



it is finished

This Journal belongs to:

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"IT IS FINISHED..."

The Gospel of John records these as the final words of Jesus (John 19:30). The million-dollar question is – what is finished?

Something ultimate has been accomplished in the death of Jesus. The longer we stand beneath the cross, the more we realize how desperately we need what happened there.

The crucifixion of Jesus holds a grand mystery that we cannot fully comprehend.

As we journey in this Lenten season to better understand the gravity of the crucifixion, I pray we will come to a deep awareness and conviction that what was done was done for us. I pray that as that reality becomes more real, we will live in the freedom and joy such conviction brings.

The invitation in this season is simple: come and study the events of the cross together: join us regularly for worship, take notes, study the word of God, pay attention to what you are learning, fast and pray, engage in the practice of a gratitude list, all done in the context of community.

Because of Him,

-Pastor Brian

As we journey together, you may find new insights or learnings. If you do, please share them with us by emailing rachel@limacrossroads.org and we would love to celebrate how the Lord is molding us!

HOW TO USE THE JOURNAL:

This journal has been prepared for your personal reflection, note taking, devotional conversations and as a tool for deeper study.

We give them to you as tools to be used as you will. Please feel no obligation to fill out everything in the journal. Put away the temptation to be an over-achiever and task master. The point here is to dive deeper in the Scripture and allow it to shape us not to earn brownie points for getting through it fastest :)

We are more fully formed into the image of Christ as we take on his action and reflect deeply on His story. We hope you find this resource helpful and encouraging.

LENT: A SEASON OF PREPARATION:

Lent is the six weeks leading to Easter. It consists of 40 days (not counting Sundays) and is traditionally connected to the 40 days of preparation we see throughout Scripture (in particular the 40 days of fasting/preparation of Jesus in the desert after his baptism).

40 is a significant number in Scripture. Whenever we read about it, we see the LORD preparing his people for what will come next.

For example, the flood rains fell for 40 days (Genesis 7:17), the Israelite people wandered the desert for 40 years (Joshua 5:6), Goliath taunted the Israelites for 40 days (1 Samuel 17) and in the Newer Testament, we are told that there were 40 days between the crucifixion and ascension. Each of these mark a time of transition and preparation.

Therefore, Lent is a season of preparation. But what are we preparing for? Simply, we are preparing to celebrate and honor the resurrection of Jesus.

It is a season to remember our need for a savior, to confess our sin and to discern how Jesus may want to sharpen us for the journey of faith.

To that end, we discipline ourselves to want and will only what Christ does. In this, we echo the Apostle Paul who writes, “I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.” (Philippians 3:10).

INTRODUCTION TO FASTING:

The season of Lent is often accompanied by a time of prayer and fasting. As we enter this season, I want to share a brief word about fasting. What it is and how it might be beneficial in our life with God.

FASTING/LENT (AN INTRODUCTION):

Scot McKnight defines fasting as: the natural, inevitable response of a person to a grievous sacred moment in life.

It is a whole-body activity in the same way Christians raise hands in worship or kneel on kneeling rails during confession. It is a way to bring our bodies in alignment with what is happening around us.

Because of the sacredness of some moment or task, an embodied person chooses to avoid physical indulgence for a period of time in order to focus attention on God.

SEVERITY OF THE CRUCIFIXION:

As we consider the crucifixion of Jesus, we understand it as a grievous sacred moment. When we allow the weight of the event (and the severity of our sin and brokenness in the world that led to the need for the crucifixion) settle on us, we are invited to bring our bodies into response.

Fasting is a choice not to eat for a designated period because some moments are so sacred and serious that eating would lessen the seriousness. When Israel sinned and called for a fast connected to repentance, they felt it necessary that the body be afflicted to express their repentance.

The biblical sense of fasting normally consists of not eating anything from sunup to sundown. Rarely does a fast in the Bible extend beyond twelve hours, though sometimes it does.

Many understand fasting to incorporate abstaining from any activity (watching TV, social media, etc.). You may choose the practice of asstaining. This is a wonderful and fruitful practice. In asstaining from something for a period of time, it is not necessarily because they are sad in and of themevles. It is a way to bring these desires into their proper place and subordination in the kingdom of God.

We are invited this Lenten season to bring our body and soul into harmony as we turn from sin and learn to face God. These self-affliction (if done properly) can open us up to the larger themes of sin, the need for repentance and the coming glorious celebration of forgiveness we discover at Easter.

