

Welcome to New Life !

We are very pleased you are here. It is an honor to have you as our guest today! This information is provided to help you feel welcome and "at home."

Worship in Singing & Giving

- We leave how to worship up to you as an individual. During **singing** worship some people remain seated, some stand, others kneel, many clap, and some lift their hands. The outward expression is not the issue - it is what is in your heart that counts. Just relax and enjoy the presence of God.
- If you would like to receive personal **prayer** during worship with singing, you may go to one of the Prayer Teams located at the back of the sanctuary.
- Invitation is given for **tithes and offerings**. If you are our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute when God's tithes and offerings are received.

Worship in Sharing God's Love

Expressions of greeting and God's love are extended to all, especially to our guests.

Worship in Meditating on God's Word

Teaching from the Bible for about 35 minutes.

We encourage you to use our **staffed Nursery** [which has a private nursing room] and **Children's Churches** during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating the various rooms.

{turn page over}

Pastor Bob Wine

September 7, 2008

LIVING THE DASH

"Take a 30-day challenge to living a "No-Regrets Life"

Luke 9:51

Life isn't a trivial game, but living a short, historic dash between birth and death.

Psalm 90:12 "Teach us how short our life is, so that we may become wise." GNT

One out of four Christians have become "stalled" or "dissatisfied" in their spiritual journey because their priorities are all out of whack.

Luke 9:51 "As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, **Jesus resolutely** set out for Jerusalem."

"Four Guiding Principles for Managing Our Last Days"

1. JESUS LIVED PASSIONATELY

• When Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem, He was grieving because of His disciples' failures.

Luke 9:41 "... how long shall I stay with you and put up with you?"

• Only a burning passion to complete a mission could lift Jesus out of that depressing condition and motivate Him to "resolutely set out ..." to the very place where He would be crucified.

• Moses challenge to the Hebrews ...

Deuteronomy 30:19 "... I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now **choose life**, so that you and your children may live ..."

• You face that same choice many times every day.

• When you get serious about why God put you on this earth, your passion will be restored.

2. JESUS LOVED COMPLETELY

John 13:1 "Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father ... he now **showed** them the full extent of his love."

Matthew 22:37-39 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

“LIVING THE DASH”

For personal or small group study

Week of September 7, 2008

- All that will matter is:
 - Did you love God with all your heart?
 - Did you love the people in your life?
- Who do you need to take time to be with and say “I love you” to?
- Genuine acts of love given today are crucial.

3. JESUS LEARNED HUMBLY

Philippians 2:5-8 “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross!”

- What did that “humbling” look like when He became human?

Hebrews 5:8 “he learned obedience from what he suffered”
- Two things build your character ...
 - 1) Seriously digging into God’s Word
 - 2) Problems ... they humble us by reminding us that we aren’t God!
- Jesus modeled a humble, submissive lifestyle -- doing ONLY what His Father did.

4. JESUS LEFT BOLDLY

- A model of how to leave with courage, confidence and even joy.

Hebrews 12:2 “... for the joy set before him [Jesus] endured the cross.”
- That is leaving with “No Regrets!”

WILL YOU TAKE THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE?

... adjust your schedule, your choices, your behavior

1. **Ask yourself the question everyday** ... “What would I do if I only had one month to live?”
2. **Read a chapter** each day in the book, “*One Month to Live*”.
3. **Journal the changes** in your life over the next 30 days and track what God is doing in and through you.
4. **Get in a Challenge Small Group** for the next six weeks and share your experiences with others.

Looking back on your life, what is the best decision you have ever made? Why?

Death is the great equalizer. It reaches the rich and poor; the young and old. No matter who you are, you can’t escape death. The sum of one’s life comes down to the dash on their gravestone [birthday - deathday]. *What if you knew your days were numbered?* [Small groups: view session 1 on DVD]

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. The clarifying question throughout this study is, “*What would I do if I knew I had only one month to live?*” How does this help clarify priorities and give you a new perspective on your time here on earth?
2. We are given one life to live -- one dash to define. **Read Psalm 90:12**. What does it mean to “*number our days*” and how does that connect to gaining a “*heart of wisdom*”?
3. **Read James 3:13-18**. How is wisdom evidenced in a person’s life? How do vs. 17-18 describe the wisdom that “*comes from heaven*”? If you knew you had one month to live, how might you live more wisely?
4. **Read Philippians 3:20; 1 Peter 2:11; Psalm 39:4-5; James 4:14**. What does this say about man, God and eternity? Why are words like “*citizen*”, “*aliens*”, and “*strangers*” used? In light of our heavenly citizenship, how are we to conduct ourselves as residents on this earth? If you knew you had one month to live, how would that change your perspective on the time you have here in relation to all eternity?
5. **The sermon notes:** What did you gain the most from the “Four Guiding Principles for Managing our Last Days”? [Luke 9:51; Deuteronomy 30:19; John 13:1; Philippians 2:5-8]

How will this change the way you approach and apply the Word of God?

“**One Month to Live**” Book ... Turn to page 6 of your book and make plans to follow through and do one or all of the three projects found under the “**Make It Last for Life**” section.

A LOOK INSIDE

What do you want the “**dash**” on your gravestone to represent?
Prayerfully consider writing a one-sentence mission statement for your life.