

Desperate for God
January 4, 2026
Exodus 33

Introduction

- Today is **the first Sunday of 2026**, Wow!
- Now before we took a break for Christmas, we were studying **1 & 2 Timothy**.
- And Lord willing we'll return to **1 Timothy Chapter 4** next week.
- **But today**, I want to **begin 2026** with a message that is **desperately needed in the church**.
- It's a **New Years message** but it applies to every day of our lives.
- And for me, it flows from our **Advent series**.
- As we looked at the **coming of Christ** and how he brought **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**.
- I began to ask questions about my **experience of Christ coming into my life**.
- Do I have **true Hope in Him**,
- **Do I experience Peace from God and Joy in the Lord!**
- Do I feel **the Love God** offers to all who **enter relationship with Him?**
- And I have to say my answer to these questions was not overwhelmingly, **YES, Of Course?**
- Instead, it was more of a **sometimes, or not as much as I would like**.
- **And maybe some of you can relate to this**.
- Maybe you too are less than satisfied with your experience of God, of Christ in your life.
- Or maybe you haven't given it much thought.
- You just go about your life day by day,
- not really thinking much about **your relationship with God**.
- Finding your **satisfaction** in other **relationships** or **areas of life**, family, friends, hobbies... etc....
- **And this is a problem for many reasons**,
- **Mainly** because it takes us away from the **true satisfaction found only in Christ**.
- And so, the question **I asked myself**, and I am asking **you as we begin this new year is this...**
- No matter how long you've been a Christian, no matter how mature you think you are.
- Are you truly satisfied with your relationship with God?
- **Or put more directly... Are you desperate for more of God in your life**.
- Are you desperate for the presence of the LORD?
- Are you **desperate to find you satisfaction** not in the things of this world but **in Jesus Christ?**
- Like David, would you pray...

¹ O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you... (Psalms 63:1)

- It is this thirst, **this desperations for God** that leads to earnestly seeking him.
- As I thought about a message to begin the new year,
- The first thing that came to mind was to speak about the importance of prayer and God's word in our lives,
- Because these are the primary ways we seek the Lord,
- It is through his word and prayer that we **grow in our experience of Him in our lives**.

- But then I realized, for most of us, me included, the issue isn't a lack of understanding the importance of prayer or Bible study.
- The issue **is our** motivation, our desire, our thirst, **our desperation for God.**
- We won't seek the Lord through prayer and His Word if we're not desperate for more of God in our lives.
- But the problem is, we stop seeking because our thirst is quenched by other things.
- And so, as Christians, instead longing for Christ's presence in our lives,
- We substitute **"religion."**
- We go to church, we say the right words, we participate in the right activities,
- We **put on the right face.**
- We act the part, we do religious stuff (including prayer and Bible study)
- Without the **presence of God or power of His Spirit in our lives.**
- **And that is extremely dangerous.**
- And we see this exemplified in our passage for today, **Exodus 33.**
- In this **chapter Israel is confronted with God withdrawing his presence from them.**
- And in **Moses (their leader)** we see a response of **desperation for the LORD.**
- A response that I pray we can all learn from and hopefully be encouraged by.
- Now to understand **God's withdrawal** and **Moses's response** in **Chapter 33.**
- We need a little background.
- **As most of us known, Israel, God's chosen people had been enslaved in Egypt for 400 years.**
- But through **Moses and the ten plagues**, God **had delivered His people.**
- God then led them through the **Red Sea to Mount Sinai.**
- There, they receive the law and enter into the **Mosaic Covenant.**
- **They agreed to obey the Lord in all things.**
- **He would be their God, and they would be His people.**
- And in **Exodus 24** the covenant was confirmed **with blood sacrifices...**
- In **verse 8** we read...

8 And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words." (Exodus 24:8)

- Then at the end of **Exodus 24** Moses goes back up **Mount Sinai** to receive more from the LORD.
- And in **verse 18** we read...

