



Sunday is a Comin' and this week we plan to celebrate the Lord's table together, for communion please gather your items ahead of time, juice and bread or crackers. If you would like communion supplies dropped off at your doorstep, please call the church and we will do so prior to Sunday.

Please join me in a short devotional:

"You never really know a man until you understand things from his point of view, until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. J.B. Lippincott & Co., 1960

Bible project video to prepare us for Sunday message,

#1: https://youtu.be/_OLezoUvOEQ [Click Here](#)

Sunday is coming, and perhaps you hear yourself saying; "Do we have to go to church? It is so bo-o-o-o-ring." Perhaps your parents told you that church is necessary and so you go once more...if you only could go.

These days your purpose, our motivation for going to church and therefore being part of a community of imperfect people will be challenged.

Can you identify with the above scenario? You know you ought to be with people, but what can you do when church is boring, you feel even isolated and aren't getting anything out of it?

I think many things are coming together here. Our need to be understood, to feel known and accepted and I will speak a bit about this next time, perhaps Sunday already. For now I would like to zoom in a bit on; "I am not getting anything out of it." Before we analyze the church, and its music, the speaker, the ambiance, it is important that we take a quick look at us.

Unfortunately, our attitudes often reflect those of our culture, and our society says that life is suppose to be filled with fun, excitement, and entertainment. I am not sure about you, but I use to asked my children after

almost every church activity, "Did you have fun?" I have to admit "fun" was my measure of quality.

DO we perhaps approach our time together on a Sunday morning in the same way, with the same fun seeking attitude? I don't think we would necessarily be aware of it given the cultural, self-centered message, "Entertain me. Give me a show. Above else, don't bore me!" Looking at the text for Sunday, Luke 6:20 to the end of the chapter, I don't see entertainment being an important part of coming together for worship. We should check it out. Perhaps part of our problem with boredom in our cultural is that we tend to be observers rather than a participant.

In the coming weeks, you and I have perhaps more time on our hands than we want...of course there is the garden, after all, today is the last day of April and Spring is coming. But life will still allow us to have time to ask questions; 'God, what is it that you want me to do today? And even if you told me the answer many times over, please give it one more time and help me to be a doer of you word."

I am looking forward to the joyous reunion of the family of God, a celebration of what God has done in our lives, where our community of faith believers can come together again and gather, once again as a community where people love each other, seek and seizes opportunities to get to know each other and to learn together to be both, hearers and does of God word to us. To me this all sounds very active, requiring participation and leaning into opportunities where we can love one another.

If I can challenges us to do one thing in the coming month of May it is to make "**the great shift.**" A shift from being a loving and kind observer towards becoming an active participant in the great adventure of being the church together, as dispersed as we may be right now.

I don't know when that will be, but one thing I do know, it will happen and I am waiting. Waiting does not need to be wasted though it is the very opportunity to be active, participating where you are as the Kingdom of God.

Bible project video to prepare us for Sunday message,
#2 <https://youtu.be/0k4GbvZUPuo>

Your Friend, Manfred

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