



WHO IS JESUS?

This Journal belongs to:

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INTRODUCTION TO "WHO IS JESUS?..."

"We must imitate Christ's life and his ways if we are to be truly enlightened and set free from the darkness of our own hearts. Let it be the most important thing we do, then, to reflect on the life of Jesus Christ" Thomas a Kempis.

Jesus once asked his disciples what people were saying about him. "Who do others say I am?" he asked. The disciples had various responses until Peter stepped up and said, "you are the Christ" (Matthew 16:13-16). We believe Jesus has the words of eternal life. As people who are committed to being his apprentices in life, it is important to wrestle with the character and nature of Jesus. Join us over these next weeks as we explore the nature of Jesus and invite all of us to a deep life of faith - trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life.

The Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God - that when we look at Jesus, we are looking into the very character of God (Colossians 1:15-20). One of the practices we engage in is to gaze our attention on Jesus - to allow his wisdom and nature to direct our lives. What we find when we gaze on Jesus is that He is the source of all life - that in him we move and have our being (Acts 17:28).

So, journey with us as we explore in deep ways the person of Jesus Christ. We invite you to write, take notes, meditate on Colossians 1:15-20, use questions to prompt discussion, spend unhurried time with Jesus and further engage with our gatherings.

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.



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: MEDITATING ON COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

Christian contemplation is the steady gaze of our soul on the God who loves us. It is focused thought on the nature and character of God and allowing that to give shape to our life and action. To one degree or another, to be a Christian is to be a contemplative. The practice of meditating on Scripture is one way our thoughts can be centered on Christ above all else.

We are bombarded with messages and ideas all the time. If we are going to live according to the way of the Kingdom and find a purposeful life, we will need to take our thoughts captive. During this series, we invite you to slowly meditate on Colossians 1:15-20 each week.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE CONTINUED...

Instructions are simple: (a) find a quiet place. (b) read over the passage slowly. (c) pay attention to ideas/concepts that capture your attention. (d) ask God, 'what do you want me to know?'. (e) sit quietly and listen with your heart open. Perhaps the Lord will draw your mind to something throughout the day. (f) thank the Lord for your time (could be 5 minutes or 25 minutes - the goal is to learn to be with God in Scripture).

Avoid trying to make more of your time than necessary. The goal is not always to 'get something' from your meditation. Meditation is about spending unhurried time with the Lord.

Let us know how this practice is helpful by emailing catie@limacrossroads.org.



You do not have to go on your journey alone. Pastor Brian would like to meet with you about your spiritual journey. Email rachel@limacrossroads.org to set up a time to meet with him.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

COVENANT PARTNERSHIP



While Crossroads does not have traditional “membership”, We call each other to a deep life with Christ and the church through Covenant Partnership. If you would like to set up a time to talk about next steps in your experience of life in the church, email rachel@limacrossroads.org to set up a time to meet with Pastor Brian.



CROSSROADS CHOIR REHEARSAL

Tuesday, April 16th @ 6:30pm
Singing on Sunday, April 21st

We invite anyone 6th grade and up to join the Crossroads Choir. We will be singing during both services.



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 27th @ 9am - 11am

Help us serve our community in two different ways:

- Purchasing groceries - The groceries list and the bags will be available for you to pick up out in the lobby. Questions? Email rachel@limacrossroads.org
- Help make and serve a hot breakfast at *Our Daily Bread Soup and Kitchen* at 8:30am. Questions? Email jason@limacrossroads.org

APRIL 7, 2024

JESUS: LAMB OF GOD JOHN 1:19-34



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

“Listen, you heavens, and I will speak; hear, you earth, the words of my mouth. Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants. I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.”

Deuteronomy 32:1-4 NIV

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



St. Charles Catholic Church
- Fr. Kent Kaufman
Pastor

The Learning Tree
- Andrea Stout
Director





GAME NIGHT

Come for a night
of fun & games!

A great way to build intergenerational relationships.

Sunday, April 21st @ 5pm, in the Gym & Chapel

Corn hole and pickleball tournaments along with other games. Sandwiches will be provided, please bring a side dish to share.



