

Bay City Wesleyan Church  
May 14, 2017

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Sunday Morning 05-14-2017 (Happy Mothers Day)  
Our Challenge for 2017 is to regularly ask Jesus, "Am I following you?"  
When was the last time you asked?  
<http://bible.com/events/215959>  
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[Image]  
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[http://d1o2alqw72z1h8.cloudfront.net/5722009-1483223017441\\_152x152.jpg](http://d1o2alqw72z1h8.cloudfront.net/5722009-1483223017441_152x152.jpg)

Our theme for 2017 is Jesus' invitation, "Follow me."

These two simple words will transform every person that accepts the challenge. I pray that in the next few months all of us in this church, as well as those who join us, will see Jesus more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly.

Series Introduction:

All kinds of people, even the most extreme introverts, want relationships that refresh and renew their souls. Everyone avoids the people who drain the life out of them. Right?

Unfortunately, we live in a broken world. We are broken people and broken people end up breaking other people.

Jesus came into our broken world to restore and renovate it. He focuses his restoration process on broken people like us. He makes us new. Then Jesus invites us to join him in making other people new.

What role did you play in your family as you grew up?  
What role do you play in your family now?

Every family's roles are as unique as the individual members. But no matter what roles we play the best we can hope for is to maintain the brokenness of our families.

We are designed to enjoy life-giving peace but in this broken world we settle for stability, steadiness, and stale unresolved problems.

Colossians 3:12-21 NIV

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word

or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

<http://bible.com/111/col.3.12-21.NIV>

Colossians 3:11 NIV

Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

<http://bible.com/111/col.3.11.NIV>

Galatians 3:26-28 NIV

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

<http://bible.com/111/gal.3.26-28.NIV>

Ephesians 5:18-21 NET

And do not get drunk with wine, which is debauchery, but be filled by the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for each other in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<http://bible.com/107/eph.5.18-21.NET>

Sermon in a Sentence:

The Holy Spirit creates and maintains life-giving peace in our families.

A NEW POINT OF VIEW:

You've struggled to maintain your family by playing whatever role would keep things from falling apart. But in the long run, all you can do is keep your broken family broken. Only Jesus can make you whole and through you, he can make your family whole too.

FIRST STEPS:

- Let go of the drive to keep your family under control.
- Receive God's deep love for you.
- Thank him for something every day.
- Recurring Prayer: Holy Spirit, fill me now. Rule my life and my family with your peace. Amen.