

"Our Sweet Spot"

October 7, 2018



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 12:12-26; Matthew 22:37-40;
Luke 14:12-14; Deuteronomy 6:10-12,
Matthew 4:18-25

DAY 1

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

A sweet spot is defined as the spot where something is at its best. Ask a golfer, and they will tell you the sweet spot of the club is where you want to hit the ball for its best result. The same is true in the life of the church. The "Church" has a sweet spot and every person in the church has one too.

- **As you read the above scripture, notice what Paul says about the "sweet spots" we have.**

Spiritual gifts are gifts that allow us to know our wiring for ministry. Not everyone is good at the same things, but when people with differing gifts come together, something amazing happens: the work of God.

- **Do you know your spiritual gifts? If so, how are you using those gifts to help the church's work happen?**
- **If you don't know your gifts and would like to, [contact the church office](#) about taking a spiritual gifts assessment.**

DAY 2

Read [Matthew 22:37-40](#)

Love is the greatest commandment. Jesus specifically says that love is our way to honor God as well as to connect with our neighbor.

- **Looking at Jesus' words, how are you loving God in the ways he calls you to?**

Why is it important for us to "love our neighbor?" First we must define who our neighbor is. Pastor Bob has been helping us understand in the "All In" series that our neighbors are the people living around us.

- **How are you getting to know your neighbor?**
- **How are you demonstrating the love of God to those you meet?**

DAY 3

Read [Luke 14:12-14](#)

This parable has an important message. It reminds us we can quickly forget the importance of hospitality. Here, Jesus calls out to us to reach beyond our own social circles, our current friendships and comfort levels and extend an invitation to those we might consider to be "strangers." What do you glean from this?

- **How can we avoid the times when we become complacent? Have you ever overlooked something that used to be important to you?**
- **How can we challenge ourselves to look beyond our routine and "into the community," seeking those we might not see?**

Jesus mentions inviting people with illness and those less desirable to our dinner.

- **What steps can you take to overlook prejudices and biases and see people as children of God and therefore include them?**

DAY 4

Read [Deuteronomy 6:10-12](#)

Moses wanted the people to know that what they were about to receive as they entered the new land was built by those who had inhabited it before them. Because of those who came before, the vineyards were mature and producing a harvest. But if the people became complacent with what they had, they would not keep working to ensure an abundant future by planting new crops and building new structures.

- **What does this say to the "Church"?**
- **What are some signs of the church people becoming complacent?**

God is a creator. In the Genesis story we learn making new things was what brought God joy.

- **How can we who are the church aspire to this same level of joy?**
- **What will it take to move us into the realm of being more creative?**
- **How do we create a space for more people coming to know Jesus?**

DAY 5

Read [Matthew 4:18-25](#)

- **Why did Jesus "call" others to become his disciples?**

- **What did Jesus say/do to make the ones who heard his message want to follow him?**
- **In what ways are we modeling this as a church? How can we be more intentional in helping others come to know the joy that is in Jesus so that it becomes a contagious disease that will spread?**

If you take note you will see Jesus' ministry was not done within a building; he went into the community and connected with people.

- **How can we do the same?**
- **What kinds of ministry can we discover outside our walls?**

Give some thought to and pray on what you will do today to be "All In," reaching out to the community and demonstrating the love of God for all to see and feel.

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St. Paul United Methodist Church
1199 Highland Ave. | Largo, FL 33770
727-584-8165 | church@stpaulumc.org

www.stpaulumc.org



St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1199 Highland Avenue, Largo, FL 33770

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