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PREFACE

All of Jesus for All the World Takes All of Us.

This isn't just a catchy phrase. It's the heartbeat of God's mission. The fullness of who Jesus is—Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, Friend—is meant for every person, in every nation, from every background. And incredibly, God invites each of us to participate in bringing His peace, presence, and power to our spheres of influence.

But participation doesn't always look the way we think it should. We tend to elevate dramatic testimonies—the missionary who moves overseas, the person delivered from addiction, the miraculous healing. These stories are beautiful and powerful, and they deserve to be told. But if we're only looking for the big, impressive moments, we'll miss the sacred work happening all around us every single day.

God is just as present in the ordinary as He is in the extraordinary. He's there in the conversation over coffee with a struggling friend. He's there when you choose patience with your child for the hundredth time that day. He's there in the smile you offer the cashier who looks exhausted. He's there when you show up faithfully to work, to church, to school, to your neighborhood—even when no one notices.

These moments matter because stories are how we connect with each other and with God. Long before the Bible was written down, God's people passed down their faith through stories—around campfires, at dinner tables, while walking along the road. Jesus Himself taught primarily through stories, knowing that truth wrapped in narrative has a way of bypassing our defenses and landing in our hearts.

Your story has that same power.

When you share how God met you in your anxiety last Tuesday, you give someone else permission to bring their anxiety to Him. When you talk about the small way you sensed God's presence while folding

laundry, you help someone else notice Him in their own mundane moments. When you're honest about your doubts, your questions, your ordinary faithfulness, you create space for authentic connection.

This study guide is built on a simple but profound truth: God is already at work in your life, and your everyday experiences of Him matter. Over the next three weeks, we'll dig into Scripture, reflect on our own experiences, and practice the ancient art of storytelling. You'll hear stories from people in our church community—not because their stories are more important than yours, but because hearing each other's stories reminds us that we're not alone in this journey.

You'll also be invited to write your own stories. Not your entire life story (unless you want to!), but the small, true moments where you've encountered Jesus. The time you felt His peace in the middle of chaos. The conversation that surprised you. The ordinary weekday when you suddenly noticed His faithfulness.

And then—and this is the scary but beautiful part—you'll be encouraged to share these stories with the people already in your life. Not with strangers on the street (unless God leads you there), but with your coworkers, your neighbors, your family, the barista who knows your order. Because God has already positioned you exactly where you are for such a time as this.

You don't need to be a Bible scholar. You don't need to have all the answers. You don't need a dramatic testimony or a perfect life. You just need to be willing to notice where God is showing up and share what you see.

All of Jesus for All the World Takes All of Us—including you, with your unique gifts, your specific relationships, and your ordinary, sacred story.

All of Jesus

Lesson 1

Opening Prayer

Take a few minutes to begin your time inviting God to reveal Himself through His Word and through the stories shared throughout these lessons.

Scripture

Read each passage slowly two times and note what names, titles, or descriptions of Jesus stand out to you. (Underline, circle, or use the note space after each passage).

John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He existed in the beginning with God.

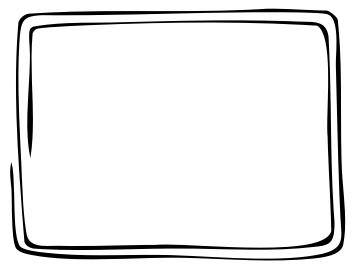
³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.

⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

⁶ God sent a man, John the Baptist, ⁷ to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. ⁸ John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. ⁹ The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹ He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹² But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³ They are reborn—not with a

physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. ¹⁴ So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.



Colossians 1:15-20

15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, 16 for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—

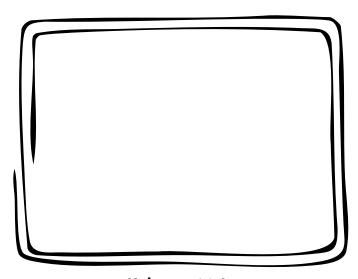
such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.

Everything was created through him and for him.

