

ANNOUNCEMENTS - May 1, 2024

Zion Lutheran Church, 15 S. 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110
www.zionharrisburg.org / office@zionharrisburg.org / 717-234-4064
WOW (Worship On Wednesday) 12:10pm

April 24 – June 12 (Wednesdays) 12:10pm WOW Series: “Organic Discipleship”

Based on the Book:

Organic Disciples: Seven Ways to Grow Spiritually & Naturally Share Jesus
by Kevin G. Harney & Sherry Harney

April 24: Foundations

May 1: Bible Engagement

May 8: Passionate Prayer

May 15: Wholehearted Worship

May 22: Humble Service

May 29: Joyful Generosity

June 5: Consistent Community

June 12: Organic Outreach

Notes on Today’s Service Theme:

“BIBLE ENGAGEMENT: The Power of an Unchanging Message in an Uncertain World”

Key Scripture verses:

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. -Psalm 119:97 NIV

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. – James 1:22 NIV

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. - Matthew 5:17-19 ESV

Excerpts from Organic Disciples:

The Living Word Loved the Written Word

In His Darkest Moment, Scripture Poured from Jesus

... near the end of his life on this earth, *Jesus* gasped these words, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matt. 27:46, Psalm 22:1) ... Psalm 22 is a prophetic messianic psalm inspired by the Holy Spirit almost a thousand years earlier ... As *Jesus* was being crushed, what flowed out of him was blood and Scripture.

Jesus loved the written Word of God (the Old Testament Scriptures). He spoke the very words of God because he was God in flesh. (pp 28-29)

Jesus Fulfilled the Scriptures

Examples: Matt. 2:6, 2:14-15, 4:15-17, 12:17-21 ... (pp 29-20)

Jesus Quoted the Old Testament in Theological Conversations

Example: Matthew 22:34-40 (p 30)

Jesus Knew the Power of Scripture in Spiritual Battles

Example: Jesus in the wilderness being tempted by the devil (Matt. 4 & Luke 4) (p 31)

Jesus Upheld the Authority of the Bible

Our Lord never encouraged us to do away with the teaching of Moses of the prophetic writings. Rather, he came to fulfill what Moses and the prophets had written about and to make their teaching understandable. (p 33)

Jesus Corrected Warped Views of Scripture

Example: Matt. 15:1-9 (p 34)

Jesus Taught the Scriptures every Chance He Had

When you read the fast-paced Gospel of Mark..., you find Jesus teaching in a wide variety of settings: synagogue, homes, as he walked (Mark 1-2) (p 35)

Love, Know, Follow

Three elements to Bible engagement relate directly to our spiritual growth and maturity:

First, we are to *love* God's Word.

Second, to engage with Scripture means that we *know* what it says... Knowing each book of the Bible will form our faith and shape our lives...

Third, ... we will *follow* the teaching of the Bible. Our thinking, motives, dreams, and actions should be formed by this God-given book. (pp 38-39)

Know the big picture... Jesus followers need to know the storyline of Scripture. And when we do, the message of God's presence, power, love, mission, and redemptive plan takes on deeper meaning. (p 40)

From Snacking to Feasting – from once a week to regularly feeding on God's Word (p 41)

Make a plan

Let the message, truth, and meaning come out of the biblical text... *setting aside* our opinions, desires and preconceived notions (p 43)

Memorization, meditation, and internalization (p 45)

The World Needs Good News (pp 49 – 57)

Immersing ourselves in the Scriptures fuses the mission of God to our souls.

The biblical narrative invites us into God's search for the lost.

The Scriptures paint a picture of God's love for every person.

In a self-serving world, biblical Christians behave humbly.

Followers of Jesus will stand out as we forgive others like Jesus forgave us.

We shine Jesus' light when joy flows from our hearts, even in hard times.

We stand out when we exhibit peace in a world of turmoil.

We invite curiosity when heavenly wisdom guides our daily choices.

LOOKING AHEAD:

May 5 (Sunday): 4:00pm Wednesday Club Concert featuring Organ Music at Zion

**May 9 (Thursday): 7:15pm Himmelfahrt/Ascension German Service w/English translation
6:15pm Coffee & Cake**

May 19 (Sunday): 3:00pm Hummelstown Community Singers Spring Concert

At Hummelstown United Church of Christ, 104 E Main St, Hummelstown, PA 17036