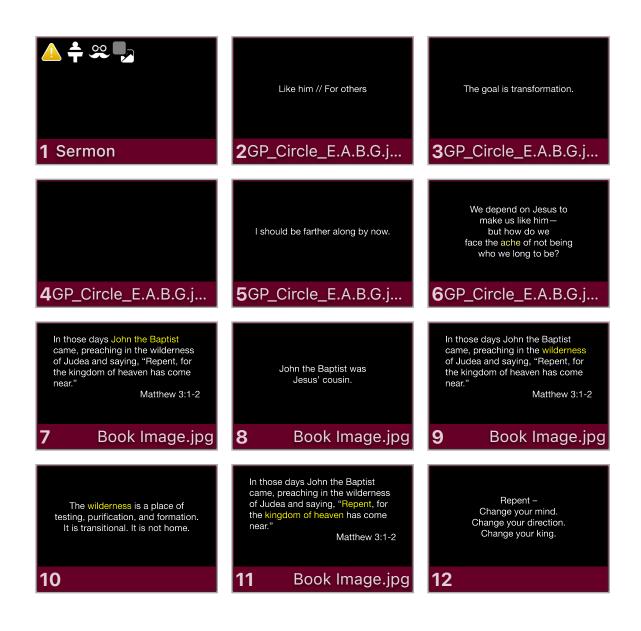
### Sermon SUN-7a - Oct 26, 2025

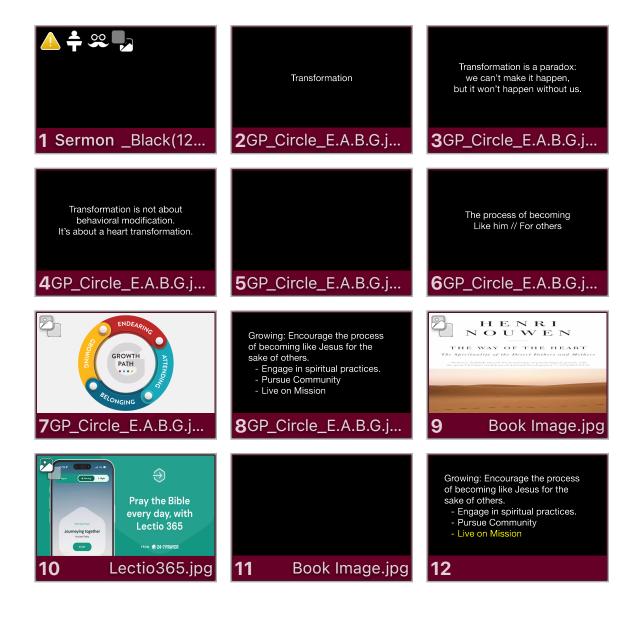


| 13   | People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. Matthew 3:5-6     | Like the wilderness, water symbolizes chaos— and passing through it brings purification and new life.  15GP_Circle_E.A.B.G   |
|--|---|--|
| <b>16</b> GP_Circle_E.A.B.G  | Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"  Matthew 3:13-14 | Why would Jesus need to be baptized?  18GP_Circle_E.A.B.G  |
| Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.  Matthew 3:15 | <b>20</b> GP_Circle_E.A.B.G   | God's mission for Israel (Abraham's family) was to bless all peoples.  Israel failed.  21GP_Circle_E.A.B.G   |
| Jesus is the one true Israelite who brings God's blessing to all peoples.  22GP_Circle_E.A.B.G                                     | Jesus is not baptized for his sins, but to identify with our sinfulness, and to fulfill the righteous requirements of the covenant.  23GP_Circle_E.A.B.G                        | Jesus is the king who is bringing the kingdom of heaven.  24GP_Circle_E.A.B.G  |
| We can be 'like him // for others' because Jesus became like us.  25GP_Circle_E.A.B.G  | <b>26</b> GP_Circle_E.A.B.G   | went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.  Matthew 3:16  27GP_Circle_E.A.B.G |

