



Presence, Promises & Purposes of God

GET CONNECTED AND STAY ENCOURAGED WITH
THESE HELPFUL RESOURCES ON GROWING DEEPER IN
YOUR FAITH AND WAYS TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY.

a resource during covid-19

Bayside

WOMEN

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Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47

Hi friend,

What a blessing to live in this technological era and to go through a pandemic like Covid, and still be able to meet and stay connected virtually! While Bayside is physically not able to gather due to our social distancing mandate, it has not kept us from scattering and being the Church in our homes, neighborhoods and communities. Social platforms and technology have become the new way of sharing our faith, helping neighbors and those in need, and how we stay connected, cared for and encouraged in this season!

While we are virtually gathering, there are incredible blessings of what community looks like when we are grateful, sincere and unified. What may look like restrictions on the church right now, is actually the very thing God is using to ***unleash His Church to be the Hope of the world***. And He will do this through the ways ***we live our faith out together sincerely***, with gratitude and love for one another. We have been given a gift to open up our hearts to one another, let down our pretenses, take off the masks or identities we hide behind and get real and honest about things. We don't have time to waste or pretend. It's exhausting anyways. The word sincere is derived from the Latin word *sine + cera* which means *without wax*. Wax is often used today to cover up defects on wooden furniture. ***Sincere means without an outer coating and ability to hide the real nature.***

As you connect virtually in community and through online groups, do not be afraid to be sincere in your interactions and prayers for one another. Our vulnerabilities, grace and love for one another is what makes Bayside real and accessible to those who are curious and seeking a relationship with Jesus. If you have not connected to an online group, there is no better time than NOW to get connected. I cannot imagine any of you going through this season alone. Your Bayside family cares and wants to support you in this unique season. **If you are interested in hosting a group, head to baysideonline.com and we will provide everything you need to virtually connect** with people you know and continue spiritual conversations and encouragement around the weekly sermon.

During this time, we want to make sure you are connecting to God, connecting to people, and connecting to your community. I pray this resource is just the beginning of a deeper faith and stronger relationships. You'll find ways to connect with God as your Heavenly Father, encouragement through His promises, and ways to connect and compassionately care for your community, despite social distancing regulations. This is where we see the Church set on fire and reaching far beyond we ever thought possible.

Lots of Love, Lisa Thomspen
Granite Bay Women's Pastor

Practice the Presence of God in Your Identity in Christ

As you engage with the world, it's important to remember your foundation in who you are and who God calls you to be. You are His child, and He is the only one that can define your identity. When you live in light of that truth, you shine the light of God in and through everything you do, and that's when true transformation and hope can thrive - something this world, your community, your neighbor needs a whole lot of today.

In Christ....

I am God's child (John 1:12)
I have been justified (Romans 5:1)
I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
I belong to God (1 Corinthians 6:20)
I am a member of Christ's Body (1 Corinthians 12:27)
I am assured all things work together for good (Romans 8:28)
I have been established, anointed and sealed by God (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)
I am confident that God will perfect the work He has begun in me (Philippians 1:6)
I am hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3)
I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7)
I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me (1 John 5:18)
I am blessed in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3)
I am chosen before the creation of the world (Ephesians 1:4, 11)
I am holy and blameless (Ephesians 1:4)
I am adopted as his child (Ephesians 1:5)
I am given God's glorious grace lavishly and without restriction (Ephesians 1:5,8)
I am in Him (Ephesians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:30)
I have redemption (Ephesians 1:8)
I am forgiven (Ephesians 1:8; Colossians 1:14)
I have purpose (Ephesians 1:9 & 3:11)
I have hope (Ephesians 1:12)
I am included (Ephesians 1:13)
I am sealed with the promised Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13)
I am a saint (Ephesians 1:18)
I am salt and light of the earth (Matthew 5:13-14)
I have been chosen and God desires me to bear fruit (John 15:1,5)
I am a personal witness of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8)
I am God's coworker (2 Corinthians 6:1)
I am a minister of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)
I am alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5)
I am raised up with Christ (Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 2:12)
I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 2:6)
I have been shown the incomparable riches of God's grace (Ephesians 2:7)
I am God's workmanship (Ephesians 2:10)
I have been brought near to God through Christ's blood (Ephesians 2:13)
I have peace (Ephesians 2:14)
I have access to the Father (Ephesians 2:18)
I am secure (Ephesians 2:20)
I am a holy temple (Ephesians 2:21; 1 Corinthians 6:19)
I am a dwelling for the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:22)
I share in the promise of Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:6)
I can approach God with freedom and confidence (Ephesians 3:12)
I know there is a purpose for my sufferings (Ephesians 3:13)
I am completed by God (Ephesians 3:19)

Receive the Promises of God's Sovereignty

What is the Sovereignty of God?

God's complete control of everything in the universe. Although humans can make genuine choices that have real consequences, ultimately those choices are either caused, or allowed, by God to accomplish His divine, perfect will.

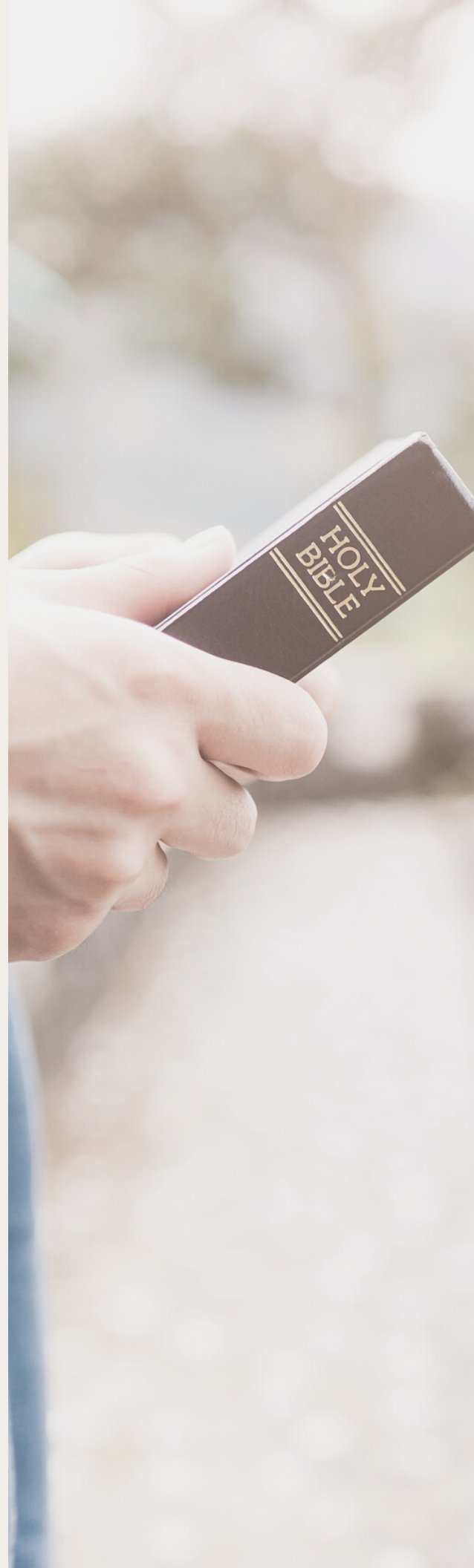
What does this mean for my life?

The greatest step you can take during this season (and really all seasons) is to look to God and trust that His hand is all over everything the world is experiencing right now. Not only that, but He sees every part of your emotions and circumstances, and He is working in ways you can't even see yet.

Digging into the truth of God's Word daily will become a source of life and light for you to be able to handle any of life's trials because you'll find yourself trusting God's sovereignty in every way.

Nothing in all the vast universe can come to pass otherwise than God has eternally purposed. Here is a foundation of faith. Here is a resting place for the intellect. Here is an anchor for the soul, both sure and steadfast. It is not blind fate, unbridled evil, man or Devil, but the Lord Almighty who is ruling the world, ruling it according to His own good pleasure and for His own eternal glory."

~A.W. Pink





There is COMFORT

**God's sovereignty releases us
from the illusion of control.**

Isaiah 46:11

"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure; Calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely, I will do it.'"

Psalms 103:19

"The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all."

God is in control of all things and rules over all things. He has power and authority over nature, earthly kings, history, angels, and demons.

Isaiah 14:44

"The LORD of Hosts has sworn: "As I have planned, so will it be; as I have purposed, so will it stand."

There is PEACE

God's sovereignty gives us peace in suffering.

1 Pet. 4:13

"But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed."

Rom. 8:17

"And if we are children, then we are heirs: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him."

Rom. 8:18

"I consider that our present sufferings are not comparable to the glory that will be revealed in us."

2 Cor. 4:10

"We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

1 Pet. 4:12-13

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed."

"Sometimes when you're in a dark place, you think you've been buried, but you've actually been planted."
- Christine Caine

God uses our suffering

1 Thess. 5:23

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your entire spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Phil. 3:9-10

"For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith."

2 Cor. 4:17 "For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

We take comfort knowing that...

1 Pet. 5:10

"And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

Isa. 55:8-9

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jer. 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

"That which should distinguish the suffering of believers from unbelievers is the confidence that our suffering is under the control of an all-powerful and all-loving God. Our suffering has meaning and purpose in God's eternal plan, and He brings or allows to come into our lives only that which is for His glory and our good."

- Jerry Bridges





There is PURPOSE

God's sovereignty helps us
trust his sanctifying work in us.

Phil. 2:12-13

"Work out your own salvation, for it is God who works in you, to will and to work."

Phil 1:6

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

1 Cor. 1:8

"He will sustain you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Cor. 3:6-7

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

Isa. 46:4

"To old age I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save."

1 Cor. 16:10

"I worked harder than any, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me."

Psalms 127:1

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

There are GREAT PLANS

The sovereignty of God impacts our identity.

Psalms 139:13-14

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Rom. 8:1

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Heb. 4:15-16

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Eph. 2:10

"For we are his workmanship (masterpiece), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Purposes of God

Love thy neighbor

What does it mean to love your neighbor and participate in "outreach", especially during a time of being quarantined and abiding by social distancing?

It seems many people are skeptical of Christians these days. We cannot change that perception by sitting in church on Sundays. We need to be actively loving people where they are at and developing relationships with them naturally and over time. Relational ministry is one of the most effective ways to bring people to Jesus and to connect them to a local church. And believe it or not, with the immense growth of our technology nowadays, you can build great relationships without being physically close to someone! Then, once we're able to be out and about again, you'll have a deep relationship with others that might have been more awkward or difficult to start in person.

We at Bayside are compassionate about outreach!

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." —Matthew 28:18-20

Practical Ways to Connect with Your Community

Start a Small Group

Yes, we know it sounds crazy, but you can and we think you should start a small group, even when you can't meet in person! Think of those neighbors or people in your life that you've been wanting to or feeling led to reach out to, and don't let this season stop you! There are AMAZING resources out there to do video groups, like Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Hangouts, and even Facetime or Facebook Messenger depending on your group size. **Text HOST to 56316** for more resources if you are looking to start a group.

Connect on Social Media

We've all been beating up on social media over the last few years, not knowing how handy and helpful it would be this year! Get on Facebook, Instagram, or whatever other social media platforms you think your community is most connected with and get involved. Join groups on Facebook (see more opportunities at the end of this resource) for more personal connections, and don't neglect some of the greatest uses of technology - relationship building can start now. Coronavirus doesn't have control over everything, so don't let it control how you seek intentional community.

Reaching Out to Those Outside Our Church Community

It begins with God...

The most important investment we make on a daily basis is deliberately setting aside time to be with God. Reading His word, praying, worship, confessing our sin, and listening to what He has to say to us are some of the things we do to deepen our relationship with Him. However, from the abundance of blessings God has given us, we are to share His love and grace with others who are in need of hope and encouragement.

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

—2 Corinthians 9:8 (NLT)

Our World Needs Love and Hope

That's where you come in!

Did you know that you have been created in Christ Jesus for good works that God has already planned for you to do (Ephesians 2:10)? Each day He gives you opportunities to go and love and care for your neighbors and community. He invites you to partner with Him and asks you to make kingdom living a lifestyle by allowing yourself to be interrupted by the kingdom business of God.

During this time, our neighbors and community need us more than ever. If you're young, reach out to some of the elderly folks in your area and see if they need groceries delivered or dinner one night. If you need to stay completely quarantined, reach out and share some encouragement to your sphere of influence. If you are sick, stay encouraged in the Word, and that is the best way to love others – self-care is crucial to intentional relationship building.

**TEXT LOCAL TO 56316 TO SEE
HOW YOU CAN HELP REACH OUT
TO YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY
DURING THIS SEASON**

**And sometimes, the best
thing you can do is to
simply pray for others...**



Daily Scripture to Pray Over Your Neighbors

Sunday: Pray God's LOVE would break through any barrier that is keeping your neighbors from experiencing the love of Christ and seeking to know Him.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. —Romans 8:37-39

Monday: Pray God's MERCY would compel your neighbors to want to know Jesus Christ.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved. —Ephesians 2:4-5

Tuesday: Pray your neighbors would desire God's HOPE in their lives and circumstances.

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. —Romans 5:5

Wednesday: Pray your neighbors would see the LOVE of Jesus by the way Christians love and serve each other.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus. —Philippians 2:1-5

Thursday: Pray your neighbors would seek the PEACE of God through the difficulties they might be experiencing.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. —Philippians 4:6

Friday: Pray your neighbors would come to know God's GRACE by realizing there is nothing they can do to earn His free gift of salvation.

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. —Ephesians 2:8-10 (NLT)

Saturday: Pray your neighbors will KNOW God personally.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. —John 3:16

30 Days of Blessings for those in your community

Each day pray the blessing from Numbers 6:24-27 over specific people whom God has placed on your heart. The list below has suggestions of some specific ways you can be praying for your neighbors each day of the month. Better yet, ask the Holy Spirit to help you make a chart of your own.

Heavenly Father,
May the Lord bless _____
and keep _____
May the Lord make His face shine on _____
and be gracious to _____
May the Lord turn His face toward _____
and give _____ peace.

- 1 Neighbors: What are their names? What are their stories?
- 2 Families: Marriages/re-marriages/blended families/children/adopted children
- 3 Single Parents: Impact on children/difficulty getting needs met
- 4 Children without parents: Foster care/homeless
- 5 Widows and those who have lost loved ones
- 6 People who are mentally ill, depressed, anxious
- 7 People who are addicted to drugs, alcohol
- 8 People who are homeless
- 9 People who are LGBTQ
- 10 People from other countries and cultures/refugees/illegal immigrants
- 11 People who are physically or mentally challenged and their caregivers
- 12 People with chronic medical conditions like cancer or pain or are in the hospital
- 13 Preschool teachers and students
- 14 Elementary school administrators, teachers and students
- 15 Middle school administrators, teachers and students
- 16 High School/continuation school administrators, teachers and students
- 17 College administrators, professors and students
- 18 Coaches, players and the sports community
- 19 Local business owners and patrons and grocery and retail stores
- 20 Restaurants, fast food chains, cafes, bar owners and patrons
- 21 Local company owners and employees
- 22 Local churches and people of different faith backgrounds
- 23 Musicians, artists, creatives
- 24 First Responders: EMT/firemen/police/chaplains
- 25 Hospitals, doctors, nurses, dentists and their staff
- 26 Caregivers: Elder care facilities, hospice workers, families
- 27 City government officials and workers: Mayor, city council, garbage collectors, utility workers
- 28 People helping those with social problems: Corrections, ministries, social workers, non-profits
- 29 People who care for animals: Vets, local zoos, pet stores
- 30 People who work in transportation: Drivers, buses, light rail

STAY CONNECTED

SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: @BAYSIDE.WOMEN

- DAILY PROMISES & PRAYERS

FACEBOOK: BAYSIDECHURCHWOMEN

- GROUPS, MOPS, AND
ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES

BAYSIDE CHURCH APP

FOR ONLINE SERVICES AND DAILY
UPDATES, DOWNLOAD THE **BAYSIDE
APP** ON YOUR IPAD, IPHONE,
ANDROID, OR EVEN YOUR ROKU OR
AMAZON FIRE

NEED HELP IN THIS TRYING TIME?

TEXT THE WORD **HOPE** TO **56316** FOR
HELP IN YOUR TOUGH SITUATION
IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER,
TEXT **LOCAL** TO **56316**

PRAYER AND CONNECTION

FOR PRAYER FROM OUR TEAM, TEXT
PRAYER TO **56316**
FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR
OTHER CONCERNS, EMAIL
WOMENS@BAYSIDEONLINE.COM