¹⁷ He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

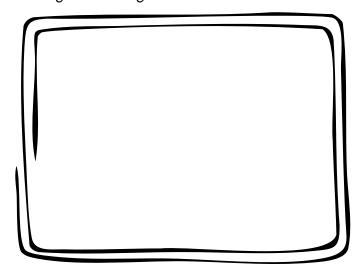
¹⁸ Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,
 and through him God reconciled everything to himself.
 He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.



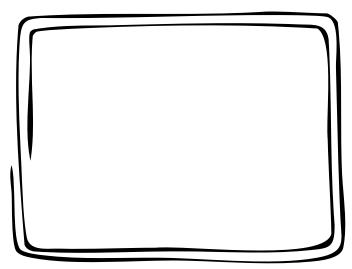
Hebrews 1:1-4

¹Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. ² And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. ³ The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven. ⁴ This shows that the Son is far greater than the angels, just as the name God gave him is greater than their names.



Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Discussion

Which aspect of Jesus' character surprises you or draws you in? Why?

How do these passages describe both Jesus' divinity and His humanity?

How do the truths found in these passages impact your personal relationship with Jesus?

Reflection

When did Jesus become more than just a name to you? (For example: Maybe it was a moment when you moved from knowing about Jesus to knowing Him personally. Or maybe it was a dawning realization that you wanted to live your whole life for Him. Maybe it was a third way that was unique to you.)

Which aspect of Jesus' character has been most meaningful in your life? (Examples: Jesus as Savior, Healer, Friend, Teacher, Lord, Shepherd, etc.)

Write about a time when you experienced Jesus in a way that changed how you see Him or others or the world: What happened? How did it impact your faith?

If you were to introduce Jesus to someone who had never heard of Him, what would you say?



Stories are powerful. They are an authentic way to share yourself with others and they can help you point people to Jesus. In this section, we will take some time to share stories. Begin by engaging with stories shared by people who are connected here at Salem Alliance and then participate by thinking about and sharing your own story.

"In October 1985, I was 24, new to Oregon and Salem and found myself at a domestic violence shelter. When I arrived, the worker asked about my drug and alcohol history. I lied and said I'd been sober for 7 months.

She smiled and handed me an AA meeting schedule. I thanked her, pocketed it, and left with my real plan: sell my jewelry, buy a bus ticket and alcohol, and head back to California. Later I found myself standing on the corner of Center and Church streets, staring at the Greyhound station, when I heard: "It's not going to work anymore, Kathy!" It was not an audible voice—it was inside me, yet not from me. Startled, I pulled out the AA meeting schedule. The meeting was at the SOS Club on Center Street. I argued with myself that AA wouldn't work, but I kept walking up Center Street, checking addresses. Then it started raining—a perfect excuse to stop. But I kept walking. Eventually I found the address. I

excuse to stop. But I kept walking. Eventually I found the address. I walked through the door and went to a counter where there was an old man who asked how he could help me. I guardedly said something to the effect of "I understand there are some meetings here." He asked me if I was an alcoholic and I was taken aback and became more guarded. He

spoke again. This time, he shouted close to my face, "Are you an alcoholic who needs help or aren't you?" It drove straight to my heart and I broke down crying. He came around the counter, hugged me, gave me a cup of coffee, and told me to sit down until the meeting started. At the meeting I immediately related to the sharing and realized I was not alone. After the meeting, I asked a man who was there, "How do I stop drinking?" He told me to go home, get on my knees and ask God, as I understood God, to remove the obsession to drink, and then go to 90 meetings in 90 days. That night back at the shelter, even though I didn't grow up in church or know Jesus, I knelt by my bed and cried out: "God, I ruined my life, I'm out of options, I'm very sorry, and if You don't help me, I

don't know what I will do." After I finished and got into bed, I was enveloped in a warm cloud of peace and love. I heard, "It's going to be okay"—again, not audible, but not from me. I now know I was filled with the Holy Spirit. The next day, everything looked different. The fall colors were vibrant in a way I'd never experienced. I was hungry to learn about God, and He has never failed me. I eventually answered an altar call to follow Jesus and was baptized 9 years later and I've been walking with

