

INVINCIBLE CHURCH

THE CHURCH: The Body of Christ September 13, 2020 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

1 Corinthians 12:12: Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. NIV

WEEKLY SERMON REFLECTION

- ◆ How did the sermon on the passage list above speak to you personally?
- ◆ Why is this important to you?
- ◆ What part of this truth is the biggest challenge?

CARING FOR THE HEART

- ◆ (1 Cor 12:12) Discuss what it means to be ‘one body with many parts.’ What are the implications of this as a functioning organization? Beyond spiritual gifts, how does God utilize our backgrounds and experiences to achieve His purposes? Share an instance when God used your story (your background, experiences and/or emotional wiring) to minister to another person for His glory.
- ◆ (1 Cor 12:13) Consider the concept of “unity through diversity”. What does this mean to you? What is the one thing that unites all believers? Who made the decision or distributed the gifts that comprise the body (see v.11)? What do we learn about God’s character from this?
- ◆ (1 Cor 12:14-21) The church is the spiritual body of Christ. What happens to the body when we are prideful over our gifts or hold the opposing view that we have ‘nothing to offer’? How does comparison or ‘gift envy’ hinder sharing the Good News and advancing the Kingdom?
- ◆ (1 Cor 12:22-26) What is essential towards one another for the body to function properly and healthfully as a unified whole?
- ◆ (1 Cor 12:27-31) What is your assigned role in the body? What spiritual gifts have you been assigned? Discuss how you are using them or how you desire to use them. What step will you take toward putting your gifts to Kingdom use?





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TIME OF MEDITATION & PRAYER

○ As a group, open your Bibles to Ephesians 4:1-16 and read it aloud twice. Use the TACS Meditation Method (Teaching, Adoration, Confession and Supplication) to prayerfully meditate upon this passage together. Then take turns praying in response to each section:

- Teaching: Thank God for what he is revealing through the text.
- Adoration: Praise God for His attributes revealed in these verses.
- Confession: Confess & seek God's forgiveness.
- Supplication: Pray for one another and our church body in response to these truths.

“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.” (Isaiah 1:18 NIV)



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THE CHURCH: MISSION OF GOD September 20, 2020

Matthew 28:16-20 16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” NIV

WEEKLY SERMON REFLECTION

- ◆ How did the sermon this week from the passages above speak to you personally?
- ◆ Why is that important to you?
- ◆ What part of this truth is the biggest challenge?

HEAD

- ◆ This passage is often referred to as the Great Commission. It is one many of us have heard a sermon on or have read several times on our own. What is one thing that hit you afresh from either the sermon or just reading the text?
- ◆ If a disciple is literally a pupil or learner (from the original Greek *mathētēs*), how does “teaching them to obey” help illuminate what Jesus means by making disciples?
- ◆ The passage tells us that they worshiped him. How are worship and discipleship connected?
- ◆ Why do you think Jesus ended the “great commission” with a statement about his presence?

HEART

- ◆ In verse 17, we see that some worshiped Jesus and some still doubted that he was the son of God. Why do you think they doubted? Are you convinced as to who Jesus is or do you still have some doubts?





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- ◆ People in the military or in police or fire work have a commissioning ceremony that starts their career. If these are the final words of Jesus to both the disciples that saw him walk the earth and to us, to what extent do you take your Christian commissioning seriously?
 - If you look across a given week, how much of it do you spend as a learner of Jesus or helping others be pupils of Jesus?
- ◆ How can our church help you to be a better disciple?

ACTION

- ◆ What is God asking you to do in response to the sermon and our discussion?
- ◆ We are told that Jesus has all authority over everything. What is an area that you need to submit to Jesus' authority and trust him to reign over it versus trying to reign over it yourself?
- ◆ What is one thing you could do this week to be more active in your role as a disciple? How can we as members of Christ's church and body help you with that?



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The Church: Risk Takers
Oct 4, 2020
Matthew 25:14-30

WEEKLY SERMON REFLECTION

- How did the sermon from Matthew 25:14-30 speak to you personally?
- Why is this important to you?
- What part of this truth is the biggest challenge?

CARING FOR THE HEART

- The master gave each of the men different amounts “according to his own ability”. Do you think this affected the behavior of the servant with the least amount of talents? Do you ever compare the amount of what God has entrusted to you with others?
- Jesus commended the first two servants for taking a risk with his money. Investing involves risk. They could have lost it all. He calls the one who did not risk “wicked”. This servant did not spend it on himself or waste it. He did not do anything with it. The difference is the first two did something-- they “risked”; they **took action**. The third servant did not do anything. Share a time when you took action or “risked” OR a time when you failed to act on an opportunity God had given you.
- What character quality separated the first two servants from the third? In other words, why were they able to risk for the master when the third one couldn't? We can see this in how the third servant viewed the master (Vv. 24-25) and in the way the first two expressed a sense of excitement and eager anticipation of the master's response. Which servant do you most identify with?
- Throughout the Bible most believers were called upon to take risks for the Kingdom of God. Here is just a few. What stands out to you in each account?
 - Jonathan & his armor bearer 1 Samuel 14:1-6
 - Esther 4:16
 - The Apostle Paul's entire life 2 Cor 11:24-28





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“The Christian life is a call to risk. You either live with risk or waste your life.” John Piper- *Risk is Right*

Where is God calling you to take a risk?

TIME OF PRAYER

- As a group, read through Psalm 107 and use it to pray, thanking God for His goodness, faithfulness, and his trustworthiness.
- Individually, inquire of God as to what areas of your life He is calling you to increase your faithfulness and take a risk.



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THE LIFE OF REPENTANCE

Luke 3:8-14

September 27, 2020

⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Luke 3:8-10

WEEKLY SERMON REFLECTION

- ◆ How did the sermon from Luke 3:8-14 speak to you personally?
- ◆ Why is this important to you?
- ◆ What part of this truth is the biggest challenge?

CARING FOR THE HEART

- ◆ Luke 3:8-14 has John the Baptist telling people to live lives producing fruit. Why do you think the illustration of fruit is used in this context?
- ◆ The struggle between repentance and sin reveals that a battle is continually going on around our lives. Why do we tend to forget, ignore, or push aside repentance being a part of our daily lives? How does this impact our heart in growing in Christ, our relationship with those around us, our church family?
- ◆ People were coming out to see and hear John the Baptist. Why do you think he was so strong on the subject of repentance? What impact/transformation have you found repentance brings in your life?
- ◆ In Acts 5 (Read Acts 5:1-11), we see that lying and refusing to repent is the source of the church's first sin issue. From Luke and Acts, how is repentance essential for the individual, and how is it important for the church as a faith community?



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- ◆ From this text, what kind of fruit does repentance bring? How can we know if repentance is impacting our life?
- ◆ John seemed to discuss repentance very publicly and that it seemed to have public implications. How should your repentance be "public" in your life group? How can you support one another to be a group where repentance hides and the masks come off?

TIME OF PRAYER

- ◆ Break into gender specific groups to pray. In your groups, either pair up or share some areas where strongholds have grown, and you need to repent. Once you share, have each person pray for one other in the group.
- ◆ Pair up with one other person to pray specifically every day for freedom from their specific stronghold.
- ◆ Get back together and read this prayer from **Psalm 51** that is adapted for your Life Group.

¹ Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions.

² Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin.

³ For we know our transgressions, and our sin is always before us.

⁴ Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge...

¹⁰ Create in us a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us.

¹¹ Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us.

¹² Restore to us the joy of your salvation and grant us a willing spirit, to sustain us.

¹³ Then we will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

Amen

