

New Life's Three Core Values

1. EXTRAVAGANT GRACE

We celebrate and share life that is saturated by the extravagant grace of Jesus. We fixate on His perfection not our performance. Our entire ministry overflows from this reality.

2. BOLD FAITH

When it's too big for us, it's just right for God. We do not believe the lie that "God will never give us more than we can handle." God will often give us more that we can handle so we are forced to depend on His power and sovereignty. We will not insult a BIG GOD with small thinking or safe living. So we pray big prayers and keep stepping into the greater things God has for us.

3. RIDICULOUS GENEROSITY

We will lead the way in generosity, out of recognition of how ridiculously generous Jesus is to us. We all start as spiritual consumers but soon we can't help but become spiritual contributors. We learn that we will never out give God, as His blessing will always surpass our giving. Our staff and congregation joyfully put God first, and we feel honored to watch Him advance His work through us: locally, regionally and globally. We believe that bringing our tithes and offerings is an act of worship and we do this with great joy.

THIS IS US

Godly Wisdom for Relational Complexities

Letting Go of What's Holding You Back

Pastor Doug Heisel – May 12, 2019

Luke 10:38-42 — As Jesus and His disciples were on their way, He came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to Him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what He said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to Him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Life Group Discussion & Questions

Letting go of three common thoughts that negatively affect us and our relationships:

1. Let go of thinking that your emotional well-being is contingent on someone else _____.

Luke 10:40 — “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

Psalm 19:14 — May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

2. Let go of thinking it all needs to be _____.

Luke 10:41 — “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things,

3. Let go of _____ yourself with others.

Luke 10:42 — But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made ...

Luke 10:42b — “Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

BREAKING THE ICE: Certainly, many people struggle with a clinical version of ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder). But all of us, in different ways, get distracted by lesser important things. What are some things that easily distract you?

DIGGING IN: Read the story of Martha and Mary, in Luke 10:38-42.

1. Jesus describes Martha as being “worried and upset about many things.” Over the past week or two, share a few things that made you get worried or upset.
2. In this story, Jesus is not bothered by Martha’s serving. He’s challenging her about how she thinks about herself and others. Martha is holding onto thoughts that create worry and frustration — not only in her own life, but also in her relationships with others. In this message Pastor Doug shared three common thoughts that many people hold onto. Review those points, in these notes, and share the one that stands out to you most, and why.
3. Does something from this story challenge you to confront a common way of thinking, that is not producing more peace in you and/or your relationships? What is the thought, and what is the “better thing” to replace it with?

BRINGING IT HOME: It’s easy to think that what matters most is being busy FOR Jesus. But all too often, what is needed the most, is to slow down and be WITH Jesus. When we do, it not only helps us have more peace, it also helps how we see others, talk about others, and relate to others. Find some time, outside church and this group, to be in the Word of God, and in prayer. Listen to what Jesus wants to say to help you let go of what is holding you back.