STUDENTS

You're invited to join
Spring Retreat

Friday - Sunday,
April 26 - 28th



Pick up a form in the office for more details

During the Spring Retreat students will learn the importance of a name, while identifying and paying attention to not just what name is being called out, but who is calling it. Understanding who or what is calling our name determines if we should listen to what they are trying to say to us.

Students, 6th - 12th grade, are invited to join us as we consider the voices that are calling us by name.

April 14, 2024

JESUS: ONE WHO BAPTIZES WITH SPIRIT JOHN 1:19-34



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

“Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,’ who was, and is, and is to come.”

Revelation 4:2-8 NIV

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



Zion Lutheran
- Dan Gutman
Pastor

Heartbeat of Lima
- Patti Kennedy
Director



KINGDOM PRAYER

Father,

Help me to be all you want me to be. No matter how odd I appear to this world. You know me like no one else.

You knitted me together in my mother’s womb. You want to walk with me, to talk with me, as you did with Adam and Eve. I want this very much.

Apart from living my life with you, connected to you like branches in a vine, I can do nothing. But with you all things are possible. Please, as your servant Paul wrote, “let your mind me in me.”

Amen

SERMON NOTES

Lined area for sermon notes, consisting of multiple horizontal lines.

Introduce yourself to someone new today. Write their name here and pray for them this week:

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Jesus: One who baptizes with Spirit (John 1:19-34)

- What was the importance of water baptism? (see Matthew 3:4-6)
- In the Old Testament, the Spirit came upon people to enable them to accomplish God-given tasks. But Isaiah predicted that the Messiah would be always full of the Spirit. Why is this significant in Jesus’ life/ministry?
- How might your life be different if you were immersed in, empowered by and under the direction of the Spirit of God?



**SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES
(MEDITATION ON COLOSSIANS 1:15-20 NIV):**

See page 5 & 6 for instructions
on how to do the Spiritual Practice

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

Colossians 1: 15-20 NIV

You can write your reflections down below:



Sunday, April 28th, after 2nd Service

Our next Parent/Child Dedication is on May 12th, as a church we would love to partner with your family in raising our kids in the ways of Jesus. If you would like to learn more email jake@limacrossroads.org.



Wednesday, May 1st, @ 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.

April 21, 2024

JESUS: SON OF MAN

MATTHEW 16:13-28, DANIEL 7:13-14



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

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding”

Ephesians 1:3-8 NIV

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



Great Lakes Church
- Cody Rhynard
Lead Pastor

Heart to Honduras
- Randy Bargerstock
President





May 5th, during both services

We recognize the work of our teachers! Thank you for all you do to help our kids and students grow healthy!



Sunday, May 5th

Email catie@limacrossroads.org by May 5th with your name, what high school you are graduating from, and a photo. We want to take a moment to recognize all of our graduates who are graduating High School and moving into their next steps of life on Sunday, May 19th.

April 28, 2024

JESUS: BREAD OF LIFE

JOHN 6:35-51



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

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Psalm 46:1-7 NIV

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



Gardendale Church of God
- Justin Musto
Pastor

Church of God Ministries
- Dr. Esther Cottrell
State Pastor and Director of Ministries
- Rev. Demetrius Booker
State Associate Pastor for Church Health





Tuesday, May 14th @ 6:30pm

We invite anyone in 6th grade and up to join and sing during both services on Sunday, May 19th.

Email jason@limacrossroads.org or please mark your connection card in the chair in front of you.



Sunday, May 19th, @ 6:30pm

If you consider yourself a Crossroadian, we would love to see you at *Vision Night* to reflect on God's goodness for this past year, and share our dreams for the next!

May 5, 2024

JESUS: LIGHT OF THE WORLD JOHN 8:12-20



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

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works— and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

Psalm 145:1-7 NIV

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



In Faith Ministries
- Michael & Kim Lyons
Pastors

International Justice
Mission





Next Sunday, May 19th, 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!



Sunday, May 26th, @ 10:45am (One Service)

We celebrate those who have sacrificed for our freedom. As a **ONE SERVICE SUNDAY**, spend a little extra time saying 'hello' to those you do not always have the chance to see.

