

experience his naturally supernatural love. He's hungry for you to share him with other people, walking with them as they grow as his disciples.

Jesus is hungry to share himself with you, that you might continue growing to be all that he's given his life to make possible; in every area of life; at home, work and play.

So this year my goal is to daily be 'Asking Jesus' into my life. 'Asking Jesus' to lead me; at home, work and play. So this year my goal is to be continually asking

Jesus; Jesus what do I pray. And then I'll listen, and seek to follow his lead. Asking Jesus each step of the way; listening each step of the way.

Let's ask Jesus now. Jesus we thank and praise you for the year past and for the opportunities that this new year presents. We are hungry for you; to know you, to experience life with you, to daily be living in and out your naturally supernatural love. Jesus what do

you want me to be doing this year? Jesus open my heart and mind to the people you want me to share you with this year; the people you want me to support as they grow in you. Jesus keep me open to the people you put around me this year to grow me; save me from becoming defensive, or reacting out of fear. Jesus what do you want me to do this afternoon? Amen.

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## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

1 January 2017

## ASK ME

1 Cor. 3:16, Mark 11:17

*Movie Trailer:*  
*Les Miserables – 'I've ransomed you from fear and hatred.'*

What a great image, being ransomed from fear and hatred. A new life to live, a new person. Once again we stand at the start of a new year, not enslaved by fear and hatred but ransomed for life; life lived intimately with God.

We weren't ransomed by a few silver items only worth money, we are ransomed by God, through his life. Jesus gives his life for us, that we might have life with him, THIS YEAR.

You have been ransomed from fear and hatred, your life is in Jesus. Jesus, born your brother, that you might live life intimately with God

as your loving Father who delights in you.

So I love hearing phrases like: "you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him 'Abba, Father'." (Romans 8:15 NLT)

In Jesus, God has chosen me, in fact he has made me to be part of his temple (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19); that's the place he lives. And the place he lives is to be a place of prayer (Mk 11:17, Mt 21:13, Lk 19:46)

So this year I'm going to focus on prayer. Here are a few thoughts re prayer that I've been meditating on; "The reality of Christianity

is not that we pray, but that we are to be 'a house of prayer'. Thus 'strategic prayer' is the communication with God that leads us to His purpose and glory as we live, work and *play* (serve) as His chosen people.

Jesus demonstrated this lifestyle in saying to us that He does nothing but what the Father shows or tells Him to do. He did not come to do His will but the will of the Father. Father's specific will for each of us to walk can only be discovered through prayer that listens and hears as well as speaks."

Wow; who here wants to discover Father's specific will for then this year? I do!



The writer continued; "When Jesus left he told us that we were sent 'just like Him' (Jn 20:21). Jesus exemplified what a 'house of prayer' is to look like. WE must be about His will not ours. Prayer defined by Jesus might look something like this today; Plug head phones into your phone, dial Jer. 33:3 and NEVER break the connection."

Who knows what Jeremiah 33:3 is? I didn't, so I looked it up. Here it is: "Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come."

That's definitely a goal of mine this year; 'Ask Jesus'. It's my theme for this year. 'Ask Jesus'. 'Ask Jesus what I should pray'. Then follow his lead, his impression, the sense of urgency or peace or hunger that he gives. What a wonderful offer from

God; 'Ask me'. That's my theme for 2017.

So when you meet me, please, 'Ask me' what I've been hearing from the Spirit. That will help me remember; 'Ask Jesus'. Only then move.

So the writer; Neil Gamble, continued;

Ask Jesus

"We should listen more than we speak and respond to Father rather than dictate to God what we are going to do. Rather than asking Him to bless 'our ideas', we should be finding the desire of His heart for our direction."

What might be one way to find out the desire of Father's heart? 'Ask Jesus.'

"Without close, dynamic fellowship with Father, we

cannot walk out His will today anymore than Jesus could in His day. Obeying takes hearing. Hearing takes communion. Strategic prayer is intimate conversation with Father, communion (the sharing or exchanging of intimate thoughts and feelings, esp. when the exchange is on a mental or spiritual level)."

Have you noticed that having this intimate relationship with Father, in the Son, through the Spirit is for how many people? For all people; so that would include each one of us. Good News, we're not add-ons or invisible people to Father, but his precious children he's hanging out to share himself with us, intimately.

How? Ask Jesus. Ask Jesus what to say, then say it!

Here is one last thought from Neil; "We all should be in intercession and devoting ourselves to Prayer – and ministering the Word. Without the last part, the first part is incomplete. Those who pray must GO and make disciples also." (Neil Gamble; Strategic Prayer – Father's Hand Ministries.)

So my goal in 2017 isn't just to pray but to follow Jesus lead in making disciples. To GO and make disciples. Which is one of Jesus' commands, so that means he's behind it 100%.

Do I at the present know the details on how this will happen? Guess what I'm doing; you got it, 'Asking Jesus'. Though I have a slight problem with the listening because I've got all these good ideas I'd like to do.

Not only do I have all these good ideas I also have a degree of fear. Does fear keep anyone here from doing what you feel you should do, that you feel you'd like to do, that you'd love to do, that you sense Jesus inviting you into. Does fear keep any of you crippled, or deaf, or just not

Your naturally supernatural love and signs

feeling confident enough to have a go?

What was the person in the film clip ransomed from? He was ransomed from fear and hatred. In Jesus what are you ransomed from? Fear and hatred!

In Jesus, fear has no place. That doesn't mean if you have fear you have no place in Jesus. No, it means in Jesus we have the one who defeats our fears and breathes

his breath of life into us. We are not people of fear, we are not slaves, we are adopted children who are loved and precious to Father. When we bring our fears to him he is able to breathe his life giving Spirit into us, for our life is in him, our life is in Jesus. And 'in perfect love there is no fear' (1 John 4:18)

So let's step out into 2017 confident, hungry for living an intimate relationship with Father, in the Son, through the Spirit. Let's step out into 2017 hungry to be partakers of God's naturally supernatural love, that as we live it we are going making disciples of Jesus.

Remember, Jesus daily gives his life for us that we might have life with him. Life with him, THIS YEAR. He's hungry for a close, intimate, loving relationship with you. He's hungry for you to grow and