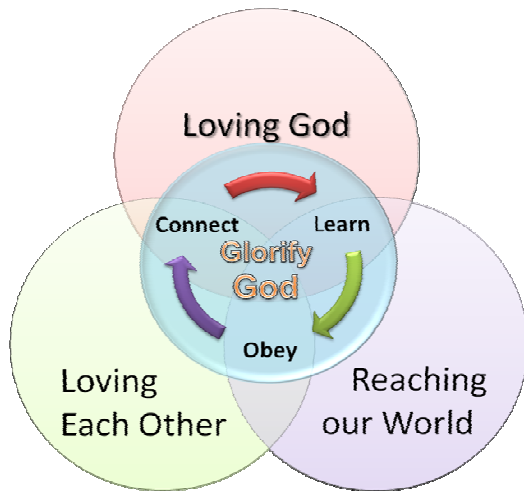


## Sticking with the Mission: “Life Changing Reminders”

### Ephesians 4:7-16

We've begun this year by working through our mission statement. A mission statement gives direction and focuses our future. It provides guidelines for decision making and inspires unity. Our mission statement states that we as a church exist to glorify God by making disciples. That's pretty amazing. We described a disciple in three ways: Loving God; Loving each other; and Reaching the world. All three summarize what we find in Scripture (Great Commandment—Matthew 22:34-39; Great Commission—Matthew 29:18-20). This morning let's focus on the “Life Changing Reminders” that will enable us to “love each other” even more effectively.



**1. Christ has given me \_\_\_\_\_ in His mission.**  
(Ephesians 4:7-10; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

**2. Christ has entered me into His \_\_\_\_\_ in His church.**  
(Ephesians 4:11-12)

**3. Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ me in His church \_\_\_\_\_ in growth.**  
(Ephesians 4:13-16)

<b>Day by Day in the Word</b>
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“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help us in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus and ultimately to bring glory to God. The biblical principle is: “The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.”

### **Monday-Tuesday**

- Prepare your heart by reading Psalm 4. Use this as a prayer guide and focus on what God does for His people.
- Read Ephesians 4:1-16 and focus on v. 12. What are the ministers of the Word to do? For “equip/prepare,” see Matthew 4:21; Hebrews 11:3; 13:21; Galatians 6:1; 1 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Peter 5:10. Christians are equipped for “a work of ministry” or “service,” what does this actually look like?
- Every Christian has been given a “grace-gift” and has a “work of ministry.” Take time today to consider what areas in our church you are passionate about and what areas of need you see that you could meet.

### **Wednesday-Thursday**

- Prepare your heart by reading Psalm 5. Use this as a prayer guide and focus on God’s accessibility and protection. Note what God hates.
- Read Ephesians 4:1-16 and focus on verse 13. Identify the goals in this verse toward which the church is heading. What do you think “unity of the faith” is? (Hint: see vv. 4-5) What do you think “unity in the knowledge of the Son” is? What do you think “maturity” is?
- Our lives are to be measured only by Christ’s character and life. Identify one character trait in verse 2 and seek to develop this through prayer, thought, behavior, and accountability with another individual.

### **Friday-Saturday**

- Prepare your heart by reading Psalm 6. Use this as a prayer guide and focus on David’s prayer for deliverance in order to praise God. Note his confidence in God’s deliverance.
- Read Ephesians 4:1-16 and focus on verses 14-16. What does maturity not look like? What does it look like? What impact would this have on your life?
- We are to live “in love” and speak the truth “in love.” Identify and seek to love two individuals in our church.