

INVITING PEOPLE TO
APPRENTICESHIP TO JESUS:
LEARNING TO LIVE BY FAITH,
TRANSMIT HOPE, AND
BE KNOWN BY LOVE.

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# Week 1: Apprenticeship

#### September 6-12





Live by Faith







Transmit Hope







Known by Love

## **Apprenticeship**

A brief note on Apprenticeship. When we speak of apprenticeship, we are talking engaging in the process of Spiritual Transformation and taking on Christlikeness. The vision of our life with Christ is one where we are increasingly becoming like Him in our character. Consider Dallas Willard's words...

So, we should be perfectly clear about one thing: Jesus never expected us simply to turn the other cheek, go the second mile, bless those who persecute us, give unto them that ask, and so forth. These responses, generally and rightly understood to be characteristic of Christlikeness, were set forth by him as illustrative of what might be expected of a new kind of person – one who intelligently and steadfastly seeks, above all else, to live within the rule of God and be possessed by the kind of righteousness that God himself has, as Matthew 6:33 portrays.

Instead, Jesus did invite people to follow him into that sort of life from which behavior such as loving one's enemies will seem like the only sensible and happy thing to do. For a person living that life, the hard thing to do would be to hate the enemy, to turn the supplicant away, or to curse the curser, just as it was for Christ. True Christlikeness, true companionship with Christ, comes at the point where it is hard not to respond as he would.

(The Spirit of the Disciplines, Dallas Willard)

Apprenticeship isn't a lonely journey, which is why we emphasize Covenant Partnership. A Covenant Partner is someone who is committed to learning the ways of Jesus with us together, as a community.

As Covenant Partners, we agree together to work through the framework of formation – practices we intentionally engage in to foster spiritual growth.

A big part of Covenant Partnership is choosing a Spiritual Companion to accompany you on your apprenticeship journey. A Spiritual Companion is a friend or mentor to talk with over coffee about faith-related questions and life struggles. When you begin your apprenticeship to Jesus and choose an area of the formation to work on, your Spiritual Companion is your friend to encourage you in the ways of Jesus, and your mentor to counsel you through life's tough times.

This is a life-long journey we engage in and should ebb and flow in our journey. The important piece is not perfection but progress. We are excited to be on this journey together and seek to pursue the life of Christ together.

-Pastor Brian



Read Matthew 11:28-30 and Matthew 28:18-20.

# Apprenticeship definition:

to learn to do what Jesus would do if He were living your life. (Philippians 2:5).

1. What comes to mind when you think of "apprenticeship"

2. Is there a difference between being a "Christian" and
peing an "Apprentice"? Explain.
An <b>apprentice</b> is one who learns a trade or way of doing something from a teacher. The biblical word "disciple" is closest to this notion of apprenticeship – that we would earn a way of being in the world from Jesus, our Savior and Teacher.
3. Why does Jesus desire us to follow in his ways?

4. How does the presence of Jesus on the journey of
apprenticeship comfort us?



### Solitude & Reflection

Ephesians 4:20-24 - Use your Bible, pen and paper – but not to distract you from the Presence of God!

vision currently drives my Christian experience?	vvnat

2. From the sermon on the mount we find anger, lust,
control, judgment, manipulation, hypocrisy, pretending,
adultery, revenge, contempt, loving enemies, prayer, worry,
money. In what specific area of my life might God want to
bring about a fuller experience of his vision? What would it
look like for that area to be transformed?
iook like for that area to be transformed:

3. If Jesus were standing in my shoes, dealing with what I am dealing with, how would he handle it? What would be the condition of his heart? What would be his disposition?



#### **Week 2: A Worshiping Community**

September 13-19


One Thing I want to take awa	A Worshipping Community  y from this message:



Read John 4:21-24 and Hebrews 10:19-25.

#### Learn to live by faith definition:

trusting and believing that the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life.

. What do you think Jesus means by worshipping in "	spirit
and truth"?	

2. Part of the gathering of God's people is to retell the story of faith (scripture reading, prayer, sermons, etc.) why might the practice of story telling be important for our faith journey?
3. God is the object of our worship. How does that perspective help to keep us away from a performance mindset in our worship gatherings?

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## Solitude & Reflection

1. Describe a time when you experienced the presence or	
conviction of the Holy Spirit in a worship gathering. What	
were the circumstances.	
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#### **Week 3: A Disciplined Community**

September 20-26


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Read Mark 1:35-39.

1. Why do you think Jesus got away to a solitary place to pray?

2. Jesus' rhythm was to be active and then have a season
of pulling away for solitude, silence and prayer. How is your rhythm of life? Is the current rhythm of life sustainable?
3. Dallas Willard once gave the following advice when seeking to understand our steps of growth: you must ruthlessly rid yourselves from hurry. Why might hurry be damaging to our soul?



## Solitude & Reflection

1. Reflect on your week. How have you witnessed the grace

of God in your life this past week? How might you need more of God's grace this coming week? Turn that into a prayer.


Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 25



## **Week 4: A Generous Community**

September 27- October 3


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Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Matthew 6:19-24.

