

TRUE NORTH: Build Up!
Jim Burgen, Week 2
September 18, 2022

// Bible References

1 Peter 2:4-8; 2 Samuel 24:24; Romans 12:1,2; Matthew 6: 19-24; Philippians 2:5-8

// Community Question

Talk about a time where you did a task, and it seemed to take forever. Later, you did the same task, or similar task with a group. What dynamics were different regarding your attitude, pace of work, work effort, and how you felt after the task was completed.

// Discussion Questions

1. People are not out there saying directly that we shouldn't obey God or that God is evil. Jim mentioned that we are being bombarded with anti-God messages. What forms do "anti-God" messages come in and how does they impact your family? How can we minimize them?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:4,5; Assume that stones can talk and that a stone mason can hear them. (Just go with it...) While constructing a house, who puts the stones in place when a wall is being built? How does the builder know where to put them? What is the relationship between one stone and another one that is being put into place by the stone mason? How does the stone know they will be placed in the best spot for them? How does this analogy relate to our being at Flatirons and serving there?
3. Jim gave the example of giving his heart to Robin and things changed. There was evidence that he gave her his heart. Reflect on your daily habits, spending and schedules. What would evidence that you gave your heart to Jesus look like?
What are the barriers to your life looking like that?
4. Read Romans 12: 1&2. We are to offer our body as a living sacrifice. What we do with our bodies is primarily determined by where our minds are. Our minds are significantly impacted by the environments we are in. This progression of events is made less difficult when we are in a good environment. Describe what a "good environment" might be and how does that help start the process of renewing our minds? How do we get in a good environment?
5. People will ask, "How do I know what God's will is for _____."
What does the Romans passage say is a precursor to getting the answer to that question?
6. Read Matthew 6:24. Other than "the Bible says not to", why can't we serve both God and money?

// Challenge: Just say yes -

Sacrifice #1...Put yourself in a position so that your mind can be renewed by the Word of God so that it makes a difference in how you live your life in this body which being lived as a spiritual sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Sacrifice #2...Seek first (prioritize) and invest financially in the Kingdom of God. In Philippians 4, Paul writes a thank you note for the financial investment they made in his ministry...and he called it...a spiritual sacrifice pleasing and acceptable...not to Paul...but, to God. Financial, sacrificial giving is worship.

Sacrifice #3...If you have the mind of Christ, then you imitate Christ by humbling yourself and obediently serving others so that the mission of Christ and His Church to restore people back to God can take place.

What did you say yes to this past weekend? What expectations might you have regarding how this will make your life different?