

Summer Series Overview

SEVEN WEEKS, Tuesday 6:30-8:30

June 19 Introduction

June 26 Being Christian

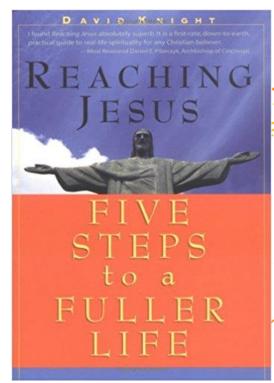
July 3 Being a Disciple

July 10 Being a Prophet

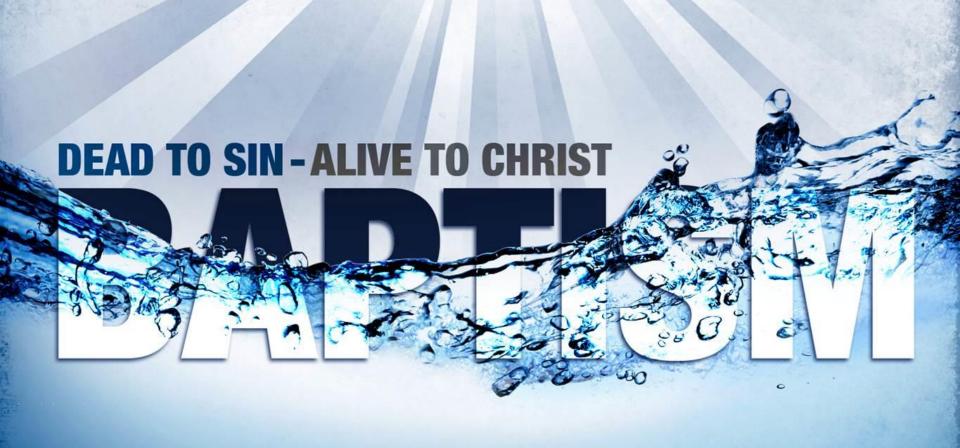
July 17 Being a Priest

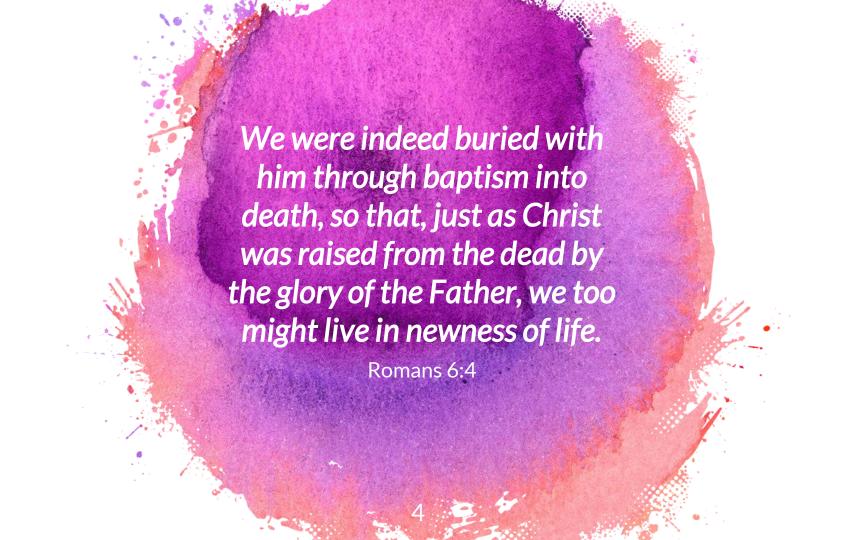
July 24 BEING A STEWARD

July 31 Celebration









First Step: The Choice to Be a Christian

To *die* of all hope for a full and meaningful life based on confidence in ourselves.

And γise to life with Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.



The Second Step to a Fuller Life:

The Choice to Be a Disciple

To die to reliance on the goals and guidance of my culture.

And *Yise* to life in the school of Jesus.



The Third Step to a Fuller Life:

The Choice to Be a Prophet

To die to social conformity and the fear of standing alone.

And *Yise* to a life that bears witness to the values of Jesus.



