

# BEING SHAPED THROUGH TRIALS

Acts 9.31 // November 20, 2022

## GOD’S MEGAPHONE

Remarkably, despite hardship and persecution, this early church has peace and is being built up as they walk in the fear of the Lord with the comfort of the Holy Spirit. God ignites faith and confidence even amidst their trials.

**God whispers to us in our pleasures,  
Speaks to us in our conscience,  
But He shouts to us in our pains.  
It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world**

-C.S. Lewis

## ADDITION BY SUBTRACTION

Revelation 21.4, 5 // Romans 5.8

The beautiful statue of David, created by Michelangelo, had an improbable start. The massive marble block used for the statue was initially rejected by previous artists as being too flawed. Yet Michelangelo saw beyond the flaws and created the most famous sculpture in history.

**The sculpture is already complete within the marble block,  
before I start my work. It is already there,  
I just have to chisel away the unneeded material.**

-Michelangelo

As God’s “workmanship,” we, in our raw state, are flawed and imperfect. Yet God, the Master Artist, not only sees beyond our weaknesses and sin and begins His great work on us, He also promises to finish the work that He has begun.

Ephesians 2.10 // Philippians 1.6

## CONFIDENCE IN THE GOD OF PEACE

**You may be bound in your circumstances,  
God is not bound by your circumstances.**

Philippians 4.4-9 // Isaiah 48.10, 11 // Isaiah 40.28-31

Despite their circumstances, the early church had confidence; not confidence in themselves (and certainly not on their circumstances!), but confidence in the God of peace. They had comfort knowing that God is skillful and purposeful in using our hardships as chisels to set us up for change and ultimate victory as we are shaped into what He has created us for.

**Human setbacks are gloriously transformed  
into divine setups.**

-Sam Storms

## NOTES:

### “Giving Tuesday” Opportunities

- Pathway Health Clinic: [www.pathway-healthclinic.com/](http://www.pathway-healthclinic.com/), Tax ID #33-0809605
- Breath of Heaven: <https://www.bofheaven.org/>

### This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

#### 2 Corinthians 5:4

For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

## 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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## CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart  
phone camera at  
the QR Code to  
access a virtual  
Connection Card

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church  
420 Twin Oaks Valley Rd., #908  
San Marcos, CA 92079

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

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

Read **Acts 9.15-30**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday?

### Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

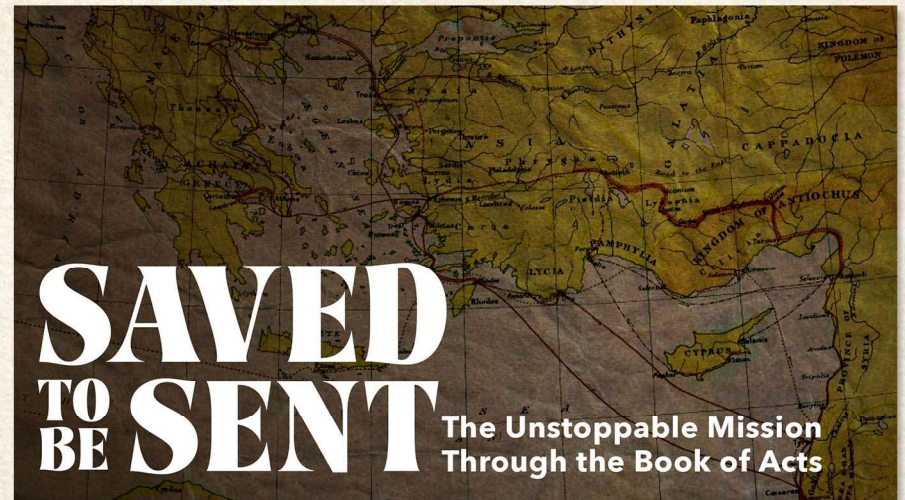
What trades have you made in your life that God brought about great blessing and treasure? What was hardest about that trade? What areas of life do you currently see where you need to trust the Lord for increase in your faith to make other trades?

### Your Life Mission

One of the trades we should make is increasing our time with others. Like Saul, we might find ourselves with opposition, but we can trust in the Lord's provision in the face of those trials. What relationships are currently in your life that you could use prayer for to pursue that purpose that God has given you?

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** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
  - 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** (Matthew 6.12)
  - Real repentance begins where blame-shifting stops. Your circumstances don't need to change, your heart needs to change. 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** (Matthew 6.11-13)
  - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
  - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



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### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

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

## GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

**LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM**



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