TRUTH AS NAILS
Ecclesiastes 12:9-12 // September 1, 2019

TRUE VS. TRUTH
Something can be true, yet eventually change. But truth remains as truth, regardless. Some things can describe you, but should not define you. These truths are fixed like nails as they have been promised by the One Shepherd.

Psalm 119.89

SAME BUT DIFFERENT
The Word of God is not just a tool He gives us or uses in our lives. It is not just a manual or instruction book or self-help resource. It is so much more than that. What comes out of our mouths flows from our hearts, and the same goes for God. His Word comes straight from Him. It is not Him, but it is also not simply something He possesses. It proceeds from Him, from His very nature and being. So, it is distinct from Him, yet intrinsically intertwined with Him.

We can’t even read each other’s minds, much less what is in the mind of God. God has clothed His thoughts in words, and there is no way to know Him except by knowing the Scriptures.
- John Stott

Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.
- St. Jerome

Hebrews 1.3 // Psalm 138.2

DON’T KICK AGAINST THE GOADS
A goad is a rod with a sharp end or point that a farmer or rancher would use to keep animals on track. An ox or mule may start to get lazy or stray, maybe even into danger, and so he would strike the goad in a way to get its attention and get it back to its duty. Similar would be the spurs on a cowboy’s shoes. Goads and spurs are used to guide, direct, and keep animals from being stubborn, wild, or lazy.

NOTES:

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 children’s 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

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

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

Ephesians 1:7
In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace
COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the Memory Verse?

Read Ecclesiastes 12.9-12. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

How does the very fact that God has revealed Himself by having His Word become Flesh encourage you in the Gospel and bring about worship in your heart? What Gospel truth can you remind yourself of when you are dealing with a temptation, sin, discouragement, or confusion in life?

Repent and Ask for Provision

The Preacher warns against other “books” that will come about that are contrary to these words of wisdom that come from the Shepherd. What philosophies, books, thought patterns, or habits do you follow after or are tempted by throughout your week? The American Dream? The desire for popularity or acceptance? Memories of your past failures or current struggles?

Your Life Mission

What conversations or friendships will you be entering into in the next week or so that you could use prayer for? What challenges do they have? Do they have radically different view points, or are they following after other philosophies or moral code that gets difficult to maneuver through in conversation?

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. Make sure to end your time of prayer Yielding with Thanksgiving for God’s sovereignty and plan for your life.