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with We depend on Jesus to Because of Jesus, him I am well pleased." we hear God say to us,
"This is my child, whom I love;
with you I am well pleased." make us like him-Matthew 3:17 but how do we face the ache of not being who we long to be? 28GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 29GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... **30**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... Because Jesus became like us Because Jesus became like us we can know that we are loved we can repent for the we are empowered to love others. kingdom of heaven is near. 31GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 32GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 33GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... Jesus, I repent and take you as my king. Because Jesus became like us, we can be 'like him // for others'. Jesus, help me to know I am loved. 35GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 34GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 36GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

37GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

### Sermon SUN\_7a - October 19, 2025



I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. The idea of living on Genesis 12:2 through you. mission predates Jesus by Genesis 12:3 about 2000 years. 14 13 Book Image.jpg Book Image.jpg 15 Book Image.jpg What is God's mission for Abraham? What is God's plan for Abraham? God's mission for Abraham's family I will bless you and Blessing all the people is to bless all peoples. you will be a blessing. on the earth. 16 17 18 For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. I will make your descendants as numerous as God's mission for Abraham's family the stars in the sky and will give them all is to bless all peoples. these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed. Genesis 26:3-4 19 20GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 21GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your May God give you heaven's dew and earth's richness-an abundance of grain and new wine. brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed. Genesis 27:28 Genesis 27:29 **22**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... 23GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... **24**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... Esau held a grudge against Jacob Jacob left Beersheba and set out for He had a dream in which he saw a because of the blessing his father had Harran. When he reached a certain stairway resting on the earth, with its given him. He said to himself, "The place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of top reaching to heaven, and the angels days of mourning for my father are of God were ascending and near; then I will kill my brother Jacob." the stones there, he put it under his descending on it. Genesis 27:41 head and lay down to sleep. Genesis 28:12 Genesis 28:10-11 27GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... **25**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G... **26**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G..

There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying."

Genesis 28:13

Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

Genesis 28:14

29GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G..

God is correcting the blessing: God's mission for Abraham's family is to bless all peoples.

30GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

**28**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G..

It appears that God's mission for

Abraham's family has failed.

It appears that God's mission for Abraham's family has failed.

Until Jesus.

31GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

**32**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

33GP Circle E.A.B.G...

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man (a non-Jew), too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:9-10

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

34GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

**35**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

36GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Matthew 20:28

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

John 12:32

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

Matthew 28:18-19

37GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

38GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

39GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G...

Jesus fulfilled God's mission for Abraham's family to bless all peoples.

**40**GP\_Circle\_E.A.B....

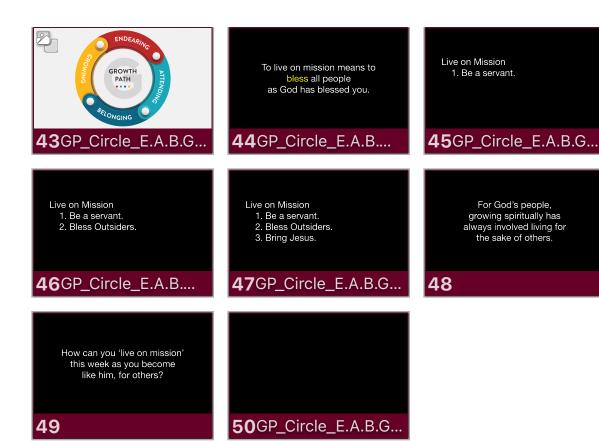
Jesus' mission for us is to bless all peoples as we become 'like him, for others'

41GP\_Circle\_E.A.B.G..

May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed.

