

Sermon Notes

Grounded, Growing, and Going

Ephesians

Westwood's purpose not only declares what we desire to do, but also what must happen in the individual lives of our members in order for it to come to fruition. It outlines how the Spirit transforms each follower of Christ from the head to the heart to the feet in order to produce authentic new life that lives out God's agenda in our world. This purpose is an outline of what inward transformation flowing to the outward expression of life should look like in the life of the one who is truly in Christ.

Westwood's purpose is to see all people become...

...Grounded in Christ...

Disciples are learners. They are students. One cannot come to truly treasure Jesus without also treasuring Truth. Being grounded in Christ begins in the knowledge of salvation in Christ alone. One becomes more grounded as he or she grows into maturity, into Christ, through the consistent study of God's Word. Believers need to not only be faithfully taught the Word of God, but also equipped to faithfully study the Scriptures for themselves.

Grounded in the Father Who Chooses and Adopts Us Ephesians 1:13-14

Grounded in the Son Who Redeems Us

Grounded in the Spirit Who Assures Us

... Growing Together in the Word...

The book of 1 Peter speaks of individual followers of Christ as 'living stones' that are 'being built up as a spiritual house' (1 Peter 2:5). God has not only saved us in Christ, but he has joined us with his Body! And that is how he intends for us to grow...together. We pursue him together. We grow in maturity together. At Westwood we understand the importance of our members speaking the Word into each other's lives within the context of community.

Our redemptive identity is centered in a community of faith. Ephesians 2:19-22

Joined together with one another into a holy temple.

Pursuing God's objective in his redemptive project together.

... Going for God's Glory.

We are grounded and we grow together as we pursue the mission of God! Going doesn't begin when we get on an airplane to travel to some exotic location around the world on a mission trip. Going begins each and every day, right where God has sovereignly placed us! It begins in our homes, in our workplaces, in our schools, and within the sphere of influence we already have. In the Great Commission, Jesus commands all of us to make disciples, 'as we are going' (Matthew 28:19). This is the natural and authentic outflow of growing as a disciple...to go and make disciples. We do that by speaking the Word of God into the lives of others in prayerful dependence on the Spirit and through perseverance-beginning at home, in our communities, and to the ends of the earth-all for his glory!

Children imitating our Father sacrificially loving our neighbors. Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10

Children imitating our Father in the mission of gospel reconciliation.

Know

What does God intend for me to know? In your journal, use the following prompts to write some truths that stood out from this week's message.

I never knew...

I was reminded...

A question I still have...

I was challenged...

I was convicted...

I need to dig deeper into...

A truth I could share...

I was encouraged to...

Be (Consider) -

What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider? In your journal, use the following questions to write some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.

Is there a command to obey? How am I compelled to exalt God? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a principle to follow? Is there an example to follow? Am I convicted to confess any sin? Is there a sin to avoid? How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel? How can I pray for someone else? What am I compelled to love or desire?



How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.

How would you describe what it means to treasure truth? What effect(s) does treasuring the truth have on your life and your pursuits?

Are you pursuing the picture we see in Ephesians 2:19-22 relationally within the body at Westwood?

What is one step you can take to be more intentional about that pursuit?

What is one way you would seek to grow in the area of personal mission/evangelism this year?

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.

Westwood Staff

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