



River Valley exists to glorify God and transform people through the work of the Holy Spirit into fully developing followers of Christ

## FAITH THAT WORKS

ANDY MORGAN | FEBRUARY 21, 2010

### 30 Core Competencies Of A Follower Of Christ

#### 10 CORE BELIEFS

- \* TRINITY
- \* SALVATION BY GRACE
- \* AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE
- \* PERSONAL GOD
- \* IDENTITY IN CHRIST
- \* CHURCH
- \* HUMANITY
- \* COMPASSION
- \* ETERNITY
- \* STEWARDSHIP

#### 10 CORE PRACTICES

- \* WORSHIP
- \* PRAYER
- \* BIBLE STUDY
- \* SINGLE MINDEDNESS
- \* BIBLICAL COMMUNITY
- \* SPIRITUAL GIFTS
- \* GIVING AWAY MY TIME
- \* GIVING AWAY MY MONEY
- \* GIVING AWAY MY FAITH
- \* GIVING AWAY MY LIFE

#### 10 CORE VIRTUES

- \* LOVE
- \* JOY
- \* PEACE
- \* PATIENCE
- \* KINDNESS/GOODNESS
- \* FAITHFULNESS
- \* GENTLENESS
- \* SELF-CONTROL
- \* HOPE
- \* HUMILITY

### Scripture Reading: James 1:19-27

<sup>19</sup> Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. <sup>20</sup> Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. <sup>21</sup> So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. <sup>25</sup> But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it. <sup>26</sup> If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

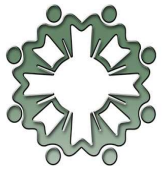
### Notes:



## Life Group Homework

For the week of February 21, 2010

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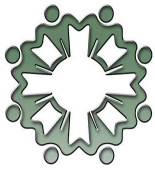
**QUICK REVIEW:** Looking back at this week's teaching on *James 1:19-27*, what was one thing that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

### MY STORY

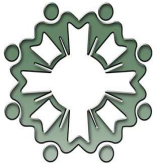
1. Do you do anything to observe *Lent*, the 40 day period between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday? It's not necessarily an Evangelical tradition, but is, for some, a good opportunity to get into the practicing of the spiritual discipline of fasting, and to emphasize God as your power and sustenance.
  - If you want something to do during this time, feel free to start the prayer guide *Seek God for the City* available at RVCC. This disciplined approach to prayer and evangelism is a great way to remind ourselves of what Jesus brought to this world in His salvation and the offer of freedom from sin available to all who believe in Him.

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. When you read in James 1:22 from this week's message, "But prove yourselves doers of the word," what comes to your mind? What do you think is meant by the mandate to be a "doer of the word?"



## Life Group Homework Continued



2. Before you can put something into practice, you must first have an understanding of what that certain something is. This doesn't mean that every Christ-follower must be a seasoned theologian before he or she can live the way Christ calls His followers to live, but it is important to understand what the "word" is in order to do it. So, according to the following passage, what does the word say we are to do?

- Matthew 22:36-40

3. If we were to stop right there, this thing we call Christianity would be solely motivated by meeting a list of requirements, and not about the relationship with have with the Living God of the universe. Our desire to grow closer to God should never be fulfilled by checking off a list of spiritual things to do, so why is there so much emphasis in the Bible on doing what God tells us? How does obedience to God's will deepen our relationship with Him? Use the following verses to answer this question:

- Psalm 40:8-11
- Matthew 12:50
- Romans 6:15-18
- Galatians 4:1-4
- John 8:31-32

### TAKING IT HOME

Thankfully, we serve a God who, in His perfection, perfectly loves, not by words but by action. Romans 5:8 tells us that "God **demonstrates** His own love towards us, that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-15. In what way can you commit this week to being a "doer of the word" thereby fulfilling Christ's desire that His sacrifice of love would compel His followers to serve His kingdom on earth? If you're having trouble thinking of a tangible way to begin this journey, start with the prayer guide *Seek God for the City* and be amazed at how effective the Holy Spirit is through your prayers for those around you.