Him for 40 years now." - Kathy, SAC attender

"About a year and a half ago, our Furniture Bank delivery team didn't have a connector scheduled, so I was coordinating and taking phone calls. On Monday morning, I received a call from the outpatient nurse at WVP Medical Clinic in West Salem. She explained that one of their older female patients needed a recliner. I checked our inventory and told her, 'Yes, we have one available. We'll deliver it on Saturday morning.' Saturday came, and the four of us loaded up the truck and hit the road. We accomplished our first delivery, and then we headed to our second stop scheduled at Capitol Towers to pick up a donated couch and coffee table. We were on our way to the pickup when I got another call from the nurse at WVP. Even though it was her day off, she said she realized she'd made a mistake—the woman didn't just need a recliner; she needed an electric lift recliner because of her mobility issues and weak legs. I told her, unfortunately, we didn't have one and usually didn't take them because they're heavy and cumbersome.

'Okay,' she said, 'go ahead and deliver what you have, and I'll try to find one elsewhere.' When we arrived at Capitol Towers, the donor welcomed us in. We went up to her apartment and saw the couch and coffee table looked great, so we carried them down to the truck. Then I realized I'd forgotten to give her a receipt, so Jerry and I went back up. When she opened the door, she said, 'I think you need this recliner—I want to donate it.' Jerry looked over and said, 'Uh, it's an electric lift recliner.' We lifted it to check—surprisingly, it was light! We thanked her and loaded it onto the truck. Our next stop? The older woman who needed an electric lift recliner instead of the regular recliner. I called her and said our schedule had shifted, giving her a new delivery time

for later that afternoon. After our last stop, we took the electric recliner back to the donation center. Dan tested the recliner to make sure it worked safely, and I vacuumed and cleaned it. Then the two of us delivered it to her home. When she sat down and rode the chair up and down a few times, her face lit up with joy. She was beaming. She kept thanking us over and over for what she called 'this unexpected gift.' She had only been expecting a regular recliner—but God clearly had other plans. Thanks for being the hands and feet of a good God who sees every detail and delights in giving his children unexpected gifts." – Kent, Furniture Bank Volunteer

Write Your Story

Now, take some time to reflect and process what story God may be bringing to mind from your life.

Your story doesn't have to be extraordinary to be meaningful. God is often most visible in the ordinary moments—the daily choices to love, serve, notice, and show up. The small stories of faithfulness, curiosity, and presence are the building blocks of a life that reflects Jesus.

Remember: Your everyday moments matter—a conversation over coffee, a moment of unexpected peace, a small act of kindness. You don't need a dramatic testimony to have a powerful story.

Use one or more of these questions to guide your process as you write your story in the space provided after the prompts.

What's one small thing that reminded you of Jesus this week?

A sunset that made you think of His creativity?

Someone's kindness that reflected His love?

A moment of peace in a chaotic day?

A song lyric that suddenly made sense?

When did you recently sense God's presence in an ordinary moment?

While doing dishes or folding laundry?

During your commute?

In a brief conversation with a neighbor?

While watching your kids play?

What's a daily habit or routine where you've noticed Jesus showing up?

Your morning coffee time?
Walking your dog?
Your lunch break?
Bedtime with your children?

Think about yesterday. Where did you see evidence of Jesus' character?

His patience when you were running late?
His provision in having enough?
His comfort when you felt anxious?
His joy in something simple?

What's one word that describes how you experienced Jesus recently?

(Examples: steady, surprising, gentle, present, faithful)

Share Your Story

Sharing your story can seem overwhelming, but remember it's not about sharing your whole life story every time—most of the time it's sharing a small way Jesus has worked or shown up in your life. It's also important to remember that you don't have to always find new people to share your story with—He has already positioned you and the people around you.

