

Bay City Wesleyan Church
April 2, 2017

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Sunday Morning 04-02-2017

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

<http://bible.com/events/196879>

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[Image]

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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.

[Image]

http://d1o2alqw72z1h8.cloudfront.net/5722009-1489878083166_152x152.jpg

How can a person who is not a gifted evangelist help those far from God to come home in Jesus?

We all must actively love as Jesus loves, but when it comes to speaking, most of us answer questions while a few of us proclaim.

We need to live in a way that makes people curious. That takes more than being nice like most people.

We need to bless people by listening to them, sharing encouraging words, doing acts of kindness, or giving thoughtful gifts.

Jesus found ways to build bridges at tables.
So, we need to eat with people, too.

Whenever someone asks about why you do what you do,
the answer is always Jesus.

This little light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine,
trusting the Spirit to guide this life of mine.

Overview of the 5 Habits of Great Bridge Builders

1. Bless 3 people each week

2. Eat with 3 people each week
3. Learn more about Jesus
4. Listen to the Holy Spirit
5. See yourself as sent to share your story

John 20:11-22 NLT

Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her. "Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him." She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him." "Mary!" Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher"). "Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message. That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<http://bible.com/116/jhn.20.11-22.NLT>

SERMON IN A SENTENCE:

There's a story you must tell for God's glory. (It's your story of how Jesus made you part of His story.)