18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain (with the LORD for) forty days and forty nights. (Exodus 24:18)

- And in **chapters 25-31** of Exodus,
- we have **the record of God instructions** to Moses during this time.
- God gives **Moses instructions about the Tabernacle and everything that surrounds it.**
- **The tabernacle would** be the place where God would meet with His people.
- And Moses is given extremely **detailed instruction** on How it would be build,
- what would be put in it, what the priests are to do and wear, etc...

- Basically, God is telling Moses how His people were to **meet with and worship Him**.
- **THIS IS How they were to experience the presence of the LORD.**
- Then in **Chapter 31:18** we read...

18 And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God. (Exodus 31:18)

- So, Moses has these two tablets, containing the Ten Commandments,
- Which God had given him earlier, but these are written with the finger of God.
- And Moses heads down the mountain.
- And what does he find. (ANYONE? it's recorded in **Exodus 32**)
- He finds the people who God had delivered from slavery in Egypt,
- People who 40 days before had agreed to enter **into the covenant with the LORD**.
- People who had said... **Whatever God says we will do.**
- People who have been **covered with the blood of sacrifice.**
- **People like you and me who say we have trusted in Christ's sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins.**
- And what are these people doing?
- They're Worshiping a **Golden Calf**.
- It took them less than **40 days to break their covenant** with the LORD.
- And at first it seemed like God was going to destroy these people and **begin again with Moses**.
- But **Moses intercedes** and reminds God of His promises to Abraham way back in **Genesis 15**.

13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'"** ¹⁴ **And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people. (Exodus 32:13-14)

- So, the LORD relents, He does not destroy the people who have broken covenant with Him.
- However, Moses as their leader does **punish them**.
- Those who would not stand **for the Lord were put to the sword**.
- Moses then returns to the Mountain to **make atonement for the sin of the people**.
- And in **chapter 33 verse 1-3** we read these words.

***¹ The LORD said to Moses, "Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.'"** ² **I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.** ³ **Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey;...** (Exodus 33:1-3)*

- Good so far, it looks like everything is forgiven and forgotten.
- Then the shoe drops.
- **God says...**

***but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people."** (Exodus 33:1-3)*

- This is what God proposes to Moses and Israel.
- He reaffirms His promise (**I will give you the land**)
- But he withdraws his presence. (**I will not be with you**)
- He offers the promise of God without the presence of God.
- **Would you take that offer?**
- Let's be careful how we answer.
- Because this is the offer that so many "Christians" want from God.
- And so many churches promote...
- Come to Christ and **get stuff**.
- Come to Christ, and you **Get forgiveness; Get heaven; Get the abundant life**.
- But we need to understand, **we need to Get this...**
- **You come to Christ to Get God.**
- God Himself is the one that we need.
- All of his promises flow from Him.
- **You won't get forgiveness, heaven or the abundant life if you don't want God.**
- So, Israel is faced with **the promises of God without the presence of God**.
- And to their credit, they knew this was a problem.
- In **verse 4** they respond...

4 When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned... (Exodus 33:4)

- They have repented from the **Golden Calf Incident...**
- They have seen **the error of their ways**.
- But now they're faced with the possibility of losing God's presence among them and they mourn.
- And Moses, as their representative, **boldly says to the LORD....**

15 ... "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here." (Exodus 33:15)

- God if you aren't going with us then we aren't going.
- Moses understood that the promises of God without the presence of God were worthless.
- Moses knew that he and the people would not survive or thrive without God among them.
- Moses is desperate for the presence of God in his life and among his people.
- So that's the background, the context.
- And what we are going to do this morning is look at more of **Exodus 33**.
- Because there we find **four very practical and motivational reasons why Moses...**
- Why the people of Israel?
- And why we **should be desperate for the presence of God**.
- It is my hope and prayer that as we enter 2026, we do so with **a desperation for the Lord**.
- That we as individuals and as a church we will say to God....
- ***If your presence will not go with us, we don't want to go.***
- ***We don't want to go anywhere or do anything without you LORD!***