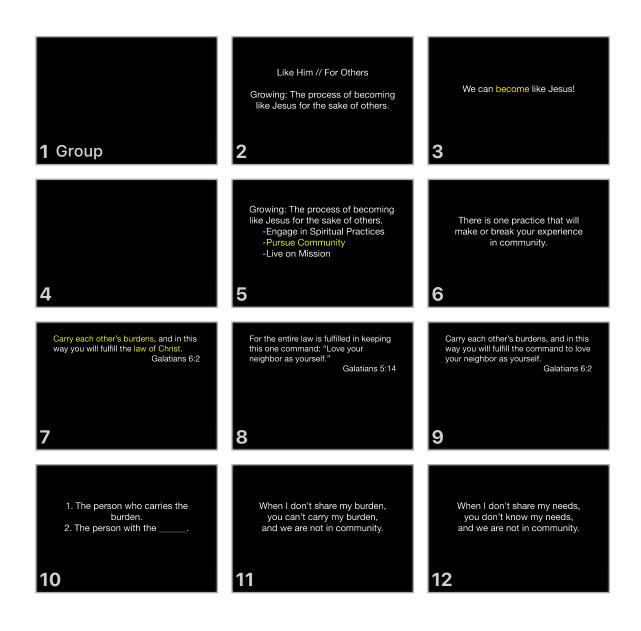
Genesis 27:29

42GP Circle E.A.B.G...



the sake of others.

# October 12, 2025



Fixing instead of feeling. Comparing instead of connecting. When I don't know my needs, Speaking in clichés rather than How do we hide our needs? transparency. you don't know my needs, Performing instead of being present. and we are not in community. Joking instead of being honest. Agreeing instead of engaging. 13 14 15The Process\_TV C... Animals provide their young with food, water, and shelter. What is a need? We are more than animals. We are the loved and limited image of God. 16The Process\_TV C... 17The Process\_TV C... 18The Process\_TV C... Needs are the expression of the Two Types of Needs heart that reveal our dependance 1. Practical Needs on God and others to live fully in this tragic world. **19**The Process\_TV C... **20**The Process\_TV... 21The Process\_TV C... Two Types of Needs 1. Practical Needs Voice (To Be Heard) Protection, Help, Refuge Attunement 2. Needs of the Heart Forgiveness 22The Process\_TV C... 23The Process\_TV C... 24The Process\_TV... Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the command to love We all like to be the hero who your neighbor as yourself. Galatians 6:2 helps, but what if transformation is actually about being willing to let someone help you? 26 25