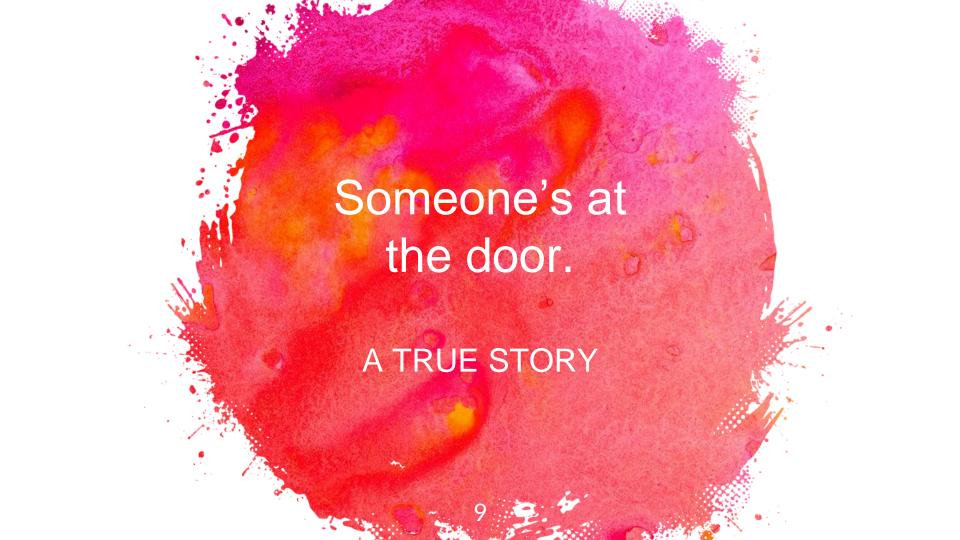
The Fourth Step:

The Choice to Be a Priest

To die to the fear of revealing myself through self-expression.

And *Yise* to a life of selfless ministry to others in love.





Do you read the Bible?



Do you read the Bible?

yes



Do you read the Bible?

yes

Are you familiar with the Bible's promise of hope for the future?



Do you read the bible? yes

Are you familiar with the Bible's promise of hope for the future?

yes





Do you read the bible? yes

Are you familiar with the Bible's promise of hope for the future?

yes

yes

My son will read it for you. (Revelation 21:3-4)

Do you read the bible? yes

Are you familiar with the Bible's promise of hope for the future?

yes

yes

My son will read it for you. (Revelation 21:3-4)

We have a promise for a beautiful future.

Yes, and ...



Yes, and ...

What about the present



Yes, and ...

What about the present

We're already living in the Kingdom.



Jesus's first public words ...

This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent and believe in the gospel.

Mark 1:5







PURITY OF HEART

The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be filled with light; but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness.

Matthew 6:22-23





People of faith do not look at the world seeking evidence that God exists.

People of faith look at the world and see how God is at work in our midst.



Jesus's last public words ...

All power on heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always until the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20

The Fifth Step to a Fuller Life:

The Choice to Be a Steward

Dying to indifference, hopelessness and non-involvement.

And *rising* to responsibility to transform the world for God's kingdom ... now.

"Make disciples of all nations ..."

... does not mean simply teaching the catechism to people all over the world.

It means penetrating every aspect of human life and activity with the principles, values, attitudes and priorities Jesus modeled and taught.

Religion Without Religiosity

Jesus came to unify things, to unify our outlook and our goals, to bring together everything we do under one single, driving purpose in life: to establish the reign of God on earth. *p.82*



The Great Commissioning

When we were made one with Jesus at baptism we became responsible for everything he is responsible for. p.83



The key word:

responsibility

A steward is someone who is responsible. The steward is not just a worker; the steward is in charge. *p. 83*



solidarity

But being responsible for everything does not mean we have to do everything ourselves. p. 84



The opposite of

LOVE

İS ...



apathy



indifference

We cop out psychologically as well as physically. We refuse to think about what is happening or how things ought to be. We withdraw into isolationism. We mind our own business. We look after ourselves. p.85

hopelessness

"There's nothing I can do about it."

"Who am I?" "I don't have any
authority to change things." "Who's
going to listen to me?"

Frustration is hard to deal with, so we anesthetize ourselves. p.85



Repent and ...

believe the Good News.

The root of our problem, if it is not just selfishness, is our failure to believe in the presence and power of Christ. p.89

Die to despair.

Rise to perseverance.

For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible.

Matthew 19:26





Jesus **has** overcome the world.

Christians look at the world to see how Jesus is at work, and we commit ourselves to getting involved to bring about transformation. *p.93*



What do I see ...

that is not submitted to the reign of Christ – in business, politics, social life, the media, my family?

How can I bring authentic religion, not simplistic religiosity?



What will I do?

In what concrete and specific ways can I take responsibility for transforming the world as a steward of the kingship of Christ?

How, when, where will I do this?



Next Session

July 31, 6:30-8:30

A Summary and a Celebration