- And Moses can help us with that.
- So let's turn to the four reasons Moses is desperate for the LORD.
- And seek to apply them to our lives...
- First,

1. Moses had a Relationship He Could Not Abandon

- Moses, more than anyone else in the OT, could say he had an **intimate relationship** with God.
- We see this in **Exodus 33:7-11**

⁷ Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. (Exodus 33:7)

- Now, this was **before the tabernacle had been constructed**.
- Moses would pitch a tent outside the camp.
- And anyone who wanted to seek the LORD could go to this tent.
- It wasn't just for Moses, **but Moses seems to be the one who takes full advantage of meeting with the LORD**.
- Verse 8 continues...

⁸ Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. ⁹ When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD would speak with Moses. ¹⁰ And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. ¹¹ Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent. (Exodus 33:8-11)

- **This is really amazing.**
- Moses **starts walking toward the tent outside the camp**,
- and this causes **thousands upon thousands of others** in the camp of Israelites rise up.
- They go stand at the door of the tent.

- All eyes are fixed on Moses as he walks in front of the people, to the tent.
- Then a cloud comes and rests on the tent.
- And all Israel stands in silent awe **because there's a man meeting with God**.
- A man who has a **relationship with God**.
- A man who is **unwilling to let that relationship go...** again verse 15...

¹⁵ ... "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here." (Exodus 33:15)

- Moses gives us a picture of a man who was desperate for His relationship with the LORD to continue and grow.
- He **thirsted for the Lord**, and therefore **he sought after the LORD**.

- And the question for each one of us **INDIVIDUALLY** is...
- Am I desperate for my relationship with the LORD **to continue and grow**.
- Does my soul long for God, as a deer pants for the water!
- Because, in case you didn't know this...
- We don't gather together on Sunday to watch **one person** go into a tent and meet with God.
- You must not come here, **and you must not live your life to observe others who have relationships with God**.
- Do you understand that each and every believer has, **like Moses, access to God?**
- And you don't just have access to Him.
- You don't have to go into some tent because **you are the tent**.
- You are the place where God **descends and meets with you**.
- If you are a child of God.
- If you've given your life to Jesus Christ.
- If you've trusted in his Sacrificial Blood...
- Then the Spirit of God indwells YOU.
- And to YOU, The Apostle Paul in **1 Corinthians 3:16**... writes these amazing words...

16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16)

- What Moses and **other Old Testament saints** could only long for.
- What they only partially (at times) experienced.
- You and I have can have on a moment-by-moment basis.
- What a great privilege we have.
- Allowed to be in the presence of the LORD.
- Allowed to be in relationship with the Holy Creator of the Universe.
- **Do you understand what an amazing gift this is?**
- It seems like we don't...
- Because all too often we abandon **this relationship for other things**.
- We **allow** and even **invite** other things to distract us **from our relationship with the living God**.
- Sometimes those things are **out right sinful...**
- We abandon our relationship with God for the **sinful pleasures of this world**.
- We allow **the world, the flesh and the devil** to **distract, ensnare** and devastate our relationship with God.
- **But that's not all....**
- We also **abandon our relationship** with God for **the not so sinful...**
- We just fill our lives with other **"Good" things...**
- Material Possession, Entertainment, Exercising, Social Media, Gardening, Golfing, Home Improvement Projects, Web Surfing, or Wave Surfing, Shopping, Reading, Video Games...
- **and the list goes ON...**
- There are enumerable things (even gifts from God) we can fill our lives with that **distract us from our relationship with God**.