KINDS OF FASTING:

WATER FAST: In this kind of fast, a person consumes only water for a specific period of time. Because of the demands on the body, some suggest instead a 'juice fast' whereby a person consumes only juices (which have more nutrients than water).

PARTIAL FOOD FAST: This is to abstain from delicacies or a particular food (chocolate, meat, pasta, caffeine) for a specific period of time as a form of disciplining the body.

Caution: If you have never attempted a water/juice fast, it would be wise to only fast for one day/week. Trying to do too much at one time could be a shock to your system. In all things, the point is to align with God. Start small and pay attention to how your body reminds you of the severity of the cross experience and the love of God expressed in it.

As you engage in this Lenten journey and are reminded of our need for forgiveness, may the love of Jesus sustain you in new ways propelling you towards a life of obedience and trust.

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER:

Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips
tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a
consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we
cannot change;
open us to a future
in which we can be changed.

Grant us grace to grow more and
more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of
the world.

Discover Course

*Fundamentals of Christian Faith:
Nature of God, the Bible, and Prayer*

Sundays @ 10:45am

This is a great opportunity to explore foundation claims of Christianity and address your inquisitive questions. To sign up in the future, please email rachel@limacrossroads.org.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & DESSERT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

February 25th @ 5pm

All proceeds will go to Crossroads Students to help fund their summer trip and other activities. If you want to make a dessert for the auction please email rachel@limacrossroads.org.

Pre-sales are until February 18th

Pre-sale: \$7/person, \$35/family of 5 or more

At the Door: \$10/person, \$50/family of 5 or more

February 18, 2024

JUSTIFICATION

ROMANS 3:21-26

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

"No pagan god is like you, O Lord. None can do what you do! All the nations you made will come and bow before you, Lord; they will praise your holy name. For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God. Teach me your ways, O Lord, that I may live according to your truth! Grant me purity of heart, so that I may honor you. With all my heart I will praise you, O Lord my God. I will give glory to your name forever"

Psalm 86:8-12 (NLT)

COMMUNITY PRAYER: *Seek God's Blessing in our Community. Join us in prayer for local churches and ministries.*



Elm Street Church of The Nazarene
- Jonathan Burkey

CASA
- Abigail Hefflinger



John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT

Carrying the cross by himself, he went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, Golgotha). There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. And Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek, so that many people could read it.

Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." And he said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home.

Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, "I am thirsty." A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.

When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

SERMON NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

One thing I want to take away from this morning's service:

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read Romans 3:21-26

- Redemption and atonement are gateway words into vast mysteries. Write out a response to the reality that at the heart of the universe is a God who, in Christ, has forgiven all our sins, set us right with him and gathered us into his righteousness.
- What is the significance that ‘all have sinned and fall short’?
- Why do you think God previously passed over sins previously committed? Does this mean God is indifferent to past sins? How do you know?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

In addition to inviting us to ***fast*** during the season of Lent and be accompanied by the sorrow/grief over our sin, we invite you into the practice of ***gratitude list***.

Spend time reflecting on the ways in which God has been good to you. Begin making a list of reasons you have to worship and give glory to God for who He is and what He has done in your life. Continue to reflect each week on the blessings of God. Add to the list as you see fit.

GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:



February 27th, Every Tuesday @ 6:30 - 8pm

GriefShare will help navigate the emotions associated with grief and loss. Gather with others as we seek comfort, prayer and support. It will cover topics such as: difficult emotions, loneliness, guilt, questions for God and more! Cost is \$20/ participant.



**Starting Saturdays, March 2nd
from 9am to 12:30pm
for Kids in Kindergarten to 5th grade**

If you want more information or have any questions please email Jake at jake@limacrossroads.org.

February 25, 2024

RANSOM

MARK 10:45

Call to Worship: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

"I will sing of the Lord's unfailing love forever! Young and old will hear of your faithfulness. Your unfailing love will last forever. Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens. The Lord said, "I have made a covenant with David, my chosen servant. I have sworn this oath to him: 'I will establish your descendants as kings forever; they will sit on your throne from now until eternity.'" Interlude All heaven will praise your great wonders, Lord; myriads of angels will praise you for your faithfulness. For who in all of heaven can compare with the Lord? What mightiest angel is anything like the Lord? The highest angelic powers stand in awe of God. He is far more awesome than all who surround his throne. O Lord God of Heaven's Armies! Where is there anyone as mighty as you, O Lord? You are entirely faithful."

Psalm 89:1-8 (NLT)

Community Prayer: *Seek God's Blessing in our Community.*

Join us in prayer for local churches and ministries.



Lima Community
- Chip Bullock

Lima Rescue Mission
- Chuck Ferguson



John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT

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The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek, so that many people could read it.

Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." And he said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home.

Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, "I am thirsty." A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.

When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

SERMON NOTES

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Introduce yourself to someone you do not know
and write their name here:

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read Mark 10:45 and 1 Timothy 2:5-6

- The Greek word for ‘ransom’ simply means to ‘loosen’ – especially used to loosen people from captivity of some sort.
- 1 Timothy says that Jesus alone is the mediator. What does a mediator do for two estranged parties? How does Jesus do that for us?
- 1 Timothy says that Jesus has come to set ‘all people’ free. Why do some people stay in bondage to sin and death?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

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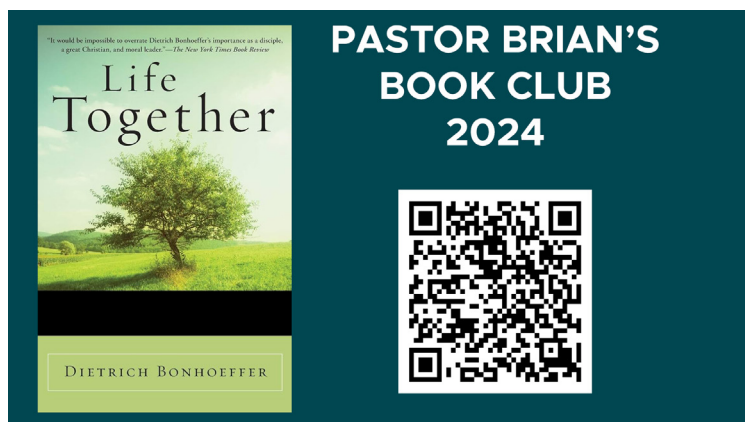
GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:

[illegible]



Wednesday, March 6th @ 6:30pm

Come join us in a time of worship, practice, teaching, and reflection. We will center our attention on the Lord's Prayer and ask for the Holy Spirit to lead us to a life of abiding peace and hopefulness. Childcare is provided.



Starting March 7th
Meeting every other Thursday online
with one or two in-person.
One chapter every two weeks!

Want to dive into a vibrant discussion with Pastor Brian about life with God? We will be discussing Dietrich Bonhoeffer's, *Life Together*. If interested, scan the QR Code to sign up!

March 3, 2024

NOTHING SEPARATED

MATTHEW 27:45-54

Call to Worship: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

“Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.”

Psalm 96:1-3 NIV

Community Prayer: *Seek God's Blessing in our Community. Join us in prayer for local churches and ministries.*



Lima Baptist Temple
 - Ben Anderson

Cornerstone Of Hope
 - Kari Taylor



John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT

Carrying the cross by himself, he went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, Golgotha). There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. And Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

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When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

SERMON NOTES

Take a deep breath before the sermon begins and silently pray: ‘speak Lord, your servant is listening.’

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

This image shows a full page of blank white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read Matthew 27:45-54

- Reflect on your experience with God. How have you been aware of the presence of God in your life?
- What significance is there that the saints who had fallen asleep were now raised? (look at Romans 8:38-39).
- Reflect on the centurion's words. The life of Jesus must be viewed through eyes of faith. Even the resurrection could not force someone to believe. What was it that first impacted your belief in the Divinity of Jesus?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

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GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:

[illegible]



Tuesday, March 12th @ 6:30pm
Singing on Sunday, March 17th

We invite anyone 6th grade and up to join our voices in the Crossroads Choir and help draw others' minds to the glory of God in Christ. We will be singing during both services.



March 17th after services

If you are new or have been attending Crossroads for a while and want to connect with Pastor Brian, learn more about the church's values, and ways to get connected at Crossroads!

March 10, 2024

VICTORY OVER POWERS

COLOSSIANS 2:13-15

Call to Worship: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if only you would hear his voice



Union Chapel Missionary Church
 - Allen Sudmann

Kyle Driggers (Bridges International)



IMAGINATIVE READING:**John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT**

Carrying the cross by himself, he went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, Golgotha). There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. And Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

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SERMON NOTES

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One thing I want to take away from this morning's service:

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read Colossians 2:13-15

- Paul says that the crucifixion was the victory. Compare this text with Revelation 5:9-14. What is the event that won the victory?
- Though the victory has been won, conflict continues. How does this victory enable hope and joy on this side of eternity?
- How does knowing the victory of Jesus empower us to live holy lives?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

