

# LIVING AN OPEN-HANDED LIFE

Mark 8:34-38 // October 18, 2020

## DENYING OURSELVES

When we become a follower of Christ, we have a new life! We are a new creation! Our lives are gone and are now hidden in Christ. And we are called to die to ourselves. We are called to die to the ways of the world.

We are called to die to our pursuits, pleasures, priorities. Our possessions are his. If we are pursuing a life of ease, comfort, and acceptance by the world, we will then have a difficult time seeking after our savior.

Galatians 2:20 // Ephesians 5:1-2 // Psalm 143:10

## JESUS OR THE WORLD

**The world preaches a different message than the Gospel.**

We want to take as much as we can get. We want to express our worldly rights. We grumble, we hoard, we fight. We seek to fulfill this earthly life and not our eternal one. We are putting all our hope in the kingdom that we are trying to build on this earth.

Matthew 6:19-21 // 1 John 2:15-17 // Philippians 3:7-9 // Psalm 119:36-37

**“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.” – Jim Elliot**

## ETERNAL CITIZENSHIP

You have been rescued from eternal separation from God. He took you out of that pit of muck and placed your feet upon the rock of salvation. You have been set free from the bondage of sin! You have been washed clean, forgiven, and adopted, and it has all been done by the blood of Jesus Christ!

When we know these things, we can let go of the desires of the world! Our citizenship is not here on earth anymore!

1 Peter 2:9-10 // 1 Peter 1:3-5 // Philippians 3:20

**“Let goods and kindred go,  
This mortal life also;  
The body they may kill:  
God’s truth abideth still,  
His Kingdom is forever.”  
-Martin Luther**

## NOTES:

### This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

**1 Peter 4:13**

But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens’ ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at [amber@lifemission.tv](mailto:amber@lifemission.tv)**

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at [tyler@lifemission.tv](mailto:tyler@lifemission.tv)**.



## Contact Us

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **Mark 8:34-38**. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

Do you find yourself seeking the pleasures of this world? What are some of your common hang-ups? Read **Hebrews 12:1-2**. With Christ as the ultimate example of living an open-handed life for the Gospel, what do you need to lay aside in order to run with endurance the race set before you?

### Your Life Mission

What relationships or conversations are upcoming that you could use prayer for?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself**
  - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess**
  - Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision**
  - Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving**
  - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



# LIFE MISSION

C H U R C H

**MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,  
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.**



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### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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