discussion questions. Consider how to apply the message to your life. Study alone or gather a group. This guide will enrich and encourage you on your path to discipleship and deepen your relationship with God

Scripture

Luke 2:25-32 ... Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”



Discuss

1. Starting this weekend, we are going to spend six weeks laying down some foundations to live by. We are tying onto some of the most solid Biblical principles of the early Methodist Movement. What are some principles you tend to live by?
2. If you were asked, “Who is Jesus?” How would you respond?
3. Pastor Rich said, “if you miss Jesus by one inch in what you believe, you’ll miss Him by a mile in how you behave.” What do you think about this? How do you see this statement effecting human believe and behavior?
4. In the Luke passage, who is the main person we meet? What is he waiting for? How does he respond when he sees Jesus?
5. Look up John 14:6 and Acts 4:12. What do these verses say about who Jesus is and what he has to offer?
6. John Wesley is quoted as saying “Offer them Christ.” What are some ways we can offer Christ to our friends and neighbors? The community? The world?

Apply

The vitality and effectiveness of the church is 100% dependent on our faithful commitment to and connection with Jesus. Stray from Him or His Word and we lose our power and miss our purpose. This sermon series will be based upon the book “A Firm Foundation” produced by the Wesleyan Covenant Association. If you would like to follow along reading or join a group studying this book and the sermons, contact Elizabeth Somes at ESomes@CommunityUMchurch.com to pick up a copy and get connected.

Prayer

God, we confess following Jesus isn't easy. We live in the swirling currents of culture, confusion, chaos, crime, cohorts, community, and competition. We want to trust in you and build our foundation on the Truth that never fails. Help us to stay true to you God. Help us to know firmly who you are and who's we are. Help us to love those who don't you and lead them to you. In Jesus Name. Amen.