

WELCOME TO THE
GREATER RENO
CHURCH OF CHRIST

S E R M O N O U T L I N E & B U L L E T I N

Sunday, February 27, 2022



Today's Study Focus: Discovering True Devotion - What Christians Are Missing Part 8 When we stop to remember that God exists — that He created all that is from nothing; that He sustains everything we know, moment by moment, with just a word from His mouth; that He governs every government on earth; that He entered into his creation, taking on flesh, enduring weakness and temptation, suffering hostility to the point of death, even death on a cross, all to shower us with mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and secure our eternity with Him in paradise — it is stunning, isn't it, that we ignore and neglect him like we do. It is stunning, amazing, and perplexing, and yet so painfully familiar. Everyone who has followed Jesus knows what it is like to be distracted from following Jesus. Now, let's discover what true and unrelenting devotion to Him really is!

☑ **devotion** (noun) religious fervor; stressing zeal and service - *devotion* and the verb *devote* come from the act of taking a vow, *devoted* refers to one's commitment to another through love and loyalty. Miriam Webster

☑ **imitate** (transitive verb) to follow as a pattern, model, or example; to be or appear like, resemble. **synonyms:** copy, emulate. Miriam Webster

True Devotion To Christ Is Our Hearts And Minds Imitating His Hebrews 12:1-3 - Being Like Jesus Requires A Fixation

- 1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross! Phippians 2:1-8 (NIV)

"make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind":

"in your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus":

☑ **"In humility value others above yourselves...have the same mindset as Christ Jesus":** It is all too easy for us to read the following description of Jesus and admire it from a distance. God wants us to be awed by it, but also to see it as something that we must enter into and imitate. The ancient Greeks considered lowliness of mind (humility) to be a fault, not a virtue. The pagan and secular idea of manhood is self-assertiveness, imposing one's will on others; when anyone stooped to others he did so only under compulsion, hence his action was disgraceful. The Christian ethical idea of humility could not be reached by the secular mind; it lacked the spiritual soil. Enduring Word Bible Commentary

Imitation Of The Faithful Is The Way To Spiritual Maturity 1 Corinthians 11:1 (ESV) - Be Imitators Of Me, As I Am Of Christ

- 9 Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case — the things that have to do with salvation. 10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. 11 We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. 12 We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. Hebrews 6: 9-12 (NIV)

"he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him":

"imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised":

We must imitate Christ's life and His ways if we are to be truly enlightened and set free from the darkness of our own hearts.

Let it be the most important thing we do, then, to reflect on the life of Jesus Christ.

Thomas a Kempis


Scripture Passages For Further Personal Study: 1 Peter 2:19-24 Christ left you an example to follow. **1 John 4:7-21** We love because He first loved us.



The International Churches of Christ are a fellowship of over 800 churches with more than 100,000 faithful members around the world committed to knowing God and making Him known as He is revealed in the Scriptures. The Greater Reno Church is very proud to be a part of this global church family and community. For more inspiration and information about the work of our churches across the nation and beyond, please go to disciplestoday.org



Pray for Peace in Ukraine, Russia Shawn Wooten, evangelist - Chisinau, Moldova

Dear family and friends around the world , 

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter, as the Ukraine has been invaded and our fellowship of seven churches and over 2000 disciples are in grave danger. At this hour, the church is communicating and connecting daily in their house churches to encourage one another daily, as well as sharing verses to strengthen our minds and hearts. Thankfully there is still internet and cell service so the disciples are able to communicate and pray together.

Many of our brothers and sisters are awoken with bombs, and rockets shaking their homes and apartment buildings. Three times today, I was not able to reach Andy Fleming as he was in a bomb shelter. Pray for the cities where we have churches in Summa, Kharkov, Dniepr, Kyiv, Odessa, Lviv, Kropotnitsky and Vinnetsa, as well as those trying to get out today. The line of cars backs up 25 miles long to the border.

My wife and I are currently 70 miles from the border in Moldova, receiving refugees from our fellowship and setting up to take care of hundreds of brothers and sisters and their families as they seek shelter. We are here with the incredible

RevivEE 2.0 team that are serving God in an amazing way.



Please pray for the disciples in the Ukraine! Please pray for their safety and for God to protect our hearts. Pray for the world leaders, who can impact this situation and that the chaos of these events will stop. Pray for our brothers and sisters in Russia, as I know that even at this hour they are pouring out prayers for their family in the Ukraine. Pray for wisdom and resources as we will try to meet the needs of a few thousand brothers and sisters who might not have a home, work or basic food and medicine in the middle of a COVID pandemic. Pray for me.

I am overwhelmed with tears and gratitude to know the hearts of those who read this, and the love that is poured out for us over the last 30 years of serving and building churches in the Ukraine and Russia. May our love for one another at this hour convince this lost world that we are HIS disciples.

Please follow our page on Facebook as we will come together daily as a global fellowship to pray and be informed of our fellowship in the Ukraine: <https://www.facebook.com/icocprayukraine>

We love you, Shawn and Lena Wooten



WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
27-Jul	28-Jul	29-Jul	30-Jul	31-Jul	1-Aug	2-Aug	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug

Catalyst/RFC/Delegates (Arrow pointing to Sun 31-Jul)

ILC (Leadership) (Arrow pointing to Mon 1-Aug)

ICMC (CAMPUS) (Arrow pointing to Tue 2-Aug)

ISC (SINGLES) (Arrow pointing to Wed 3-Aug)

FAMILY CONFERENCE (Arrow pointing to Thu 4-Aug)

MIDDLE SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL
ADULTS/PARENTS
SINGLE PARENTS

FOREVER FAITHFUL (Arrow pointing to Fri 5-Aug)

SPANISH CONF. (Arrow pointing to Sat 6-Aug)

DEAF CONF. (Arrow pointing to Sun 7-Aug)

VISION WORLD DISCIPLESHIP SUMMIT ORLANDO 2022

World Discipleship Summit Conference - Basic Scheduling

- Sunday July 31
 - 7pm-9pm Opening General Session
- Monday August 1
 - 9:30am-6:30pm ILC Leadership/Ministry Program
 - 10am-6:30pm ICMC Campus ISC Singles Program
 - Evening free for Dinner and Social Events
- Tuesday August 2
 - 9:00am-6:30pm ILC Leadership/Ministry Program
 - 9:00am-6pm ICMC Campus ISC Singles Program
 - Evening free for Dinner and Social Events
- Wednesday August 3
 - 9:00am-12pm ILC Ldr/Ministry Close Out Session
 - 9:00am-12pm ICMC Campus ISC Singles Program
 - 7:30pm Worship Concert