- You see, we have to **unmitigated Gaul** to take **God's gifts** but abandon his presence.
- He gives us **life** and we **live** for ourselves.
- He gives us **a job, and we don't take him with us to the office**.
- We don't use **the money** we earn for **His purposes**.
- He gives us **a home**, and we don't **honor him in our neighborhood**.
- He gives us **family and friends**, and we don't **involve him in those relationships**.
- We want his gifts, but we don't want his presence (his ways and will) interfering with our lives.
- Now let me ask you two questions that can help us see if we are taking God's gifts but not his presence.
- **These questions relate to God's gifts in the area of your personal relationships.**
- **First,**
- Do your **non-Christian** family friends, neighbors, co-workers the people you spend time with...
- Do these people know you have a relationship with the living God?
- And if they do not, then why not?
- I don't mean to be harsh but if the people you spend time with don't know you have a relationship with the LORD, then you probably don't.
- **Second Question...** when you spend time with other believers...
- Do you bring the LORD into those relationships?
- Do you talk about the things God is doing in your life?
- The ways he is using you to reach out.
- The ways he is helping you overcome sin.
- The ways he is transforming your life by the power of His Spirit.
- Or do you **just** talk about music, technology, sports, entertainment
- Or your latest illness (if you are over 55)
- Or your latest home improvement project (if you're under 55).
- **Do you see what I'm saying?**
- I don't want you to misunderstand.
- I don't want you leaving this place thinking the Pastor said I'm not supposed to work or have a home or a hobby or have relationships with other people.
- **That's not it at all!**
- I'm not saying that these things, **in and of themselves, are wrong**.
- But what I am saying is that when we let these things take away from our relationship with God then **they are just as sinful as...**
- Lying or Hate or Lust or Pride.
- There is nothing more important than maintaining and growing in your relationship with God.
- So, the question is How can we allow anything "sinful or otherwise" to interfere with that relationship.
- So First, **Moses had a relationship with God he could not abandon**.
- And the question for you is do you have a relationship with God that you are unwilling to abandon or even be distracted from by the things of this World?
- Are you desperate to grow in your relationship with God.

- Then Second,

2. Moses Had a Mission He Could Not Complete

- The Bible is clear,
- Those who have a relationship with the LORD will always have a mission from the LORD!
- This was certainly true for Moses.
- He was given the mission of leading his people out of Egypt into the promised Land.
- **And in Exodus 33:12-13 he expresses some concern about accomplishing that mission.**

¹² Moses said to the LORD, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me (because God said he was not Going). Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” (Exodus 33:12-13)

- Moses is saying here,
- “God, there’s problem between the mission you’ve given me and the resources I have to accomplish that mission.
- What you have called me to do **I cannot do**, unless you show me your ways.
- Unless **you lead me, unless you go with me.**
- Do you ever feel that way?
- Everything in the Christian life is like this.
- **It’s designed to be like this.**
- There’s not one thing that God calls us to do that we, **with our own resources**, can do.
- Everything demands **His presence.**
- Jesus makes this **extremely clear** in **John 15...**
- He says...

⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

- This is so contrary to **our way of thinking.**
- We’ve been taught and the American Dream says...
- If you do your best with what you have, if you work hard with,
- **then you can accomplish great things.**
- But that’s not gospel of Jesus Christ.
- The Gospel says, Jesus says... ***Apart from me you can do nothing.***
- This is true in our lives as **individuals** and **as a church.**
- We’ve been given a Mission.
- We even have a Mission statement.

The mission of Bridges Church is to glorify God by renewing lives through the power of the Holy Spirit and equipping people to bring Christ centered change to the world.

- I believe God has given us this mission.
- And even though we are a small church.
- As I look at our people... I see some amazing resources.
- Gifted people who are willing to give of their time and talents and treasures.

- But you know what?
- It doesn't matter **how gifted we are,**
- **How many talents we have.**
- How many people attend our services.
- Or how much money or resources we have.

- The reality is apart from the power of God's Spirit, God's presence among us.
- Bridges church will do absolutely nothing for the Kingdom of God.

- **Do we believe that?**
- Do you believe that we can accomplish more as a church in the next year with the power of the Holy Spirit than we could in **the next 100 years apart from His power?**

- Do we want Christ to be **exalted in our homes?**
- Do we **want children and young people** that are growing in **their relationship with God?**
- Do we want **Marriages that truly reflect Christ's relationship** with the Church?
- Do we want **to see lives renewed?**

- Do we want **our families, and friends and coworkers and neighbors to come to Christ?**
- Do we want to **equip world changers?**
- People who are **seeing God use them to make Christ centered change in their world.**

- Do we want these things?
- If so, then we must ***be desperate for and we must seek God's presence.***
- Because what **God has called every one of us to do** is to be dependent upon His presence in our lives.

