

SUNDAY BRIEFING



Do I have too much "I" in my life?

BY PASTOR DON GARDNER

This morning, in your thinking or speech, I'd like to challenge you to cease using the term "I" for one minute. If you are truly a brave soul, you might try to extend that time to 3 minutes! You see, we live in such a self-focused world, it is all but impossible for us to allow the values of God to guide us in the way that He is truly Lord of our lives. The Scripture states that we are to "Judge not, lest we be judged" (Matt. 7:1). We are told to be sensitive and caring toward others as we respect that they too are made by the same Heavenly Father as ourselves. Yet, we are all guilty of finding alternative words for "judging" as we constantly evaluate, review, assess, rank, or measure those around us. We compare ourselves toward others, with the hope that we are better than they, as we neglect God's hope for our behavior.

As Christians, we say that Christ is our model. Let us learn from His prayer: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one" (Matt. 6: 9-13).

Hmm, can you see His focus within His prayer? The "I" is lacking. He isn't pushing His own agenda, His wants or needs, or His selfish desires. The heart of God is the hunger of the prayer of Christ. John 3:30 states that Christ must increase in importance as we decrease in self-importance. Let us simplify our way of looking at others, and ourselves, as we minimize the "I" in how we live. May the burden, concern, and love of Christ motivate and guide us all as we live for Him and not ourselves.

UPCOMING

August 1st |
Sunday school on campus
Both services in sanctuary

August 7th |
Annual Co-worker's Retreat

Order of Worship

Sunday, August 1st, 2021

Welcome & Prayer | Deacon Jim Loui

Worship Through Music | Praise Team

Lord's Supper | Deacon Rick Ong

Announcements & Prayer | Pastor Dillon Le

Scripture Reading | Lois Hale

Message | Pastor Don Gardner

Worship Through Music | Praise Team

Closing Prayer | Deacon Jim Loui

"Bad Behavior Isn't God's Fault"

Pastor Don Gardner

1 John 2:1-12

I. If you wear the title "Christian,"...Live it! (v.1-6)

II. How dangerous is darkness to you? (v. 7-11)

III. Sin is no joke. (v. 1-2; v.12)

11 But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

1 JOHN 2:11

Announcements & Prayers

Celebration of Life Services for Virginia Akong

Date:

Saturday, July 31, 2021

Time:

9 AM Viewing/Visitation

10 AM Service (Gravesite time to follow)

Location:

Greenwood Memory Lawn Mortuary

719 N. 27th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85009

August 1st | Regular Worship Services & Sunday Classes

We will be returning to worship in the Church Sanctuary for both congregations and regular Sunday School classes will resume on campus. Please wear masks & social distance.

English-Speaking Worship Service 9:30 AM

English-Speaking Sunday School 11:15 AM

Chinese-Speaking Sunday School 9:30 AM

Chinese-Speaking Worship Service 11:00 AM

Children's Sunday School 9:30 AM

Preschool Sunday School 9:30 AM

Joint Lunchtime (Temporarily on Hold)

Nursery Services Temporarily Closed Due to Water Damage and Construction.

Parents may feel free to use the dedicated Mother/Baby room at the back of the Sanctuary during Worship Service for Nursery-aged children (2 years and younger). We apologize for this inconvenience.

Annual Co-worker's Retreat – Saturday, August 7 from 9:00AM – 11:45AM in the FLC. ALL committee members and anyone interested in serving are encouraged to attend in person. However, a Zoom Session is provided for those unable to join in the FLC. The theme will be on Leadership (Serving with Excellence under Gospel Principles).

Prayer Request for Hannah Lou and Her Family – Please pray for Hannah as she will be undergoing medical tests for a lump found on her leg. Pray for favorable test results, healing, and peace & comfort for her and her family.

office@fcbphx.org
(602) 955-3114