

Sermon:*We're ALL Human!***Scripture Reference:****1 Samuel 16:7**

The Message (MSG)

⁷ But GOD told Samuel, "Looks aren't everything. Don't be impressed with his looks and stature. I've already eliminated him. GOD judges persons differently than humans do. Men and women look at the face; GOD looks into the heart."

First Time Guest:

If you are a **First Time Guest** we extend a special welcome to you!

You are invited to visit our VIP Tent and receive a thank you for choosing West to spend your morning!

Monday**02.20.12**

Go ahead . . . say it . . . "I'm a failure."

There is no point or advantage in pretending!

Truly, someone who follows Jesus . . . strives hard to be a disciple readily embraces that he/she is nothing more than a failure!

Christianity isn't about us succeeding and being good enough for God. A

Christian is someone who stops pretending they can be good enough and admits

they're not. And asks for forgiveness. And looks to God for help to not fail again.

So today admit the ways you are a failure. Is it in being kind to people that are different than you? Is it in having priorities messed up and putting other things before God? Admit the failures, God loves it when we stop pretending!

Tuesday**02.21.12****Romans 8:16**

The Message (MSG)

God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance!

What does it mean to let God's face shine on you?

In the Old Testament God gave Moses this blessing and told him to give it to the Israelites. Here it is . . . Good food, good meat. Let's eat. (Just checking to see if you read this!) Actually - that's NOT the blessing!!! ☺

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you . . . the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you his peace."

This is what happens when we pray. When we open ourselves up to God, let him REALLY see who we really are (With no pretending and knowing - he "knows" it all already!)

And then let him love us, let him transform us, then we experience that "shining" on each of us individually.

- **Have you ever felt like God was just "shining down on you?"**

If not, think about a time you felt like "all was right in the world."

Think about a time in the darkest of days, you knew that you were going to somehow keep going.

Both of those are times in which God "shines on us" in God's infinite love.

Wednesday**02.22.12****J Curve**

Don't give into the temptation to retreat!!!!!!

It's always easier to revert to the old way of doing things.

As people of a rather "radical" and "unique" faith community we've made some conscious decisions on "how" and "why" we do things . . . missional is what we are about, it's who we are. We are NOT seeking to "be" a great church doing missions!

So . . . as we continue to go - If we are not careful we will almost revert to the way of doing things before, just because it is the way, for the past several hundred years, the church universal has functioned. When West launched we had the opportunity to break the mold .

In becoming a missional person or a missional church it is radically different and in order to change, to transform, we must be prepared to be on that J-curve. Going "down" in success before we go back up! So don't be afraid if you experience, if WE experience, a few failures before success. It isn't supposed to be easy! It's supposed to be GOD!

- **Where are you afraid to fail?**
- **How can you give up that fear?**

Prayer Concerns:

Heather Lewis – recovering from surgery @ home

Sandra Smith (Brawley Campus) Mom died this week

Gene Engle (Brawley Campus) severe back issues

Upcoming Things:

***Ash Wednesday Service @ 7:30 pm at Lake Norman!

We are looking to form a team for folks interested in "Drama" – the good kind! Not LIFE drama! ;0 If interested, drop Andrea an email!

Interested in becoming a disciple of Williamson's West? Attend Pizza w/ the

Pastor @ Brooklyn Boys on March 3 @ 11:15am!

Thursday 02.23.12

"It is only love that makes us acceptable to God." – Thérèse of Lisieux

If ever there were a true "just as I am" church, if ever there were a community where everybody would bring all their junk and brokenness with them without neat and tidy happy endings, if ever there was a group where everyone was loved and no one else pretended – there wouldn't be a building big enough for everyone who'd want to come. –John Ortberg

- **How can we be that kind of church?**

What can we do differently that we are not doing right now!?!?! EMAIL ANDREA RIGHT NOW and tell her! andrea@headingwest.org

- **Just as God has shined on us in his love, it is now up to us to shine on one another in that perfect love. What are 3 ways you are doing to do that today?**

Don't ignore the question, do it! :-)

Friday 02.24.12

There are two versions of ME.

The NOW Me

God's VERSION of Me

Most of us think it is up to us to bridge that gap but there's no way! That's what the journey is all about – getting from the NOW me to God's version of Me.

That journey is made by going across a bridge!

The Bridge is Grace!

We are not just saved BY grace, we are made to live by grace!!!

In Ortberg's words, "The only way to become the person God made you to be is to live with the Spirit of God flowing through you like a river of living water".

Saturday 02.25.12

"Spiritual greatness has nothing to do with being greater than others. It has everything to do with being as great as each of us can be" – Henri Nouwen

You're Missing God in All This

12Jesus once again addressed them: "I am the world's Light. No one who follows me stumbles around in the darkness. I provide plenty of light to live in."

13The Pharisees objected, "All we have is your word on this. We need more than this to go on."

14-18Jesus replied, "You're right that you only have my word. But you can depend on it being true. I know where I've come from and where I go next. You don't know where I'm from or where I'm headed. You decide according to what you can see and touch. I don't make judgments like that. But even if I did, my judgment would be true because I wouldn't make it out of the narrowness of my experience but in the largeness of the One who sent me, the Father. That fulfills the conditions set down in God's Law: that you can count on the testimony of two witnesses. And that is what you have: You have my word and you have the word of the Father who sent me."

19They said, "Where is this so-called Father of yours?"

Jesus said, "You're looking right at me and you don't see me. How do you expect to see the Father? If you knew me, you would at the same time know the Father."

ALL we have to do . . . is look at who Jesus was, how he lived, what he said, and then TRY OUR BEST to be "ME" in light of what he was like as he was being him! Sounds confusing – even wordy – but true!!!! Wanna chat about it - ? Email andrea . . we'll chat . . . it's time to be your best ME that God called you to be!

Amen.

PLEASE TEAR THIS PART OFF AND LET US KNOW YOU WERE WORSHIPPING