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## FAMILY PAGE:

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**This is what the children are learning today!!**

**Bible Story:** David and Abigail

**Bible Truth:** Our love for Jesus is shown in our actions

**Scripture:** James 1:19-27; 1 Samuel 25:1-34

**Bible Verse:** Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. James 1:22

**Questions to discuss with your children about today's lesson:**

*\*Read 1 Samuel 25:1-34*

1. Why was David angry? (verses 9-10)
2. What did David want to do with his anger? (verse 13)
3. What did Abigail do? (verses 18-19, 28)
4. Who did David praise for stopping him from murdering Nabal? (verse 32)

**Thought Questions:**

*\*Read James 1:19-27*

1. Do you think it is okay to get angry?
2. Do you think it is easy to follow God when you are angry?
3. When David was angry, how did he listen to God and do what God said?

## Upcoming Events

### \* Changes That Heal

-How to Understand Your Past to Ensure a Healthier Future  
 -Dr. Henry Cloud takes the reader step-by-step through four basic tasks of becoming mature image bearers of God. Not only does he explain and describe each task, he also identifies the problems that result when we fail to accomplish that task, and he shows us what changes to make in our lives in order to bring about healing.

**-This is a new 12 week book study beginning March 3rd.**

**-Wed. nights from 7:00pm to 8:30pm @ RVCC**

**-Cost for book & workbook is \$25.00**

**-All are welcome!!**

**-See Pam for more information or to purchase materials**

### \* Men's Bible Study

Tuesday Nights @ River's Edge Cafe

6:30pm to 8:00pm

If you'd like to have dinner with us contact Pam by 12:00pm Tuesday.

### \* Beth Moore's "So Long Insecurity"

Aurora Christian School Theater

(enter at door 11)

Hosted by River Valley

Saturday, April 24th 2010

9:00am to 3:00pm (Doors open at 8am)

Tickets are \$30

(includes cont. breakfast and a box lunch)

Purchase tickets on the "Seminars" page of the River Valley Website.

Any questions please talk to Gretchen Schuette

### \* Be A Lighthouse

Get your copy of "Seek God For The City"

Forty days of hope by prayer:

February 17th - March 18th, 2010

\$3.00 each (children's one free)

Purchase at RVCC at table in cafe

### \* Sunday Morning Prayer Time

Come join us each Sunday morning before the service as we share and pray together 9am

### \* Change To Children's Program

Before the sermon, children 6-10, gather in the conference room area for an age appropriate Bible teaching. Children ages 3-5 will continue as normal.

## Weekly Events

### \* Prayer Band – Sunday's @ 9:00am

All are invited to meet every Sunday morning at 9a.m. for prayer in the study of the River Valley Cafe. Join us to pray for our worship celebration, for our church family, for your personal needs and to pray for others. We will keep this prayer meeting informal, as we remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit to guide us. We look forward to seeing you there!

### \* Women's Ministry

Monday Evenings @ 7:00pm

Thursday Mornings @ 9:00am

### \* Men's Ministry

Tuesday Mornings @ 6:30am

### \* FOCUS – Singles Ministry

Thursday Evenings from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

### \* K-Life – Grades 6-12

New Schedule Coming Soon

[www.aurora.klife.com](http://www.aurora.klife.com)

### \* Life Groups

For Information please call the Church Office @ 630-907-2992

**Help us get to know you!!**

We would like to get to know you and your family!! Please take a few moments and fill out this form. If you don't have time to do it now, you can bring it back next week, mail it back to the church or email Pam your info at [admin@rivervalleycommunity.org](mailto:admin@rivervalleycommunity.org).

Pam will also use some of this information to update/create a new church directory that will come out later this year. Thank you all so much!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s please state whether home/cell/work **(if cell, please include service provider)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Birthday(month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary (month/day/year)\_\_\_\_\_

For kids – age and grade in school\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How are you involved with the church? (Life group, bible study, ministries, volunteer, etc.)

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Anything you would like more information about. \_\_\_\_\_

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Would you like to be on our Devotional/Newsletter **email** list? Yes or No

Would you like to be on our Prayer Chain? Yes or No

**\*\*Prayer Chain goes out by email. If you don't have an email address we will send it to you by mail**

Would you like to be listed in our Church directory? Yes or No

Anything else you would like us to know about you! \_\_\_\_\_

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