

Thursday, November 6

We've read the passage from Paul's letter to the Philippians a couple times this week and no doubt you are aware of at least some of the principles offered by Paul to the people of Philippi. How about the Ten Commandments? Can you recall all ten? Can you remember any other laws from our scriptures that have captured your attention in the past? Pastor Jack mentioned that that, including the Ten Commandments, there are 613 rules or laws in the first five books of our Hebrew Scriptures, our Old Testament. These first five books together are called the Law of Moses or the Pentateuch. Jesus, when asked about the greatest commandment in the Law of Moses said there are only two that matter: love God and love your neighbor. Jesus was so bold as to say that all the law depends on these two: love God and love your neighbor. Easy to say but often a challenge to live! What are your thoughts? Can all the Law of Moses be summed up in two commandments? Pray for God's wisdom and write your reflections here.

Friday, November 7

The message ended with the comparison of Jesus' two laws of loving God and others with our Mission Statement: Connecting with God. Connecting with Others. Changing our World with Christ's Love. Pastor Jack recalled the words found in I John 4:19: "We love because he first loved us." True love, God-inspired love is the result of being loved by God and accepting that love. Our self-worth is tied to that love and is fulfilled in the sharing of that love. Consider our Mission Statement at Central Church and write your reflections on how it reflects the two great commandments from Jesus. Pray that God will inspire you toward loving actions and words.

Message Notes November 2, 2025

*We Gather... To Make a Difference in Our World**

- I. All organizations, if they are to _____, need to know the _____ of the community in which they serve.
 - A. A community of _____ needs to connect with each other in their common purpose in meeting those _____.
 1. And seek God's guidance through _____, worship and study of _____.
 2. We need to ask ourselves, how are we making a _____ in our world.
 - B. Call them platitude, _____, words to live by we all have ideas that become our _____ for living, usually they are brief – let's call them _____.
- II. The Apostle Paul, who wrote our scripture for today, gives us several _____.
 - A. Rejoice in the Lord _____ (v. 4).
 1. Let your _____ be known to everyone. (v. 5)
 2. Do not _____ about anything. (v.6)
 3. Dwell on the _____ things (v. 8)
 - B. Christians have found Paul's principles of enduring _____, but there are often _____ with applying principles in our everyday lives.
 1. Not _____ supposed life rules are as worthy as Paul's.
 2. Another is that life is a _____ target.
 3. Perhaps the most significant is how easy it is to _____ them.
 - C. Aren't guiding principles things we should have uploaded along the way to a moral hard drive so

*Philippians 4:1-9

that, when needed, they just sort of _____ help?

1. Richards J. Heuer JR. speaks of " _____ memory" -- that which we can hold in the forefront of our mind while dealing with a specific matter.
2. He refers to earlier research that contends that most of us can keep only about _____ things in our head at once.

- III. Let's think about how _____ might approach a set of life principles.
- A. Jesus summarized the Law of Moses into just _____ principles: love _____ and love your _____.
 - B. To bring this message full circle, there is a correlation to make between Jesus' _____ principles and our _____ at Central Church.
 - C. We are _____ to be a _____ to others and I am proud to be in ministry with you!

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, November 3

Read Philippians 4:1-9. The church in Philippi was the first church Paul founded in Europe on his second missionary trip. It is apparent throughout this letter that Paul knew the people in Philippi very well; well enough to know that two women, Euodia and Syntyche, had been having a quarrel and that the entire community must have been aware of their differences as well. Paul urged the church to help the two women work out their differences (V. 3). Think about a community of faith that helps its members work through their differences! How likely do you think that is in today's America? Think about this idea and write your reflections here.

Tuesday, November 4

Read Philippians 4:1-9. Pastor Jack began the message talking about platitudes, principles and words to live by. He suggested a few during the message: rejoice always, do not worry, swell on the higher things. Read the passage a second time looking for other principles or words to live by. Which ones do you find helpful or intriguing? Are there other principles, from other sources, that you can remember and have found helpful? Are there principles from other organizations – such as Rotary, Kiwanis or Optimists – that you have found helpful in your life. Are there other principles from the scriptures that you have found helpful? Consider these questions, having looked at the principles in the Philippian passage, and write your thoughts here.

Wednesday, November 5

During the message, challenges were mentioned that hinder us from living by the principles we deemed worthy. First of all, not all principles are equally valid and helpful. Second, life is a moving target and some principles lose their meaning and purpose over time. Perhaps most common is the inability to keep worthwhile principles in the forefront of our minds and to apply them in a timely fashion. Some information on how our memory works gives us insight as to why we can't always remember and recall our valued principles as automatic responses to situations that arise in our daily living. How about you? What challenges do you face in applying worthwhile principles to your life? What would help you remember certain principle at the spur of a moment? Contemplate these questions and write your ideas here. Ask God for the wisdom to judiciously utilize Christian principles in our daily living.