1. What is the implication of the blessing given to Abraham?

2. Why would Jesus make a claim at	oout how we steward
our money?	
<ol><li>Respond to the following stateme resources (time, money, abilities, ma something about the condition of ou</li></ol>	terial goods, etc.) says

4. How have you been the recipient of someone's generosity?		



## **Solitude & Reflection**

1. Read/reflect on Genesis 12:1-3. In what ways have you						
been blessed in order to bring a blessing to others? What						
stands in your way?						
Started in your way:						



#### Week 5: Reflection and Response

October 4-10

1. How have you experienced the grace of God last month?	•
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2. How do you need to receive the grace of God this month?

Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 33



#### **Week 6: A Serving Community**

October 11-17


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				_	A Serving Community
One Thing I	want to	take awa	ay from	this me	ssage:



Read Mark 10:42-45.

# Learn to transmit hope defintion:

proclaiming and demonstrating the reality and goodness of life with God.

1. Why does Jesus tell his disciples that their approach to						
greatness will be different from that of the world?						

2. Why is th	ne spotlight	so appea	aling for pe	eople?	
hope we ha	ıve in the g	oodness	of life with	God?	



1. Head over Matthew 5.45-46. What stands out to you
in this passage? What significance is it that God bring
blessing on righteous and unrighteous? How does that
challenge our notion that we will serve those who deserve
it?




# Week 7: A Cross-Cultural Community

October 18-24			

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			A Cross-Cultural Comm	nunity
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1. Jesus' disciples were from all walks of life. Why would

Read ACTS 10:9-48 and Galatians 3:28.

Jesus select such a diverse group of people to be his first disciples?			

2. Describe your experience cross-culturally. Why might
cross-cultural experiences be an important step in the life of
a follower of Jesus?
3. Some have said that this is the "conversion of Cornelius".  Others have called it the "conversion of Peter". Which do you think is a better explanation? Why?



1. Read Revelation 7:9-10. In what ways does this vision
contrast our experience in our culture today? Turn that into
a prayer.


Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 45



#### **Week 8: A Sharing Community**

October 25-31


One Thing I want to take away from	ASharing Community this message:
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Read Matthew 4:18-20 and Romans 10:12-15.

1. For what purpose does Jesus call his disciples in

Matthew 4?	•

2. '	What qualifications does Jesus give for one to be sent?
3.	If we are sent people, what are we to proclaim?

4. What are reasons people give for not being active in sharing our faith in Christ?	



Think about those in your sphere of influence to whom

God may be sending you. Bring those names to the Lord in prayer and ask that he provide wisdom and words to share.



#### Week 9: Reflection and Response

#### November 1-7

1. How have you expendenced the grace of God last month?

2. How do you need to receive the grace of God this month



#### **Week 10: A Caring Community**

November 8-14

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One Thing I want to take a	A Known Community  way from this message:
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Read John 17:20-23 and Acts 2:42.

# Learn to be known by love definition:

recognizing the dignity of one another leading to selfless servanthood.


•	unity mattered
and made an impact.	
3. While Jesus taught the multitudes, he in smaller group to travel and get to "know" h that be important?	

4. It has been said that the best way to put out a fire is to
separate all the coals whereas the surest way to keep a fire
hot is to keep the coals together. Explain how this reflects
our need for one another to keep our live with God going.
our need for one another to keep our live with God going.



1. Make a list of people who really know you. Pray over

the list with gratitude to God for such community. If you are struggling to make a list, pray that the Lord will give you the courage to walk toward community where others may know you and encourage your life with God.



### **Week 11: A Mentoring Community**

November 15-21

	Manteina Community
one Thing I want to take away fro	om this message:



1. Faith in God is to be commended one generation to the

Read Matthew 18:1-5 and 2 Timothy 2:2.

next. Describe how someone poured their life into yours and mentored you.

How do	es mentoring s	shape the life	
	nentoring often g mentored. V		e than
			e than

abou	ut becoming a 'mentor'	?	



1. Reflect on your own story of faith. Recall the people who

have mentored and poured into you. Spend time thanking God for their influence.



# Week 12: A Reconciling Community

November 22-28				

One Thing I want to take away from this	A Reconciling Community



Read Matthew 18:15-17 and Matthew 5:21-24.

1. How does Jesus describe our approach to conflict

resolution?	What steps does he give?

. How do	oes unresolved conflict break d	OWIT CONTINUINTY
ınd the a	bility to love one another well?	
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	pes Jesus give us instruction to	deal with the
		deal with the
3. Why do		deal with the
		deal with the
		deal with the

4. What are barriers to reconciliation?			



Meditate and reflect on the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-

13).	Write down your thoughts as it relates to reconciliation.


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## "Inviting People to Apprenticeship to Jesus: learning to live by faith, transmit hope, and be known by love."

Crossroads Church of God 775 S. Thayer Rd Lima, OH 45806 419-229-4074 www.limacrossroads.org

Sundays at 9 & 10:45 am Online at 10:45am