Sometimes it's easy to overlook those in your life with whom you might share your story. Let's take a moment to think about your spheres of influence by thinking through your typical week and listing names of places you go and people you interact with:

The Places You Go:

•	Home	(different	rooms	even!)	:
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- Work/school:
- Gym, coffee shop, park:
- Kids' activities/your activities:
- Grocery store, gas station:
- Online spaces (social media groups, gaming communities, etc.):
- Other:

The People You See Regularly:

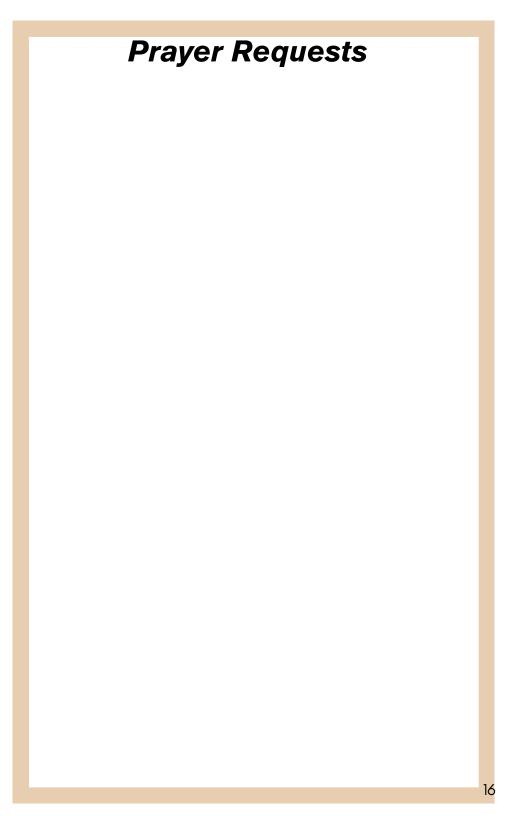
• Family members:

• Cow	oworkers:	
• Neig	ighbors:	
• The k	e barista who knows your order:	
• Your	ur child's teacher:	
• Peop	ople in your hobby groups:	
• Onlin	nline friends:	
• Othe	hers:	

Prayerfully consider sharing the story you wrote on page 12 with one of the people you just listed. Just pick ONE place, ONE sphere of influence—ONE person. Pay attention. Listen well. And when the moment feels right, share something small and true.

Remember:

- You're already there: You don't need to create new spaces; just be more present in existing ones.
- Listen first: The best storytellers are great listeners who share in response to what others need.
- Small and true beats big and impressive: Everyday stories connect better than dramatic testimonies.
- It's about connection, not conversion: You're building relationships, not checking boxes.
- Permission to be imperfect: Stumbling through a story authentically is better than a polished performance.



Sermon Notes	

For All the World

Lesson 2

Opening Prayer

Take a few minutes to begin your time asking God to expand your heart to see the world as He sees it.

How'd It Go?

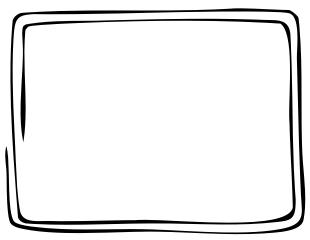
Were you able to share your story this past week? How did it go? What did you learn from the experience?

Scripture

Read each passage slowly two times and note what stands out to you about how Jesus is for all the world. (Underline, circle, or use the note space after each passage).

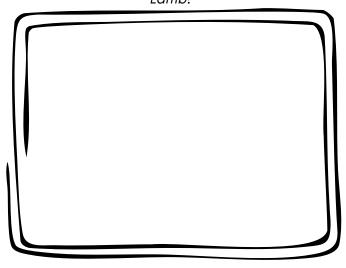
John 3:16-17

¹⁶ "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.



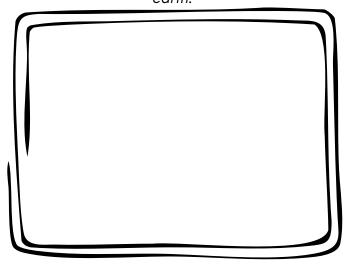
Revelation 7:9-10

⁹ After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they were shouting with a great roar, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!"