But he (Jesus) said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

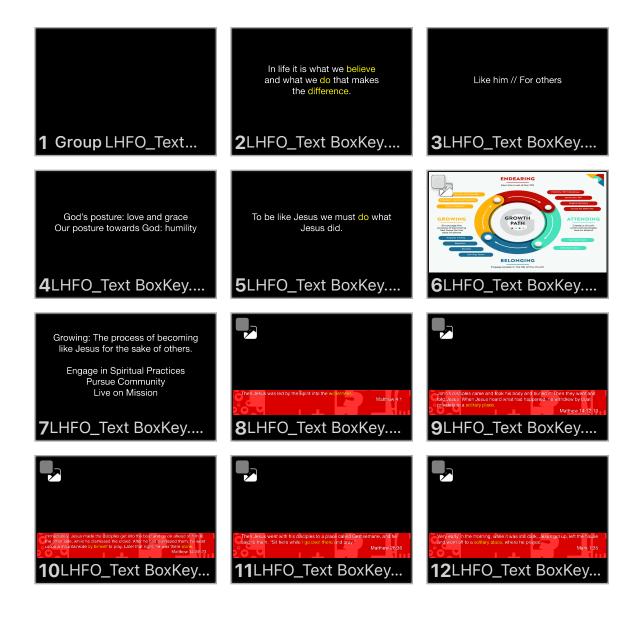
2 Corinthians 12:9

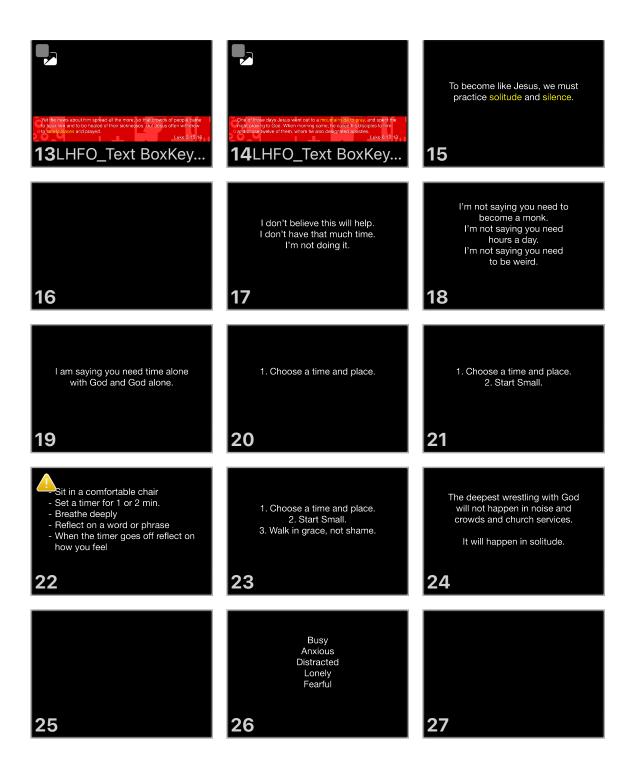
When I don't know my needs, you don't know my needs, and we are not in community.

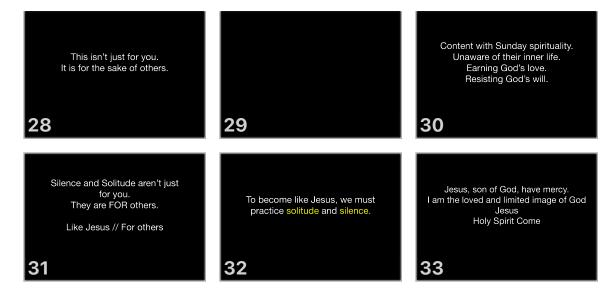
Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the command to love your neighbor as yourself.

