

Doing Life With Jesus

WHITEWATER: Navigating Life's Rapids as a Church Centered on Christ

1 Corinthians 16 Jonathan Schaeffer

Be on your guard;
stand firm in the faith;
be courageous; be strong.
Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Life with Jesus: Practice the grace of giving.

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income... 1 Corinthians 16:2
...See that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:7

Paul gives practical input for reflecting God's generosity and experiencing his blessing in the area of giving.

→ Give consistently.

Paul recommended "the first day of every week..." 1 Corinthians 16:2
There are consistent promises in the Bible about the blessings that come to those who are generous.

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. Psalm 112:5; 2 Corinthians 9:6

→ Give proportionately.

Paul says to give "In keeping with your income..." 1 Corinthians 16:2
I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. Philemon 6 (NLT)

Life with Jesus: Take time to serve others.

When Timothy comes, see to it that he has nothing to fear while he is with you, for he is carrying on the work of the Lord, just as I am. No one, then, should treat him with contempt. Send him on his way in peace so that he may return to me. 1 Corinthians 16:10-11

→ Reflect Christ—adopt his perspective about others.

In humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus... Philippians 2:3-5 NIV

→ Create margin—build space in your schedule to serve.

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity... Ephesians 5:15-16

Life with Jesus: Stand strong knowing He lives in you.

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13; 15:58

→ Be on guard—You're in a battle!

You are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

→ Choose courage—you have the authority of Jesus Christ!

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...baptizing them...teaching them...And surely I am with you always. Matthew 28:18-20

Life with Jesus: Let everything flow from love.

Do everything in love. 1 Corinthians 16:14

→ Choose love as the motive in everything you do.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 1 Cor. 13:3

→ Let love flow from a vibrant walk with the Lord Jesus.

The fruit of the Spirit is love... Galatians 5:22

Making it Personal

- How are you doing at growing in these practices? Which one needs more of your attention?
- What does it mean to know you can rely on the strength and presence of Jesus to help you each day?



Winter Classes Begin **SUN Dec. 3**

Let this winter be your season of accelerated growth! Our Sunday roster of classes invites you to explore membership, tackle a faith topic, or study through a book of the Bible with others. @Middleburg Heights gracecma.org/classes



Wondering About Alpha? **SUN Dec. 3 | 10:30 AM**

Grace members are invited to attend this 10-week session to experience Alpha for the first time (or get a refresher on the new content)! This experience will prepare you to be able to share and invite a friend to the next Alpha Course in Spring 2024. @Middleburg Heights gracecma.org/alpha



Blue Christmas **SAT Dec. 9 | 12:45 PM**

This event invites you to spend time reflecting on Christmas' past with loved ones who are no longer with you, and grieve with hope before you enter the Christmas season. @Middleburg Heights Register online: gracecma.org/events



Christmas Concert **SAT Dec. 9 | 6 PM**

Ring in Christmastime with your favorite carols performed by the Cleveland Pops Youth Orchestra and Chorus! Bring a dessert to share for the potluck-style reception following the concert. Tickets are just \$10. @Middleburg Heights Register online: gracecma.org/events



The Big Give **TODAY - Dec. 17**

Visit the webpage to see 2 fully funded goals! Give toward the 7 remaining projects to make big dreams a reality for our global missions family, community partners, and ministry team. Explore the projects: gracecma.org/big-give



Baptism **TODAY**

Baptism is an outward symbol of what took place in your life when you received Jesus' gift of forgiveness and began a restored relationship to God. If you'd like to explore this next step, sign up today to make that memory in 2024. gracecma.org/baptism



Worship Night **WED Nov. 22 | 7 PM**

Save the date for a Thanksgiving Eve worship night with your Grace fam! Hear (and share) testimonies of thankfulness, and ready your heart before the holiday the following day. Grace Kids will be having classes for Birth-K grade, and a movie night for 1st-6th graders. @Middleburg Heights gracecma.org/events



Half-Time **NEW DATE: MON Dec. 4 | 6 PM**

Spend an evening with Cleveland pro football players as they chat about the highlights and the hard work of faith and football! Registration is just \$5/person. Can't make the new date? Registration and refund requests are linked on the event page: gracecma.org/events