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CROSSROADS

newsletter



CrossRoads Values | God's Glory

BY PASTOR JOEY KALAN

In the movie, "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," just before the epic battle scene Peter cries out to his troops, "For Narnia and for Aslan!" He is attempting to inspire his troops by reminding them who they are fighting for and why they are going into battle. It's an inspiring movie moment that has been made into many serious and funny GIF's, memes, and social media posts. But it's also a good reminder that our motivations matter. *Why* we do something is just as important as *what* we are doing.

This article is the second in a new series that is aimed at reminding us why we do what we do at CrossRoads. We have ten values that guide us and motivate us as we go about fulfilling our calling to make disciples who love God, grow spiritually, and serve others.

One of our values is God's Glory. At CRC we believe that we exist to glorify God in all that we do. We are guided by the passage in 1 Corinthians 10:31 that says, "Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Therefore, our battle cry could and should be something like... "For Yahweh" or "For Jesus". We endeavor to have ALL that we do be for the glory of our God.

Why do we live for God's glory?

There are many reasons, but I would say this... Because His greatness is unmatched and because He has done great things for us. Psalm 139:13-14 says, "**For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**" There are many places in scripture that talk about why we should give praise and glory to God. I appreciate this one because we get to praise a God who is active in our world. God doesn't sit idly by surveying all that is His. The passage says that His works are wonderful. We can praise Him because He is actively creating beauty in our world. And this is not an abstract idea; we can even see it in the way that He has made us. It's a very personal connection to the might and majesty of God.

How can we live for God's glory?

There are many practical ways that we can do this. It's possible for us to give glory to God in any circumstance. In the midst of **joy** we can give thanks for God's provision in our lives. Instead of bragging about how we brought about our own blessing we give God the credit. At **work** we can give God glory by simply letting other people know that we are Christians who love God. How often do you hide your faith when you could shine a simple light on God by letting others know that He is your King. In the midst of **hardship** we can give God the glory by not letting our circumstances or our pain define us, instead we can be honest about our struggle and continue to highlight God as the most important thing in our lives.

This leads me to my most helpful tip for giving glory to God in our everyday lives. The best way to give God the glory is by making Him the most important thing in your life. When God is the most important thing in our life then He will be the thing that we talk about the most. He will more instinctively get the credit and the praise for the good things in our lives. When God is the most important thing in your life, then when trials and challenges come, our focus will be more on God than on the challenge that is standing in our path. Becoming people who give God the glory is an issue of the heart more than a discipline of our mouths.

May we be a people who truly value God as most important so that God receives more glory than anyone or anything else in our lives.

Serving Christ Together,
Pastor Joey

Ministry Highlight

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

In September Pastor Joey led us through a discussion titled *What is the Bible?* We looked at some of the ways that we approach scripture that are unhelpful and how we can better understand this ancient book that is full of wisdom, truth, and beauty. We discussed how the Bible was made, why it's designed to be read over and over again, and how the Bible reveals its wisdom to us in ways that we don't always expect or know to look for.

These workshops are designed to help us grow in our faith and understanding of God. We typically preach and teach through various books of the Bible but we know that there are certain topics that every Christian needs to review and study regularly on their faith journey, so we are using this time to cover those essential topics and to equip you to the best of our ability. If you join us you can expect a lot of teaching from up front, a little bit of good conversation at your table, plenty of opportunity for questions and interaction with the teacher, and of course, coffee and something sweet to keep you fueled.

This month we will be examining how people change and how spiritual growth really takes place in our lives. Our church offers many ways to be engaged that we believe will help you grow, including joining a life group, serving in a volunteer role, and regularly attending worship services. But we also know that so much of the growth you will experience as a Jesus follower will happen outside of these spaces. This workshop will aim to explore how we can grow to become more like Christ in the everyday ups and downs of life, and what God really wants or expects from us as we navigate life. Hope to see you there!



EQUIPPING
The Saints

Equipping the Saints Workshops are held from 9:00AM-12:00PM in the Ministry Center. Be sure to add these upcoming workshops to your calendar:

October 25 - Contrarian's Guide to Knowing God
January 17 - Engaging Others in Spiritual Conversation
March 21 - How to Make Disciples: Life on Life



The practical workshops on studying the Bible, sharing faith, and discipleship were a wonderful way to spend a morning. I came away with insights that will help me grow in faith and help others do the same.
Highly recommended!

- James VerSteege

We exist to **make disciples** who
love God, **grow** spiritually, and
serve others.

CRC VISION STATEMENT

Missionary Spotlight

PRAYER FOR JODY CARRELL | EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Last November we had the privilege of hosting Jody for the weekend in Fergus. She is relatively new to the mission field but she's full of zeal for reaching people and faithful to the mission that God has called her to. Living in Scotland has come with many financial challenges but it has also been ripe with opportunity to share the Gospel. She is particularly gifted at doing discipleship through natural fellowship and having the courage to go deep in conversation with people while building trust through presence. Let's let her explain it in her own words...

I was talking to my Dad the other day. He said, you need to share more about the work you are doing and not so much about "having fun". Hmmmm. He was referring to meeting folks for coffee or doing an activity with someone outside of church. In discipling, I try to involve myself in others' interests and build trust and relationship in daily life. Whether that is a simple cuppa at a local hangout, going to cinema or dropping by theirs for a wee chat. Some involves pastoral care and some is simple friendship in order that they may know Jesus. Outside of the usual meetings, I have been in conversations and prayer with an addict that has been hospitalized for 3 weeks as they had a blood clot burst in their stomach and have lost part of their intestine. She does not know when she will be able to go home. I also met up with a woman from church who reached out because she has been feeling low lately. We decided to get together on a more regular basis going forward.

As you can see, Jody is a natural at building relationships and this approach is helping her make disciples of people who also have very practical needs. She is faithfully pointing people to Jesus and growing more comfortable in her role with each passing month. Please keep her in your prayers as she seeks to honor God by surrendering to His calling on her life.

Jody's Prayer Requests:

- God's guidance and blessings regarding finances.
- Continued wisdom, strength and discernment for leaders and elders of OCC over the whole transition process and hiring a new pastor.
- For all non-believers in Scotland - that they will find a connection through community, work or outside activities to a believer that will come alongside them and share Jesus.



CrossRoads is grateful to be able to partner with so many outstanding missionaries around the world! We want you to know that when you give to the [CRC General Fund](#) you are supporting our missionary partners as well. Every year a portion of our budget goes to these missionaries.

To learn more about our missionary partners you can go to crcff.com/missionaries.