- And so, the key to seeing God work through your life.
- The key to seeing God accomplish his mission through you.
- Is not **more resources**, is not **working harder**, is not even **more training.**
- Not that those things are bad or wrong.
- **But they are not the key.**

- The key to being used by God **is having God's presence in your life.**
- If there are things that **you believe God is calling you to do.**
- If there **are people who you believe God wants you to reach out to.**
- Then the first thing you need to do is fall on your knees in worship and prayer before the LORD.
- To then invite Him to come with you, to lead you to guide and direct you in His mission for your life.

- You see it is our desperation for the Lord, for his presence in our lives and for his power to do the ministry he has given us that will lead us to PRAYER!

- Samuel Chadwick said that

One concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayer-less work, prayer-less studies or prayer-less religion. He laughs at our toil, he mocks at our wisdom, but he trembles when we pray. (Samuel Chadwick)

- Jonathan Edwards said,

When God has something very great to accomplish for His church, it is His will that there should precede the extraordinary prayers of His people. (Jonathan Edwards)

- If we are to accomplish the mission God has given us, we cannot neglect prayer.
- We cannot neglect our relationship with God.
- **So second**, Moses had a mission he could not complete.
- And we have a mission we cannot complete without the presence of the LORD.
- **Apart from him we can do nothing....**
- **So like Moses, are you desperate for God's presence and power to accomplish the mission he has given you?**
- **Third:**

3. Moses Had a People He Could Not Forsake

- It's very interesting when you get to **verse 14**, and God says to Moses,

14 ... "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." (Exodus 33:14)

- The "you" there is singular, not a plural "you." Singular.
- "Moses, I will go with you, and I will give you rest."
- **This is Moses' Big chance.**
- Walk out of that tent, walk past all these grumbling, complaining people,
- say, "God's going with me, and you missed out,"
- **But he doesn't do that.**
- Instead, he stays there, and he says in verse 15,

15 ... "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. 16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?" (Exodus 33:15-16)

- Moses stays in the tent, and he says, "No. **We** need your presence."
- Moses understands his connection with His and with God's people.
- He would not Forsake them.
- And we should learn from this.
- As Christians we are together the family of God, the body of Christ.
- **Christianity, if you will, is a Team Sport.**

- Now I don't want to take away from God's grace toward each one of us on a personal level,
- But the reality is God is not just redeeming individuals in history.
- **He is a redeeming a people for Himself,**
- And we are part of a much, **much greater picture.**
- Because this is about us as a community of faith, as a people.
- It's not about **this person over here** or **that person over there** being desperate for God's presence.
- It's about a people, us, saying we want to know the fullness of the presence of God together.
- And this should cause us to intercede for one another.
- Are you praying for your brothers and sisters in Christ?
- Are you praying that they will not abandon their relationship with God?
- Are you praying that they will grow in faith and engage in the Mission God has given us?
- **We are in this together...**
- It's not just me or you or that person or this person, but together.
- We are called to be in relationship with the LORD together.
- We are called to accomplish his mission together.
- **So, third, Moses had a people he could not forsake.**
- And we have a people we cannot forsake, the church, this church. (we are together in this thing)
- Are you desperate for the Lord's presence not only in your life but in the lives of your brothers and sisters in Christ?
- Then, finally

4. Moses Had a Passion He Could Not Satisfy

- Moses had prayed that God's presence would go with His people.
- And in **verse 17** we read...

