

IN TRANSITION

May 25, 2025

Transition: The Mission Continues

Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-19

Big Idea: We go deeper to go wider

The Challenge: At its core, sin destroys relationships. It does not a respecter of persons. It does not show favor or partiality. It ruthlessly takes hold of us at our weakest moments, when we are most vulnerable. Its roots only deepen with pride. Yet, we are not called to fight the sin; we are called to surrender with humility. This simple yet incredibly difficult act releases the choking nature of sin from our lives. He transforms our hearts, alters our desires, and restores our relationships.

Pastoral Prayer for this Message: “Lord, you have called us on mission: to make disciples by baptizing them and teaching them all that you have commanded. Yet, we are not called to do this out of our own strength, but by a deep abiding in you. Attentive to your voice and obedient to your call.”

Life Group Objectives:

Remember why you exist as a group! Life Groups are to:

1. Reflect on this past week’s message and passage, or dig into the series you are going through as a group. We learn and grow together as a church when we all track together on the sermon series.
2. We desire that the Bible play a key role in your time together. Please have people open their Bibles, seek clarity, ask questions, share insights, and allow the Bible to guide them.
3. Pray together and provide encouragement for other group members. How can you build one another up this week?

Questions for Discussion:

1) Where Are We Going?

As we look at our strategic plan, it should give us hope and clarity as we look to the future of where God is leading us.

- 1) Matt 28:19 has a very specific directive for the Church. Read it together and discuss the verse and its application to the Church today.
- 2) What are some of the real, practical roles that the church plays in society today?
- 3) What role has the church played in the past?
- 4) Wright argues that the Church has inherited one of the prime functions of the temple, which is to keep the community and the world in God, and to keep God in the community and the world.
 - a. What are some of the Biblical texts in the NT that would support this argument?
 - b. What are some of the challenges with this argument?

2) Where Are We At?

The Beyond Capital campaign is birthed from our strategic plan that we believe God is leading us into. God has been faithful to provide so far in this campaign as he is not only renovating the space, but renovating lives.

- 1) How has God proven faithfulness in your life in the past?
- 2) What have you learned about trusting him with your time, talent and treasure?
- 3) God calls us into a life of abundance, yet we often carry a mindset of scarcity. What things are you still holding on to with a mindset of scarcity? What does it look like to live in abundance?

3) What Are We Asking For This Season?

God is looking to renovate the hearts and lives of His people. He desires to see our lives restored in his love, to have flourishing in Him, and to be on mission. This season is one where we are called to go deeper to go wider.

V16- That...may strengthen you

- 1) What does it look like to be strengthened by the Spirit?
 - 2) How much of your relationship with Jesus is defined by effort rather than surrender? What does it look like to surrender daily to Christ?
 - 3) There was discussion on the Inner Being, and the relationship between us and three spheres of relationship.
 - I. God (worship, imitation),
 - II. Others (community, friendship)
 - III. Creation (viceroys with dominion mandate)
- 1) What does it look like when those three spheres are not flourishing?
 - 2) Reading the text, what might Jesus be saying to you about those areas?

V18 – That you... to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ

- 1) What does it mean to *grasp* the love of God as described here in your inner being?
- 2) What does a life filled with Love, Humility, and surrender look like?
- 3) Paul talks about community here. What role does the community play in this verse?

V19 – That you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

- 1) What does it look like to be filled to the measure? How does your life look different?
- 2) When we are filled, we naturally are indifferent to the things not of God. What areas are you holding on to that He is calling you to be indifferent?
- 3) What things are you still holding on to with a mindset of scarcity?

V20 – Beyond all we can imagine...

We have often spoken about this verse, and it has become an anchoring passage for us as a church. How do you see this verse differently after reflecting on V14-19? What has changed in your perspective regarding how the church should relate to this verse? How you relate to this verse?