

**DATE:** Saturday - Sunday, April 25-26, 2020

**SERIES: LIVING IN THE PARENTHESIS:** *Steps to a Joyful and Meaningful Life*

**SERMON:** Getting Started with God

***Luke 9:51-62 NIV***

[51] As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

[52] And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him;

[53] but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem.

[54] When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?"

[55] But Jesus turned and rebuked them.

[56] Then he and his disciples went to another village.

[57] As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

[58] Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

[59] He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

[60] Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

[61] Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family."

[62] Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

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## ***We must set our face with Christ.***

### **1. Our call is a call to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a personal relationship with God that consists of \_\_\_\_\_ way, \_\_\_\_\_ sides, and \_\_\_\_\_ stages.

- God is \_\_\_\_\_.

**2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

- But, there is an “\_\_\_\_\_”.

**2 Peter 3:10** *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.*

### **2. Our call is to be \_\_\_\_\_.**

- This is not a time to be \_\_\_\_\_.

### **3. Our call is to \_\_\_\_\_ to a different kingdom.**

# Lagniappe

In times like these, focusing is a difficult task. It's also difficult to think of anything other than wearing a mask, staying at home, and doing only what is required for the day. While this may be normal for the world, it is not worthy of the family of God.

You and I have been called to pray for revival and salvation for the people of the world. We have been called to be faithful in ministry and service, to think differently, and to look not just for today but to the future.

Let me give you three things to focus on in the larger world.

**First, the month of April is normally the month we would be telling you about a special offering for missions in North America.** Some of you know it as the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. It supports disaster relief, evangelism, and church planting in North America. This offering particularly focuses on taking the gospel to the cities, the place in North America that is most deficient with the gospel.

If you receive monthly offering envelopes, you have a yellow envelope for this offering. If you would like to receive offering envelopes, please let us know by calling the church office or by contacting us online at FBCCOV.org. You can also give through your normal giving channels, simply mark it AAEO.

**Second, please continue to pray for your "one."** Pray that God would give you opportunities to share your faith. Because of what has happened to us, now is the time to be bold and courageous people. People have always needed the Lord. They now need Him more than ever.

**Third, pray that God would give the pastoral team wisdom in guidance as we navigate through this never-seen-before time in the American church.** We need to make good, Godly, wise decisions. Please pray that God would lead and that we would be open to His leadership.

May God bless you as you focus not just on today but in the days to come.

## WAYLON