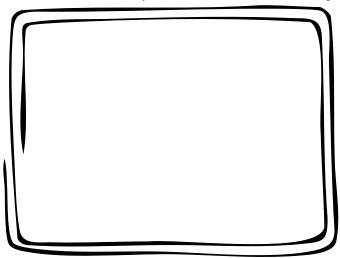
Acts 1:8

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



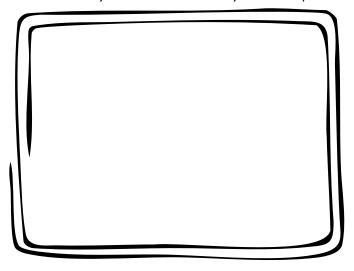
Galatians 3:26-29

²⁶ For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.



2 Peter 3:9

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.



Discussion

God loves the whole world—what does that say about how He sees each person's value?

Imagine the scene from **Revelation 7:9-10**. You're standing in a crowd of people from every nation worshiping Jesus. Who do you see? How does this vision challenge or comfort you?

How does knowing that God loves the whole world—every person—shape the way you see others?

Reflection

Who are the people in your life that are different from you? (Different culture, language, socioeconomic background, generation, people who experience a disability, etc.)

How has knowing them enriched your understanding of God's kingdom?

When and how have you witnessed God's love crossing barriers—whether cultural, racial, economic, or generational?

Who might be missing from your understanding of "all the world"? What kinds of barriers exist in your own heart? Are there groups of people you struggle to see as fully included in God's love? Be honest about your biases and ask God to shape your heart.

Choosing to be curious about someone helps us see our shared humanity and gives us a glimpse into who they are apart from our differences. What's one question you could ask someone this week to learn more about their story?



Stories are powerful. They are an authentic way to share yourself with others and they can help you point people to Jesus. In this section, we will take some time to share stories. Begin by engaging with stories shared by people who are connected here at Salem Alliance and then participate by thinking about your own story.

Micky (SAC International worker, Middle East): "A huge highlight of this summer has been spending one afternoon a week with Khalid* and his family. We have been doing a Bible study in Acts. There are many things I love about these visits—the food, the drives through nearby villages, the games with the kids—but my favorite moments are when I get to see Khalid make discoveries in Scripture. For example, when we read about the early believing community at the end of Acts 2, Khalid reflected on how joining such a community required a deliberate choice. It wasn't just about shared meals or friendships, but about a shared vision and values. Additionally, as we've read together, he's been deeply moved by the early disciples' generosity, courage, and faith. Khalid has again and again come back to the refrain that we must obey God, not man. Please pray that as Khalid and his family continue to build a community of believers, that God would shape, clarify, and direct their vision as He speaks to them through His Word."

*Name has been changed for security.

Our Love the City ministry did a project to bless men who are incarcerated at Oregon State Correctional Institution. OSCI is a medium security prison in town and we got the honor of supporting SAC member, Emmanuel, who is a 22-year-old Corban grad with this project. Below you will see a letter that two inmates wrote to us in response:

"Your donations of the keyboard and Cajon mean more to us than you may know. Such simple musical instruments truly enhance the entire tone of the worship setting for our congregation. The quality of the instruments you have blessed us with goes beyond what we could have anticipated, and we are excited to be able to play from our hearts to bring our best to the Lord through the beautiful instruments that you gave from the generosity and kindness of your hearts.

God has worked through you to bring impactful worship to our chapel.

We (Kenneth and Thomas) are the two current worship leaders for

We (Kenneth and Thomas) are the two current worship leaders for Corban-OSCI chapel. When God opened the door, we stepped in and began to pray that God would move through us to provide worship excellence for our church community. One of our prayers for many months has been that God would provide us with music equipment and a place and time for worship practice. God answered these prayers

through Salem Alliance and Emmanuel. Emmanuel has been volunteering his time for one of our faith-based parenting programs. It just so happened that Emmanuel was looking to come in early on these

days to use the space as a study opportunity to catch up on schoolwork. We have been able to take advantage of his extended presence here to have wonderful and valuable worship practice sessions, with Emmanuel joining in on more than one occasion. It is during one of these worship practices that Emmanuel first told us about Salem Alliance's grant program.