May 12, 2024

JESUS: STRONGER MAN

MARK 3:20-30



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

“For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Ephesians 3:14-21 NIV

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



Cable Road Alliance
(Pastoral Search)

Heartbeat of Lima
- Patti Kennedy
Director



What is something that you need Jesus' strength for?

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Jesus: Stronger Man (Mark 3:20-30)

- Jesus is clear that there is an evil presence in the world. For some, this causes fear and anxiety. How would you define your feeling towards the presence of evil in the world?
- Jesus identifies himself as stronger than the powers of evil. How does his strength inspire us to confidence?
- Consider an area in your life that needs the power/strength of Christ. Write out a prayer that invites Christ to have his way in the situation.



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES
(MEDITATION ON COLOSSIANS 1:15-20 NIV):

**See page 5 & 6 for instructions
 on how to do the Spiritual Practice**

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

Colossians 1: 15-20 NIV

You can write your reflections down below:



Monday Nights

@ 7pm in the Gym

Co-Ed with anyone in High School and up
Follow "Crossroads Volleyball" on Facebook for updates!



Tuesday Nights

@ 7pm in the Gym

Co-Ed with anyone in High School and up

May 19, 2024

I AM

JOHN 8:21-30, 48-59



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

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so. We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat. The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood."

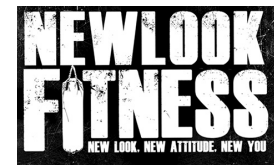
Hebrews 13:8-16 NIV

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



New Life Christian Fellowship
- Damian and Brooke Tibbs
Senior Pastors

Soldiers Of Honor
- Aaron and Veronica McLaurine



How do you see Jesus as the I AM in your own life?

FURTHER STUDY QUESTIONS:

Jesus: I am... (John 8:21-30, 48-59)

- In using the I AM statement, Jesus was equating himself with the Divine. Why was it hard for some to accept Jesus as divine?
- If Jesus is the I AM, he is the presence of the Living God. Do you expect Jesus to be present in your life? Start a list of ways you know Jesus is present with you.
- Jesus is the source of all things. He invites us to receive what we need from him. Sometimes we have difficulty asking because we think it is selfish. Jesus, however, is inviting us to an interactive life with him - and coming to the source for life is part of that. Write a prayer asking for what you need today.



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE NOTES (MEDITATION ON COLOSSIANS 1:15-20 NIV):

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Colossians 1: 15-20 NIV

You can write your reflections down below:



That You May Live Series
Sundays @ 9am and 10:45am

June 2nd - August 18th, Journals included!



Honduras Mission Trip
July 27th to August 3rd

Join us as we are praying for the Honduras Team as they prepare for their upcoming trip to Honduras.

May 26, 2024

JESUS: A TRUE HUMAN

HEBREWS 1-2



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

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

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



Elm St. Church of the Nazarene
 - Jonathan Burley

CASA
 - Abigail Hefflinger





Need a New Rhythm?

A good place to start is to set up a meeting with Pastor Brian! Pastor Brian would love to help evaluate where you are and get a new rhythm in your Spiritual life. Email rachel@limacrossroads.org to schedule a meeting with Pastor Brian.



- **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



BAPTISM & BBQ (One Service)
Sunday, August 25th @ 10:45am

Baptism is an outward expression of your inward decision to follow Jesus. If you would like to learn more about baptism or are considering being baptized, please let us know in the connection card in the chair in front of you or email catie@limacrossroads.org.



HONDURAS SHARING (ONE SERVICE)
Sunday, September 1st

The 2024 Team will be sharing their experiences on the trip! If you would like a copy of the booklet it will be available for you that day.



Sunday, Spetember 15th, after 2nd Service

We are celebrating Fall with activities for everyone including games and a delious lunch.



Sunday, September 29th

While Crossroads does not have traditional “membership”, We call each other to a deep life with Christ and the church through Covenant Partnership. If you would like to set up a time to talk about next steps in your experience of life in the church, email brian@limacrossroads.org.

“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

Follow Us:



CROSSROADS
CHURCH OF GOD

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