

Bay City Wesleyan Church
August 27, 2017

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Sunday Morning 08-27-2017

Our Challenge for 2017 is to regularly ask Jesus, "Am I following you?"
When was the last time you asked?

<http://bible.com/events/270565>

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[Image]

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http://d1o2alqw72z1h8.cloudfront.net/5722009-1483223017441_152x152.jpg

CLUBHOUSE - Wednesday Children's Program

This Wednesday at 7 PM the CLUBHOUSE program will kick off. Great games and snacks for the children.

Prayer Pal posters are on a table in the entry way so you can sign up to support the leaders and kids.

AWAKEN Youth Ministry

AWAKEN will launch on Sunday, September 10th, at 6 PM.

Romans 3:21-31 NLT

But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus. Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law. After all, is God the God of the Jews only? Isn't he also the God of the Gentiles? Of course he is. There is only one God, and he makes people right with himself only by faith, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law? Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.

<http://bible.com/116/rom.3.21-31.NLT>

One of father's best friends, a fellow pastor and church leader, once confessed, "I was trained for ministry in the era of Ozzie and Harriot" and "Leave It to Beaver." I'd be very comfortable in

that period, but God placed me at the beginning of the 21st-century. So, I acknowledge my discomfort, then I build a bridge and get over it.â€”

Citation: personal memory of a sermon preached by Dr. Earle Wilson

I know youâ€™ve noticed it too. Our world has changed and it keeps changing.

The good news â€” our 21st-century world is more like the world of Jesus and his first followers than it has been.

The bad news â€” our world is more like the world of Jesus and his first followers than it has been.

2 Corinthians 11:23-27 NIV

Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

<http://bible.com/111/2co.11.23-27.NIV>

All the changes in our world yields this question:
How can I think like a 21st-century Jesus-follower?

Philippians 3:7-16 NIV

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christâ€”the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christâ€”yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

<http://bible.com/111/php.3.7-16.NIV>

Sermon in a Sentence:

You have one focus " to experience Jesus in a way that helps others experience him too.

A Charge to Keep I Have

1. A charge to keep I have,
a God to glorify,
a never-dying soul to save,
and fit it for the sky.

2. To serve the present age,
my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage
to do my Master's will!

Citation: Charles Wesley, "A Charge to Keep I Have," Praise and Worship Hymnal Number 54

We can glorify and honor God by serving "the present age."

We have one focus " to experience Jesus in a way that helps others experience him too.