We know that we have experienced God's love through you, Emmanuel, and your whole church. Thank you for your obedience and faith and your love for the Body of Christ beyond your own church walls.

Servants set apart in Christ, Kenneth & Thomas"

Write Your Story

In this section, take some time to reflect and process what story God may be bringing to mind from your life.

Remember: You don't need to travel overseas or lead a major initiative to participate in God's heart for all people. Every conversation, every act of welcome, every moment of curiosity about someone different from you matters.

Use one or more of these questions to guide your process as you write your story in the space provided after the prompts.

Who did you interact with this week that's different from you in some way?

The cashier at the grocery store?

A coworker from a different background?

Someone from a different generation?

A neighbor you don't know well?

What did you notice about them? What did you learn?

When did you recently feel curious about someone else's experience?

Wondering what it's like to be a single parent?
Curious about someone's cultural background?
Interested in why someone believes differently than you?
Did you engage with them? If not, what held you back?

Describe a moment when you felt like an outsider.

New to a group or community?
The only one who looked/thought/believed differently?
Not understanding the "inside jokes"?

How did that feel? How might that experience help you welcome others?

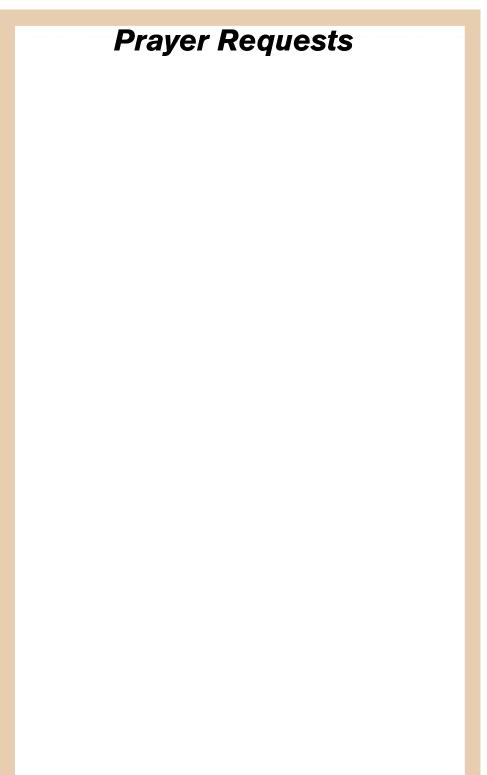
What's one small way you made someone feel seen this week? Learned someone's name? Asked a follow-up question?

Share Your Story

Use the following prompts to help guide you as you think through how to share a part of your story in one of your spheres of influence this week.

Fill in the blanks:
Next time I'm at/with
And the conversation turns to
I could naturally share about
,
This might encourage them because

The key: It's not about forcing a story into conversation, but being ready when the natural opening appears.



Sermon Notes	

Takes All of Us

Lesson 3

Opening Prayer

Take a few minutes to begin your time asking God to reveal how He's calling you to participate in His mission.

How'd It Go?

Were you able to share your story this past week? How did it go? What did you learn from the experience?

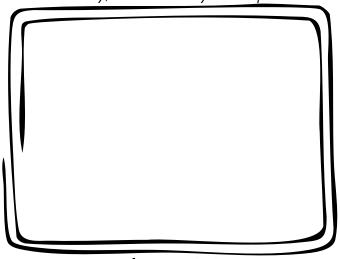
Scripture

Read each passage slowly two times and note what stands out to you about your role in God's mission. (Underline, circle, or use the note space after each passage).

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

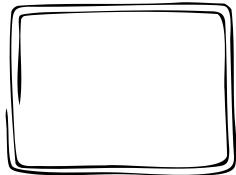
12 The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. 13 Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. 14 Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. 15 If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? 18 But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. 19 How strange a body would

be if it had only one part! ²⁰ Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. ²¹ The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." ²² In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. ²³ And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, ²⁴ while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. ²⁵ This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. ²⁷ All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.