17 And the LORD said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." (Exodus 33:17)

- **God answer's Moses' prayer,**
- Yes, I will go with you, and I will go with Israel...
- We have a relationship; I know your name, I know who you are.
- Now at this point, I would expect Moses to move on.
- "You've been bold, Moses.
- You've called out to God for His presence among a sinful people.
- **You've received what you have asked for.**
- Now, it's time to walk away and come back to the tent another day.
- No need to press your luck...
- However, Moses stays there, and he prays these words:

18 ..."Please show me your glory." (Exodus 33:18)

- How bold is that?
- If anyone had seen the glory of God, it's Moses, **right?**
- He saw a **burning bush** that talked to him.
- That's sufficient, you would think.
- He was on the **front line** in every single one of the plagues,
- He was there when God split the Red Sea in half.
- He saw God leading the people in **a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night.**
- In **Exodus 19 and 20** when God reveals Himself as a consuming fire on the mountain,
- Everybody has to stay away except for who? Moses.
- Moses gets to commune with God on the mountain.
- Moses has just been on the mountain receiving the **Ten Commandments and the covenant.**
- If anybody has seen the glory of God, Moses has.
- So, why would he say, **"Please show me your glory"?**
- Because Moses had been in the presence of the LORD.
- He had tasted the glory of God.
- And when you've tasted God's glory...
- You acquire an **insatiable appetite for more and more and more and more.**
- **Moses had a passion to see the glory of God...**
- A passion that **could not be satisfied.**
- And God did show him his Glory (at least partially).
- **If you read the rest of Exodus 33** you find that God put Moses in the cleft of a Rock
- **and then he showed him his back.**
- That's all Moses could handle of God's Glory.
- Moses had a passion he could not satisfy...
- He wanted to see more and more of God's Glory.
- And the question for us is
- Do we have a passion that we cannot satisfy...?
- Are we want to see, to experience more and more of God's Glory?
- Really that's just another way of asking "Are You Desperate for the LORD?"
- Wanting to experience more of God's glory...
- And wanting more of the glorious God in our lives is the same thing.
- So, the question is, **are you desperate for the LORD?**
- Do you want more of **the Glorious God in your life?**
- If the answer is no, then honestly, I have nothing more to say to you.
- All I can do is pray that God will change your heart.

- But if the answer is **yes** then let me leave you with this.
- The Apostle John wrote these words **about Jesus**.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

- Jesus became flesh he dwelt among us.
- That word “dwelt” could be translated, He tented among us, he Tabernacled among us.
- In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle and the Temple were the places God’s people went to meet with Him to See His Glory.
- But now we meet with God through Jesus Christ.
- We see God’s Glory through Jesus Christ.
- God reveals Himself to us through His Son Jesus Christ.
- So, If you are desperate for God?
- For more and more of his glory and presence in your life.
- If you have a relationship with Him that you do not want to abandon.
- If you have a mission that you cannot complete without him.
- If you have a people around you that you cannot forsake.
- If you have a passion for his glory that you cannot satisfy?
- Then find your satisfaction, not in the things of this world but in JESUS CHRIST.
- Day by Day, moment by moment come to Jesus.
- Trust in Jesus, Give yourself completely to JESUS!
- Learn all you can about Jesus from the Word of God. **Fellowship with Jesus.**
- Spend time praying to and meditating on Jesus.
- Don’t allow the bad or even the good things of this world to distract you from JESUS.
- **Jesus in Revelation 3:20**, said to the **Church** of Laodicea and to Bridges Church...

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. (Revelation 3:20)

- Jesus offers to have relationship with us.
- What could be more important than opening the door of our lives and inviting him in.
- For with him comes **the presence of God that we are so desperate to receive.**
- So, before Sean Comes to Lead us in the first Communion of the New Year...
- I want us to take a moment and pray together.
- I want to give you a time for silent prayer.
- A time to again or for the first time to invite the presence of Jesus Christ into your life
- Are you desperate for God, for Jesus Christ.
- Then begin this NEW YEAR by invite him into relationship with you.
- Invite him to lead you in mission.
- Invite him to enter into all of our lives as people.
- Invite him to show His glory in and through US.

Let’s Pray Together.