

BEHOLD, THE AWE AND WONDER OF THE SPIRIT

John 1.1-18

WHO DEFINES SPIRITUALITY?

John 1.1-18

The bible tells us that when God came to the earth, we did not receive Him. Even though His purpose in coming was to bring us true peace, joy, and life, we didn't like, nor did we want, and ignored it. We "suppressed" the truth.

Ways We Suppress the Truth

- We are self-sufficient and "self-made" (or so we think)
- We create our own standard of righteousness and morality
- We have a self-imposed and self-defined spirituality.

OUR NEED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

John 6.58-69

Jesus tells His listeners that He came to give life, that He Himself is how life is received. But they reject Him. He then tells them a hard truth: you can't have spiritual life on your own. It's not up to you. Why? Because we don't even have the authority to walk into a grocery store that's closed for the night, let alone into eternal life. We are not the ones who define the way it works.

Your own righteousness would have no influence to uphold or keep you from hell any more than a spider web could stop a falling rock.  
-Jonathan Edwards

WHAT THE SPIRIT DOES

This is a tough pill to swallow, as many of us are "pretty good" people by our own standards. But in ourselves, we are still not "good enough" for God's standard. Yet God creates a solution, and we see even that He IS the solution!

John 3.3-8, 16-19 // 1 Peter 1.23 // John 16.13

The Spirit of God is given to us to help us see the very truths we ignore and suppress. He opens our eyes to see both our need for forgiveness and a righteousness that does not come from our own failed efforts, as well as see the beautiful gift of Jesus, who came and then gives us His own righteousness so that we can truly know God and have a true, life giving spirituality.



NOTES:

Upcoming Sermons:

Next week we will celebrate Christmas Eve on Saturday at 4.00pm. We will be looking at the awe and wonder of the great plan of the Trinity to declare war on sin and death. God Himself will send Himself in the Person of God the Son, dying in our place, conquering sin and death, and then sending forth His Spirit to save us and seal us for an eternal future.

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Luke 2:10-11

<sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering during service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information. Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. Serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! **Fill out a connection card** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets during service, give online at **lifemissionchurch.com/give** or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Visit our website to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum. For questions about KOM email **Katie McGinty** at **katie@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **9th - 12th graders** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. Our **High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM at Casey & Amy Barnes Home in San Marcos**. For directions and/or questions about our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at **casey@lifemission.tv**.



## VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

## MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

## STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

## CONTACT US:

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Twitter: @YourLifeMission  
YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

**This week and next our Community Groups will be on break.  
But still take time to memorize the Memory Verse for this week!**

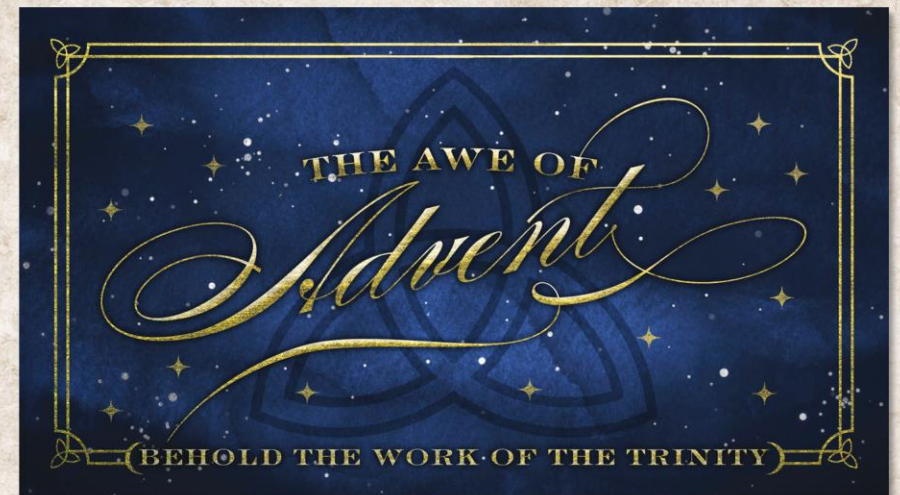
### Sermon Notes Extras:

#### **The Reliability of the Bible:**

1. **Manuscript Evidence.** There are **24,000 Copies**, all written between 100 and 300 years after the original. Compare the writings of Caesar: 10 copies, 1000 year gap, and Plato: 7 copies, 1200 year gap.
2. **Early Church Fathers** who either knew the Apostles personally or heard them speak, quoted them 19,000 times in their own writings. Even without early manuscripts, we have enough quotes from first hand witnesses that we could nearly construct the entire NT.
3. **The oldest OT manuscript** we had was from 700 AD. When we found the Dead Sea Scrolls, they were 1000 years OLDER! You'd expect many "man made changes." But they were word for word in more than 95%, and the other 5% were insignificant slips of the pen and misspellings.
4. **Archaeological Evidence.** Archaeological discoveries have verified and confirmed the accuracy of the historical and cultural references in the Bible time and time again.
5. **Eyewitness Accounts.** The Bible was written by people who witnessed the events it describes; many were persecuted or martyred but never changed their story. Would you die for something you knew was untrue?
6. **Corroborating Accounts.** There are plenty of references in non-biblical sources to the events described in the Bible. The Jewish secular historian Josephus, born in 37 AD.
7. **Literary Consistency.** The Bible contains 66 books written over 1,500 years by 40 different writers, 3 continents, 3 languages, but it tells one "big story" of God's plan of salvation that culminated in Jesus Christ.
8. **Prophetic Consistency.** There are over 300 specific prophecies in the Old Testament that are fulfilled in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the New Testament.



**Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,  
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.**



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**John 1:1-18 // December 18, 2016**

**SUNDAYS AT 10AM**

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