



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Discovery 101** – We are excited to hold our next Discovery 101 class on Sunday, February 25 from 3-7 pm. If you are interested in learning more about Southwinds and want to become a member of our church, please sign up on the App or email Rene Snyder at: [rsnyder@southwinds.org](mailto:rsnyder@southwinds.org) with questions. Childcare and a light meal provided.
- **Easter Candy Only Needed** – We need bags of individually-wrapped candy for our Kids Ministry Egg Hunt on Easter morning. No EGGS Needed this year! You can buy candy on Amazon and have it shipped straight to the church -- or bring it by the Kids Min, Worship Center Lobby or the Office. Thank you all for always providing what is needed each year!
- **Local Missions Opportunity (March 9-16)** – Southwinds will be hosting a Missions Team from Texas. Anyone interested in providing meals, gardening, construction experience to build garden boxes, painting, food preparation or just serving along-side the Missions Team, please contact Chris Martinez at [cmartinez@southwinds.org](mailto:cmartinez@southwinds.org) or (760) 685-5152.
- **Childcare Providers Needed** – Our Wednesday CARE and Friday night Celebrate Recovery is in need of adult childcare providers. These are paid positions (Adults \$25/hour; Teenagers \$15/hour; Youth \$10/hour). For more information and requirements contact Talanna Williams at: [twilliams@southwinds.org](mailto:twilliams@southwinds.org) or (209) 765-1122.

## MY STORY

Share a time when you heard God's call on your life and decided to start following him.

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

**Have a Volunteer Read: Romans 9:24-29; Acts 2:5-11; Hosea 1:10, 2:23**

**Point #1: God's salvation is AS WIDE AS THE WHOLE WORLD.**

"God calls his people out of rebellion, out of spiritual death and darkness and blindness. And God's call... Is it impotent or weak? Does God wonder if someone will pick up when he calls? No. God's call is effectual, which means it creates faith in those whom are called. The call of God doesn't rob people of

their ability to choose him. What's happening is that he is rescuing people who will never choose him on their own." – Michael Nolen

### **Why is rebellion from God hard to turn from?**

"Jesus came for 'not my people,' and for 'not loved'... for guilty, shame-filled, desperate and depressed outcasts, aliens and strangers. That's why during Jesus' earthly ministry, all the outsiders, all the people who knew they'd blown it, were attracted to Jesus, and why all the self-righteous hypocrites who thought they could earn their way to God, were repelled by him and ultimately killed him. Jesus came for 'not my people', and for the 'not loved'... for the immoral and addicted... and for the adulterers, the abusers and the angry... for the depressed and the divorced and those who think they're just too dirty... for the liars and the lust-filled, for the sufferers and single mothers... for the white collar and blue collar... for the poor and the rich... to all who will hear." – **Michael Nolen**

"Jesus says... I have a new name for you. That's why I came... a new name. How about loved? How about child of God? How about adopted and chosen and precious (1 Peter 2)? Repent and believe and take your name! There's no better news in the universe than this news. What that means is anybody can get in on this... anybody anywhere... no matter who you are, what you've done, or what's been done to you... no matter how far away you feel... or how deep you feel you've fallen." - **Michael Nolen**

### **How can God bring Hope that when we bring our "ONE" to church they will be loved and accepted?**

#### **Have Another Volunteer Read: Romans 9:30-33**

#### **Point #2: Pride keeps us from EXPERIENCING GOD'S SALVATION.**

"Paul drives this home using an OT reference from Isaiah (8, 28) and says they stumbled over the stumbling stone. Peter tells us in 1 Peter that the stumbling stone is Jesus Christ. So the idea is that the Jews, rather than putting 5 their trust in Christ, missed their Messiah and put their hope in their own righteousness. They used the law to make themselves feel better, to think that they were indeed righteous, when in fact, they weren't. So the ironic twist here is that the most righteous people on earth were, in fact, not righteous, although they thought they were...when the most unrighteous people in the world became righteous... because they didn't pursue righteousness ...like the righteous people were pursuing it."- **Michael Nolen**

Living a moral life isn't enough. Going to church isn't enough. Voting for the right party isn't enough. Being a good person isn't enough. Maybe some of you who are teenagers think you're good with God because of your parents. That isn't enough. Have you surrendered your life to Christ? All of that is just works-based righteousness and it isn't good for anything except to send self-deceived people to an eternity without Christ." - **Michael Nolen**

### **How can pride keep us from experiencing God's salvation?**

#### **Have Another Volunteer Read: Romans 10:1-4; Romans 9:11, 15-16**

#### **We never find God's salvation by SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS OR SINCERITY.**

'So what do we do? We try to cope. We think... Maybe I need a new job, or a new city, or a new car, or a new boyfriend, new spouse, more education. I need to lose weight, or travel more, or find a new social justice cause, or I just need to kick that one habit... that's what's holding me back. Then I'll be okay. But then the guilt remains, that deep sense of uneasiness in our soul remains. And so we stay

busy to avoid it. Or we numb it with shopping or alcohol or sex or overwork or entertainment, but it's still there. We can't shake it. It always comes back and we wonder deep down, Am I okay? Am I doing enough? Am I doing this right? What am I missing? Can I even know? Where does that come from? Friends, those are existential aches in every human soul, aches of our need to be saved. That word saved implies that we are in danger. And we are. We don't merely need spiritual encouragement, spiritual hacks or tips. We need to be saved.” – **Michael Nolen**

### **What coping mechanism have we used to fill our lives with what only Jesus could?**

“Now this again challenges a reigning cultural belief as long as you're sincere, you'll be okay. It's not true. Truth is not measured by our sincerity or zeal or authenticity, but by what is true. You can be a zealous professing Christian, a zealous Muslim, a zealous Hindu, a zealous Buddhist, a zealous Mormon, a zealous atheist. The question is not ultimately about our zeal, but whether our zeal is according to knowledge. – **Michael Nolen**

“Now zeal itself isn't wrong or bad. Zeal without knowledge is the problem. Romans 12:11, when we get there, says, 'Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.' So zeal according to knowledge is good and godly, to be desired. We should pray for it we should pursue it. But zeal without knowledge is suicidal.” – **Michael Nolen**

### **Why is it important that our zeal for the Lord must be balanced with our knowledge of Him first?**

#### **APPLICATION**

**Reflect on one area in your life that you can spend time surrendering to God so He can fully reign in you.**

#### **PRAISES**

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**