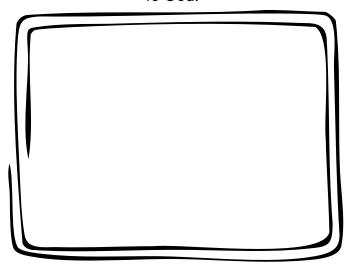
Ephesians 2:10

¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.



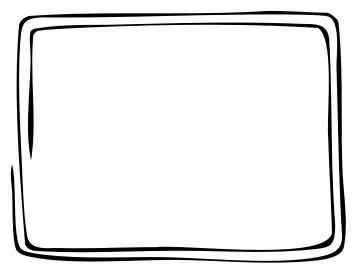
2 Corinthians 5:17-20

¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! ¹⁸ And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. ¹⁹ For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. ²⁰ So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"



Romans 12:4-8

⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. ⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.



Discussion

How does the body of Christ metaphor help you understand your role in God's mission? As you consider, write down what you think your role in God's mission might be.

What does it mean to you to know that we are created to do good things (**Ephesians 2:10**)?

3 How do the different gifts and callings within the body of Christ work together?

Reflection

What are you good at? List your skills, talents, interests, and experiences. Don't be modest—these are gifts from God. How might God want to use these in His mission?

Write about a time when you stepped out in faith to serve God. What happened? What did you learn about yourself? What did you learn about God?

3 If you could do anything for God's kingdom without fear of failure, what would you do? What's holding you back?

Who has inspired you by the way they serve God? What about their example moves you? What can you learn from them?

Complete this sentence: "I believe God might be calling me to..."

(Even if you're not sure, write what's stirring in your heart.)

6 Who depends on you to show up? What if your faithfulness in that role is your ministry right now?



Stories are powerful. They are an authentic way to share yourself with others and they can help you point people to Jesus. In this section, we will take some time to share stories. Begin by engaging with stories shared by people who are connected here at Salem Alliance and then participate by thinking about your own story.

"There was a weekend here at church where the GLO ministry was being highlighted during service. I thought I felt this nudge to serve and yet wasn't sure at the same time. I am a full-time single, working mama and weekends are precious. So, I remember asking the Lord if this was of Him, to keep it on my heart. Funny story, that little nudge stuck around. Additionally, He helped me realize that being open to serving in this capacity could allow a family to spend time with Jesus and find community. Something I get to easily just show up for. And that feels like a pretty great way to spend a few precious hours on a weekend. I am excited to get started serving in this capacity."

- Jen, SAC attender

"Growing up in a house of domestic violence led me down a pretty tumultuous path through my high school days and into my 20s. I was addicted to meth for 7 years. I have always had a relationship with God, but it was very rocky with my drug use. I will never forget the night that I got on my hands and knees and I prayed to God to heal me—to take away my addiction. He immediately answered. I felt the Spirit move me. I detoxed alone with the help of God and I never had a trigger or an urge ever. Each day I would count my new clean date. He didn't stop there. After my first year of sobriety, I started to pray that I would be able to reconnect with my dad and rebuild a relationship with that side of my family that I hadn't spoken to in many years. In the midst of my addiction I had burned several bridges. He brought him back into my life along with my stepmom and 3 sisters. On my second year of sobriety God made it possible for me to get into my first apartment with my daughter. My heart was so broken and now it is so full. This year I got to celebrate my third year of sobriety. I felt the call to start volunteering here at church and to become more involved and I am so blessed. I'm hopeful for the days to come and that I can be a part of in this church." - Briana, SAC attender

Write Your Story

In this section, take some time to reflect and process what story God may be bringing to mind from your life.

Remember: You don't need a title, a platform, or a perfect plan to participate in God's mission. The small things you're already doing—showing up, being faithful, using what's in your hands—these matter more than you know.

Use one or more of these questions to guide your process as you write your story in the space provided after the prompts.

What did you do this week that helped someone else?