Galatians 6:2

### **October 5, 2025**

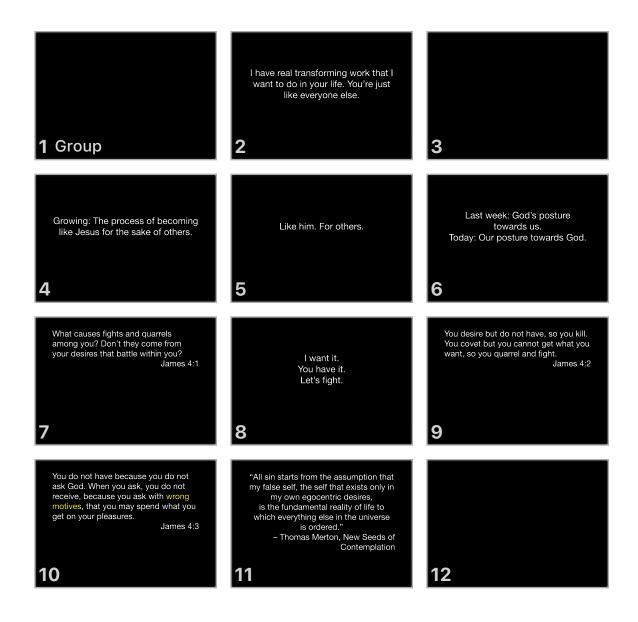








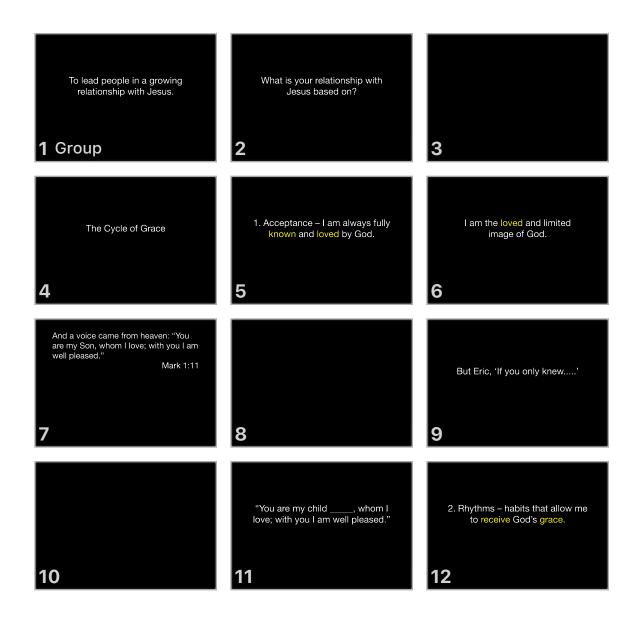
# Sep 28, 2025



| What hope is there for followers of Jesus?  | You adulterous people James 4:4   | You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.  James 4:4                          |
|---|---|---|
| The World: any pattern of thinking or way of life that is not centered on Jesus' kingdom.                                       | What is the pattern of the world?   | "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight." |
| -We do politics with kindness and love for our opponentsWe don't quarrel and fightWe trust God when we don't like what happens. | Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?  James 4:5 | But he gives us more grace James 4:6  |
| Grace is God's posture towards us from last week's message.   | Grace is God acting in your life to do what you cannot do on your own.  - Dallas Willard                                      | But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud  James 4:6   |
| Why is grace the reason God opposes the proud?  | Grace relies on what God can do. Pride requires what I want done.   | But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."  James 4:6   |

| Humility is my posture towards God that opens me to receive more of his grace.   | But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you."  James 4:6-8 | Grace to the Humble<br>Submit to God vs. Demanding your way   |
|--|--|---|
| 28   | 29   | 30  |
| ways we submit to God     Acknowledging our need for forgiveness through Jesus death and resurrection.   | 3 ways we submit to God  1. Acknowledging our need for forgiveness through Jesus death and resurrection.  2. Trusting God in the difficult parts of life.  | Ultimately the secret of all this is perfect abandonment to the will of God in things you cannot control, and perfect obedience to Him in everything that depends on your own volitionNew Seeds of Contemplation, Merton. Page 192                      |
| 31   | 32   | 33  |
| 3 ways we submit to God 1. Acknowledging our need for forgiveness through Jesus death and resurrection. 2. Trusting God in the difficult parts of life. 3. Obeying God in what he makes clear. | 3 ways we submit to God 1.Acknowledging God 2.Trusting God 3.Obeying God in what he makes clear. o Forgiveness o Assets o Sexuality o Time   | But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.  James 4:6-8 |
| Grace to the Humble Submit to God vs. Demanding your way Resist the devil vs. Acting on impulse  | But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.  James 4:6-8  | Grace to the Humble Submit to God vs. Demanding your way Resist the devil vs. Acting on impulse Come near to God vs. Ignoring God in daily life   |
| gracebible.church/grow   | Humility is my posture towards God that opens me to receive more of his grace.   | Like him // For others Cards  |
| 40   | 41   | 42  |

# Sep 21, 2025



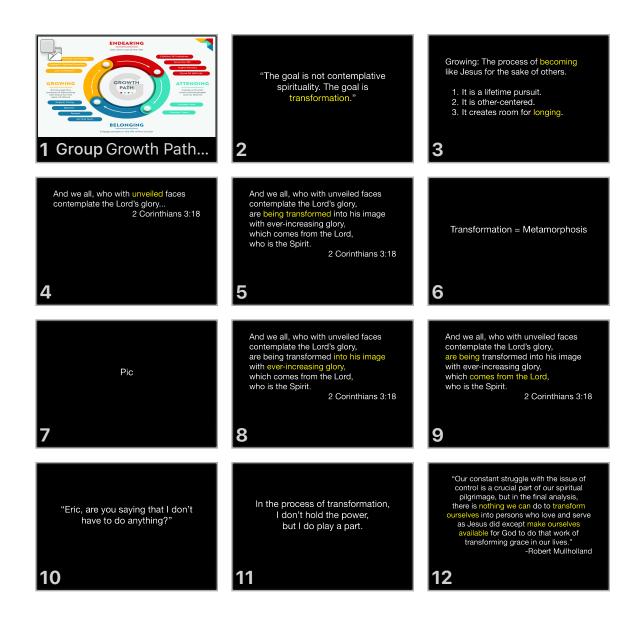
| Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.  Mark 1:35  | Is your being with God enough to remind you of God's love for you?  | 15  |
|---|---|---|
| Is your being with God enough to sustain your doing for God?  | 17  | Reducing, without refueling, results in ruin.                                     |
| 3. Significance – because of God's grace my life matters.   | For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.  Ephesians 2:10 | I am the loved and limited image of God.  |
| Where do you look to feel significant?  | 23  | 4. Fruitfulness – the evidence of God's grace in our lives.                       |
| "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."  John 15:5 | This is the fruit of our lives.   | Only a relationship based on grace can support a growing relationship with Jesus. |

| Something in all of us wants to turn this upside down.   | Our <b>achievement</b> is the foundation of our worth.                               | When we build our <b>significance</b><br>on our achievements,<br>we always need more. |
|--|--|---|
| 28   | 29   | 30  |
| To sustain this, we cobble together exhausting <b>rhythms</b> —working harder, staying busy, trying to hold everything together. | After all that striving do we earn conditional acceptance based on our achievements. | Is your relationship with God built<br>on his acceptance or your<br>achievement?      |
| 31   | 32   | 33  |

Fruitfulness Significance Rhythms Acceptance

34

### Sep 14, 2025

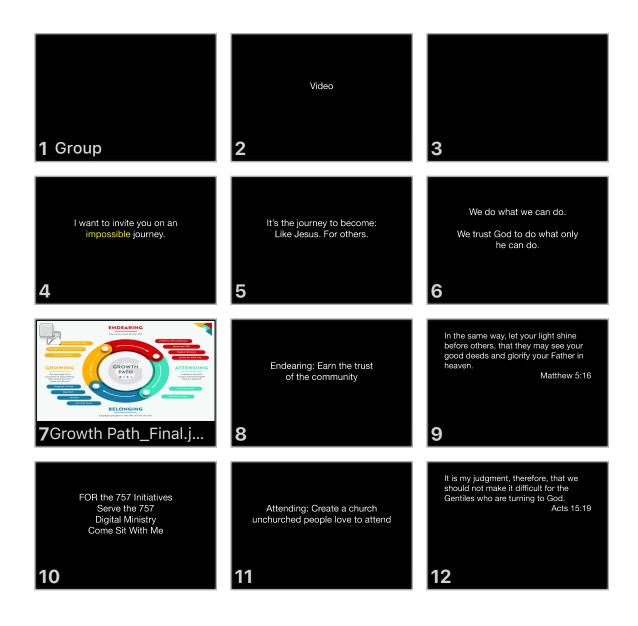


| In the process of transformation, I don't hold the power, but I do play a part.  | Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.  Romans 12:2 | What is my part?  1. Do not conform to the pattern of this world.  |
|--|--|--|
| Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.  Romans 12:2       | Pattern of this world: anything that is not helping you become like Jesus for the sake of others.  | "If we're not being intentionally formed by Jesus himself, then it's highly likely we are being unintentionally formed by someone or something else."  — John Mark Comer |
| 19   | Eric, do you want me to escape the world and live like a hermit?   | What is my part? 1. Do not conform to the pattern of this world. 2. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.   |
| Renewing your mind: What do you do first, most, last?  | Gracebible.church/Sundays  | What is my part? 1. Do not conform to the pattern of this world. 2. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. 3. Rely on others                                       |
| For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.  Romans 12:4-5 | Transformation never happens without vulnerability and authenticity in community.  | 27   |

In the process of transformation, I don't hold the power, but I do play a part. What part is God inviting me to?

28

# Sep 7, 2025



| Connect Card Discover Grace                                    | Belonging: Engage people in the life of the church   | For just as each of us has one body with many membersso in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.  Romans 12:4-5   |
|--|--|---|
| Serving<br>Rooted<br>Baptism<br>Regular Giving                 | Growing: Encourage the process of becoming like Jesus for the sake of others.  | And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with everincreasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.  2 Corinthians 3:18 |
| Pursue Community Engage in Spiritual Practices Live on Mission | 20   | Like Jesus. For Others. It's an impossible journey. We do what we can do.   |
| We can repent.   | If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.  1 John 1:8-9 | Where are you not 'like Jesus, for others'? What is the Spirit calling you to?  |