

# Journey Enews

## WEEKLY E-NEWS

July 21st, 2018

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

Men's Group will continue on August 21st at Starbucks in Georgetown at 7pm to discuss Ch. 16 of:

Everyone Needs a Miracle,

HE STILL MOVES STONES...

By: Max Lucado

"One of a Kind" Women's Bible study will start Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 PM @ Journey, facilitated by Brenda Richardson. Text/call Connie Duncan for more details:

859-588-0780

Join us for Worship and for the next Series:

August 25th & August 26th

#3 MORE

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## Who Knew

Who knew convenience was going to count so much in a person's life today? I am across the street from Kroger picking up laundry. There is a line of cars waiting to pull into the designated "carry out" parking area. Kroger employees are pushing flat carts full of grocery sacks to the people in their cars. It's a new option for grocery shoppers. Order from home and then drive through at the store for pick-up. I have to say, it does look like it would save a lot of time and hassle.

I think the trend is here to stay. Consumers are interested in time-saving options. We can now do our banking online, 24/7, without ever visiting an actual brick-and-mortar building. We take out home loans online, deposit checks into our checking accounts with the camera on our smart phones. We do business daily with people scattered all over the place without ever talking to a real person, sending and receiving emails and text messages. Who knew this would become the norm for so many things today?

Whether banking or buying groceries, convenience rules. We live in a fast-paced world where options are often the most important thing to people. This is never more true than with the modern church. More God-seeking people are looking for options in their worship and gathering experiences.

These trends make me think that the most effective evangelistic churches of history have always adapted to cultural changes around them. I think the early church provided options where possible. (Read Acts 16 when Paul urged religious insiders not to make it harder for religious outsiders than Jesus Himself had). I'm not suggesting we all start watering down the Gospel just to appeal to an always-changing audience. But I do think that giving people options in how they gather and worship is a wise and Biblical strategy for the modern church family.

I can only speak from my own experiences, but it seems that churches today have, at times, been trapped by doing things "the way it's always been"; fearing what things might become. Fear and protectionism is really no way to live your life or to be an effective church. Jesus calls His disciples to do risky things and take chances on strangers; even when others would walk to the other side of the road. He calls us to fish in deeper waters where fewer fishermen are willing to go.

Jesus said, "Follow Me," by doing hard things. Love people others might choose to ignore. Serve the underserved, undeserving crowd. Leave the 99 and look for the one at greatest risk of perishing; like the lost sheep in Luke 15. That's where Jesus' Church is called to go each day.

If only people knew how much God loves them. Start a trend that really matters. Share Jesus' message of hope and grace with the guy or girl across the room from you right now. They may not know. Jesus is for everybody. Even a person like them.

Moving forward  
God is Good

*Bobby D.*

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