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GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:

[illegible]



Monday Nights

@ 7pm in the Gym

Co-Ed

Anyone in High School and up



Tuesday Nights

@ 6pm is Training

@ 7pm in the Gym

Anyone in High School and up

March 17, 2024

GLORIFICATION OF GOD

JOHN 12:20-25

Call to Worship: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

“Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious. Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.” Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind! He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot— come, let us rejoice in him. He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations— let not the rebellious rise up against him. Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard”

Psalm 66:1-8 NIV

Community Prayer: *Seek God’s Blessing in our Community. Join us in prayer for local churches and ministries.*



Trinity United Methodist
- Jim Nathan

Our Daily Bread
- Randy Kimpel



John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT

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SERMON NOTES

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Find someone you can ask to pray with and spend 2 minutes offering a prayer for them.

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read John 12:20-25

- The death of Jesus magnifies the character of God. How does this enlarge our gratitude for all Christ has done for us?
- Jesus says, 'the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified'. If you trace the word hour through John, you will see that it refers to Jesus' death. What does it tell us about the knowledge of Jesus regarding his death?
- How does the crucifixion of Jesus demonstrate the character and nature of the Living God?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

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GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:

[illegible]



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA *March 24th after 2nd Service*

There will be glow in the dark theme with lunch, activities, crafts, games, prizes in the gym, along with an Egg Hunt (weather permitting).



HOLY WEEK *March 28th, 29th, 31st*

Maundy Thursday: @ 6:30pm

Good Friday: @ 11am to 6pm with a 30-45 minutes of a self-guided reflection on the 'stations of the cross'.

Easter: He is Risen! Come celebrate Easter with us!

March 24, 2024

FINAL CONTRADICTION

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18 - 2:5

Call to Worship: *Centering our attention on the presence of God in our gathering and honoring Him above all...*

"Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his dwelling place. Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness."

1 Chronicles 16:23-29 NIV

Community Prayer: *Seek God's Blessing in our Community. Join us in prayer for local churches and ministries.*



Philippian Missionary Baptist Church
- Lamont Monford

Big Brothers Big Sisters
- John Neville



John 19:17-20, 25-30 NLT

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SERMON NOTES

[illegible]

One thing I found challenging about today's sermon:

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

- Why does the message of the cross seem foolish to some while powerful to others?
- The goal of all spiritual wisdom is the awareness that God alone saves. What are other places where people seek to gain strength or salvation? Why are these inferior to the saving grace of Jesus?
- Respond to this (agree or disagree): No effort to live the spiritual life that does not have the cross at its center can lead to anything other than illusion.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES:

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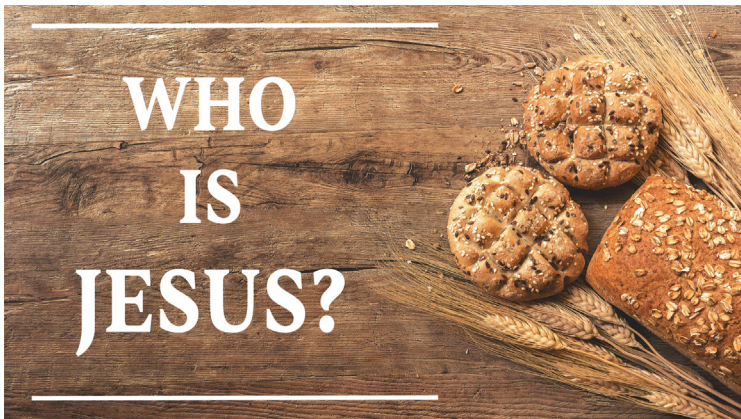
GRATITUDE LIST THIS WEEK:[illegible]

Ways to Connect



- **Life Groups**
Small groups for the purpose of doing life together
 - **Sunday Courses/Studies**
Email rachel@limacrossroads.org
 - **Young Adults**
Contact Samantha Robertson at 916 - 756 - 5086
 - **Meet with Pastor Brian**
Email rachel@limacrossroads.org
-

WHO IS JESUS?



Sundays @ 9am and 10:45am

For some, Jesus is just another man who lived a long time ago and died at an early age. But there is more, He is much more. Come and explore the character of Jesus as we seek to know and follow the way of Jesus into an eternal kind of life.

“Inviting People to **Apprenticeship** to Jesus:
learning to live by **faith**,
transmit **hope**,
and be known by **love**.”

Sundays at 9 & 10:45 am
Online at 10:45am

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