Listened to a friend?
Helped a neighbor?
Encouraged a coworker?
Showed patience with your kids?

How might God have been working through that simple act?

What's something you do regularly that you've never thought of as "ministry"?

Cooking meals for your family?

Showing up to work with integrity?

Being a reliable friend?

Creating beauty or order in your space?

How could showing up this way point people to God?

When did you recently use something you're good at to bless someone?

Fixed something for a neighbor?

Gave advice in your area of expertise?

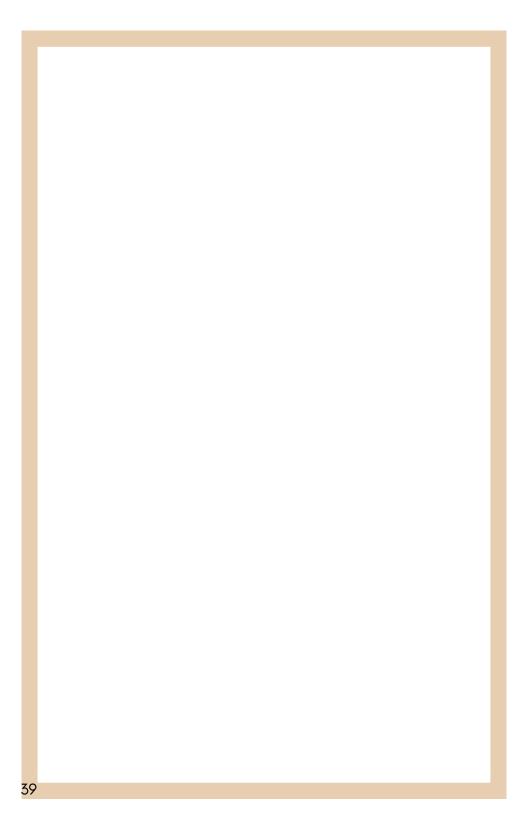
Made someone laugh?

Organized something that was chaotic?

What happened? How did it feel?

Describe a moment when you chose faithfulness in something small.

Kept a promise even when it was inconvenient?
Told the truth when a lie would've been easier?
Remained kind when you were frustrated?
Showed up when you didn't feel like it?
How does that action reflect God?



Share Your Story

Noticing and awareness are a big part of the process of learning to tell our stories. For the next few weeks use the following chart as a simple way to track story-sharing opportunities and/or instances:

When/Where	Who I Talked To	Story I Shared	What Happened	What I Noticed

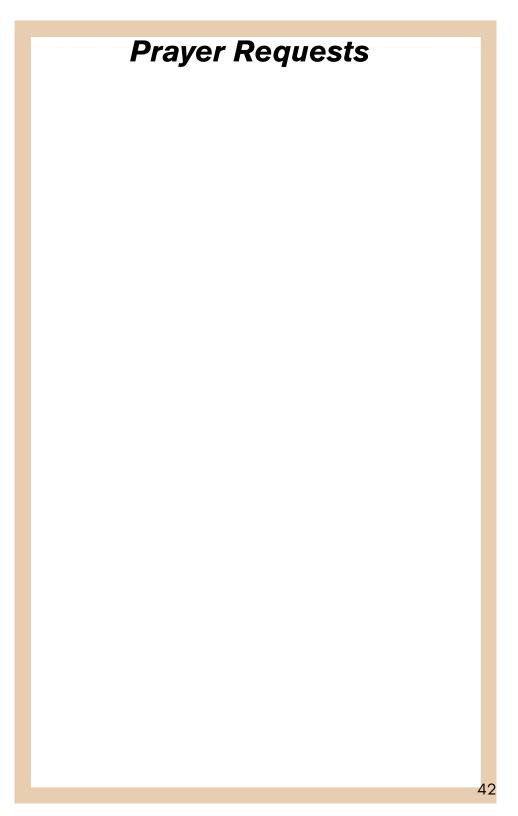
Reflection prompts:

Did sharing feel natural or forced? Why?

How did the other person respond?

Did it open up deeper conversation?

What surprised you?



Sermon Notes	