

priority in this relatively New Year? Prayerfully consider these five areas of living and write your ideas here.

### Thursday, January 23

Read Matthew 14:13-21. The D or DRIVE stands for Devotion to God. What do you think of when you read the word “Devotion?” When you think of Devotion to God, what actions do you connect to that idea? Prayer and meditation? Reading your Bible? Attending worship and times of personal worship and praise? Pastor Jack mentioned in this first message that God deserves our devotion because of the devotion that Jesus demonstrated to both his Heavenly Father and the crowd of 5000 that he miraculously fed. Have you ever thought of God’s devotion to us? Certainly we often give thanks for Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross for our sins that demonstrates God’s love and forgiveness. What are your thoughts? Pray for clarity of how you can devote your life to God and write your reflections here.

### Friday, January 24

Read once again Matthew 14:13-21. If you have time read a few verses before and after this specific passage. Take a look at the concept represented by the acronym, DRIVE. Begin to plan how you can effect change in these areas of your life. What needs to change? Who can you enlist to partner with you in making those changes? How would you like to prioritize these five areas of your life? Perhaps you’d like to make a commitment to attend worship – either in person or on line – to hear the rest of the message in this series. May God bless you in your work to put your life in DRIVE!!

## Message Notes – January 19, 2025

### *Momentum for Life* – *Put Your Life in DRIVE* \*

- I. Michael Slaughter is a retired United Methodist pastor who about 15 years ago, wrote a book titled *Momentum for Life – Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ for Sustaining Physical \_\_\_\_\_, Personal \_\_\_\_\_, and Strategic \_\_\_\_\_*.
  - A. DRIVE is an acronym which Pastor Slaughter came up with as he recognized he wasn’t moving \_\_\_\_\_ in life.
  - B. Mike’s definition of momentum adds the dimension of moving \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Slaughter offers this insight: “Maintaining life-momentum is imperative if we are going to navigate our way faithfully through a world of \_\_\_\_\_ boundaries.”
- II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of DRIVE that helped Michael and countless others move their lives forward in \_\_\_\_\_ ways.
  - A. The D of DRIVE stands for \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
  - B. “R” stands for \_\_\_\_\_ for lifelong learning.
  - C. “I” denotes \_\_\_\_\_ in key relationships.
  - D. “V” indicates \_\_\_\_\_ for the future.
  - E. “E” stands for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

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\*Matthew 14:13-21

- III. The scripture from Matthew's Gospel is a wonderful story of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the feeding of the 5000.
- A. This is the only \_\_\_\_\_ that is recorded in all \_\_\_\_\_ gospels.
1. The purpose of miracles is not to "\_\_\_\_\_" people, but rather to elicit \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Jesus' miracles and healings were concrete examples of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ in the lives of specific people in specific ways.
- B. To give you the context of this miracle, Jesus had just learned that John the Baptist, Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ was just beheaded by Herod.
1. Jesus was on his way to be \_\_\_\_\_, to seek God's presence and \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Jesus postponed his time with his Heavenly Father to \_\_\_\_\_ for that \_\_\_\_\_ of people.
- C. The purpose of this review of our scripture for today is to say that our \_\_\_\_\_ to God through Jesus Christ is deserved, as Jesus demonstrated to us 20 centuries ago his \_\_\_\_\_ to us.
- IV. It is my plan that this series of message will help all of us put our lives in \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Momentum for life will be your \_\_\_\_\_ as you faithfully live out the disciplines of your program.
- B. I pray you'll join us that you may \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ your own journey!

## ***Daily Devotional Guide***

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, January 20**

What do you remember from your school days about momentum? What are the properties of momentum? There are a lot of very practical elements to momentum that make sense to us on an intuitive level. We all know that the bigger a vehicle or a person

is the more distance is needed for that person or vehicle to stop. The same is true for the speed of a vehicle or person; the faster you are going the longer the distance it takes for the vehicle or person to stop. What do you think is the most important element of momentum? What do you think of when you hear the word momentum? How do you relate the physics of momentum to our lives? Your life? Consider these questions and write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, January 21**

This series of messages is based on the work of Michael Slaughter, a retired United Methodist pastor who is known for his ministry at Ginghamburg UMC in Tipp City, Ohio. Ginghamburg is one of the largest United Methodist Churches in the United States. About 15 years ago, he wrote a book titled *Momentum for Life*. The subtitle of the book is *Biblical Practices for Sustaining Physical Health, Personal Integrity, and Strategic Focus*. When you consider these elements of your life – physical health Personal Integrity, and Strategic Focus – how does your personal momentum affect these areas of your life? What other areas of your life do you consider important? How is your momentum in these areas of your life? Which areas would you like to work on most? What resources or aid from others do you feel you need in order to move in the right direction? Pray for God's wisdom and write your thoughts here.

### **Wednesday, January 22**

In writing *Momentum for Life*, Pastor Slaughter developed a personal acronym of DRIVE. DRIVE stands for Devotion to God, Readiness for life-long learning, Investing in key in relationships, Vision for the future and Eating and Exercise. In which of these areas of life are you doing well? In which areas do you need to do the most work? What would you like to make a