

a close personal relationship of love created by him.

That's one reason I go to communion, to know Jesus, to be close to Jesus, to live a life shaped, motivated by this personal relationship I share with Jesus.

Jesus is calling me, us, his community to seek and save the lost. To make him know, so that people might hear his call on their lives and respond living a close, personal relationship with him.

Jesus has risked everything; life and limb that we might know him personally. He lived with daring confidence in Father's grace, staking his life on it thousands upon thousands of times.

What is motivating you? In Jesus the good news is that we too can be living with a daring confidence in Father's grace, staking our lives on it thousands upon thousands of times, as we step out doing Father's will as we see it lived out to us in person, in the person of Jesus.

What a liberating, freeing life Jesus his created for us to share with him. May the Spirit motive us to ever greater risk taking, that we boldly and joyfully seek to do Father's will as Jesus does. That we take ever greater risks to seek and to save the lost.

Let us pray.
Jesus, show us areas where our lives are not motivated by you, so that all of our life becomes a living expression of you. We want you to motivate every area of our lives. Grow us to ever greater maturity that we are boldly risking everything following you in seeking and saving the lost, so that come to know you personally. Jesus we invite you to speak to us, to lead us to the people you want us to share with this week. We invite you to open our hearts and minds to listen to those people and respond to the questions they are asking, that you might be the answer. Jesus speak, I'm listening. Amen

Christ Church Lutheran

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



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

15 September 2019 LISTENING TO GOD Motivation



Just this last Sunday I was asked a challenging and very interesting question; what motivates people? What motivates you?

Then I read this from Luther and was struck by this phrase; "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that the believer would stake their life on it a thousand times. This knowledge of and confidence in God's grace makes men and women glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and with all creation."

What would motivate you to risk your life, not just once, but a thousand times?

Of course behind every action is a motivating force; the need for food, a

desire to be liked, a passionate desire to be fulfilled, a fear. Behind every action is a motivating force. What motivates you?

In the first reading we had today from Jeremiah the motivation was profit and security. The people chose to chase after what seemed to give them the greatest profit margin. To do this they sold out on the God who had created them and brought them into being. They stopped listening to him and sought a different objective.

Isn't it interesting that what motivates your life becomes your god.

The Children of Israel traded in their god for a different dream, the dream of self-determination; the

dream of comfort and luxury. These become the motivating force that lead to thousands of actions.

From the Timothy reading we see that Paul is motivated by the grace and mercy of Jesus that he experienced in his life. This relationship which Jesus created with Paul became the motivating force that lead him to thousands of actions.

Paul moved from being motivated by his fears, to being motivated by a personal relationship with God through Jesus, lived out with the Spirit. Paul time and time again faced physical threats, but they didn't motivate him. Paul allowed Jesus to motive him and shape the outcome.

What motivates you?	dismiss, because I'm not like that. But when I see them as a group of people motivated by fear, I personally can't dismiss them so easily, because I know at times I'm very tempted to be motivated by fear.	his life is motivated by the Father. Jesus says; "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42)	cause for rejoicing. The Father rejoices over even one wayward child who comes home.	person, because he's after a personal relationship; not a corporate one, not a fear based one, not a profit driven one, not a constitutionally agreed one. Jesus comes in person to create a person to person relationship. No other motivation will do.	Paul was glad and bold and happy in dealing with God, for his life was made up of thousands upon thousands of acts motivated by God's grace.
Crises definitely have the power to motivate.	What fears seek to motivate you?	Jesus wasn't motivated by the preservation of his life, his action was motivated by the relationship he	But here is the Father's great dilemma. How does he go about motivating his lost children so that they come to him, in an open and honest relationship?	No other motivation will do.	What motivates you? In the stories that we heard from Jesus today there was the call to go and find the lost.
Jesus told these two stories about the lost being found to people who were motivated by their fears. The Pharisees were a group of people that lived motivated by fear. The fear of getting it wrong. The fear of missing out. The fear of looking bad in another person's eyes. What fear seeks to motivate you?	What fears seek to motivate you?	shared with the Father; 'not my will, but yours'. That shaped the whole of Jesus' life. That shaped thousands and thousands of decisions he made and still makes. Jesus' relationship with his Father is what motivates him.	We could simply come to him because he offers us the best deal, but then my motive wasn't the Father but the deal.	What motivated Jesus?	An interesting thing is that in each of the stories what was lost didn't have the ability to find itself. That was really made evident to me in the parable of the lost coin. There is just no way a lost coin is going to find its way back into my wallet unless I go looking for it. I need to take the initiative, and make the effort to search.
I think we totally miss the point of the Pharisees if we only see them as some stick-in-the-mud religious group. Then they are easy to	What motivated Jesus? Jesus wasn't motivated by fear, and he wasn't motivated by a need to feel secure, or a need to be judged a success. Jesus motivation was simple; it was his relationship with his Father. We see that when Jesus is in the Garden of Gethsemane, his prayer reflects that	That's why Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, because the Father sent him. Jesus goal is to find the lost, and this results in great joy. I like the fact that both of Jesus' parables end with rejoicing. The lost is found, and that is a	The Father seeks to motivate and shape my life through this most precious relationship. That's why Jesus comes in	In the Apostle Paul we see a person who's life was motivated by his relationship with Jesus. So Paul was daring and confident in God's grace. So	Today Jesus is calling me to join him in finding the lost. The lost are those who's lives are not motivated by him, by