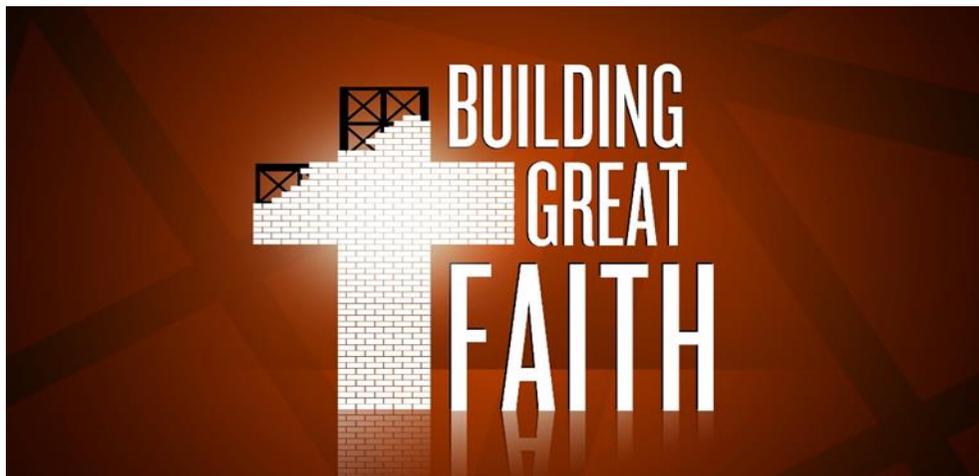


Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC Pastor Phill and Sara
 WORSHIP SONG Give thanks to the Lord (Forever)
 PRAYER
 LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE Hope
 MEDIA A thrill of hope
 UPDATES Pastor Phill and Sara
 CHILDREN'S TALK Jackie and Geneve
 BIBLE READING Matthew 6:1-6
 WORSHIP SONG I will offer up my life
 MESSAGE Taught by Pastor Phill
 WORSHIP VIDEO..... My worth is not in what I own



Building Great Faith #4
Private Disciplines
Matthew 6:1-6

'Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.'
Matthew 6:1 NIV

1. Seeking God first with your _____ will breathe life into your spirit.

'So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.' Matthew 6:2 NIV

'But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, he will reward you.' Matthew 6:3-4 NIV

2. Seeking God first with your _____ will breathe life into your spirit.

'And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.'

Matthew 6:5 NIV

'But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.' Matthew 6:6 NIV

'When you fast.' Matthew 6:16 NIV



1. When it comes to discipline, where do you struggle most? Is there something you currently enjoy doing that began as a discipline? If so, what made the discipline become enjoyable?
2. Growing up, were you encouraged to develop habits that could be described as private spiritual disciplines? Things like prayer, devotions, giving, fasting. Did any of these become habits that you have carried with you into adulthood? If so, which? If not, why?
3. Read Matthew 6:1-4. Jesus challenges his audience to engage in the discipline of giving. Jesus assumes generosity. Notice he says when, not if, you give. Our attitude towards generosity, and money in general, is usually a reflection of the way we were raised. Were you raised in a home where generosity was practiced and talked about? Was the giving in your home more needs/crisis based or did your family support your church or other organizations on a regular, systematic basis?
4. How easy is it for you to be generous when confronted with a specific need? Why?
5. Jesus promises that those who give according to his instruction will be rewarded. Do you feel you've been rewarded for your generosity in the past? If so, how?
6. Read Matthew 6:5-6 and Mark 1:35. Following his discussion on giving, Jesus challenges his audience to engage in the discipline of private prayer. Which is easier, praying consistently or giving consistently? Why?
7. Why do you think Jesus instructs us to pray privately on a regular basis?
8. We all pray in times of crisis. Do you think our crisis prayers would be different if we practiced the discipline of private daily prayer? If so, how?
9. Once again Jesus promises a reward, this time to those who pray privately. In your opinion, how are those who pray in private rewarded?
10. Pastor Phill challenged us to engage in the spiritual discipline of giving by committing to give a percentage of our income and to engage in the discipline of daily, private prayer for one month. What is your reaction to that challenge?

Watch us on



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch.