The Gifts You Need

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Preacher: Dr. Michael Staton

[0:00] This is the First Mustang Pulpit Podcast, a podcast of the weekly preaching and teaching at First Mustang. Thank you for joining us.!

It is so good to be with you this morning and to be able to spend this Lord's Day with each of you. Always a privilege every Sunday to gather to sing and to read the word, to encourage each other, to use our spiritual gifts, to give, to worship through prayer.
And now for us to open our Bibles and ask the Lord to speak to us. So if you would, open with me to Philippians chapter 1. If you are a guest with us today, we have been walking verse by verse through the book of Philippians for several months.
We find ourselves today at the end of chapter 1. We'll be looking at verses 27 to 30. We have so many special things coming up over the next few weeks.
We want you to be a part of all that you can. We've got our special combined choirs next Sunday morning. You're going to want to make sure and be here for that.
[1:08] Next Sunday night is our Christmas Around the Tree. So this evening, regular evening worship at 5 o'clock in here. Next Sunday evening, 5.30 is Christmas Around the Tree outside at the south entrance.

Marcy, are we doing like hot chocolate stuff beforehand? Okay, so like 5 o'clock, you can show up. We've got cookies and hot chocolate for you. We've got the kids event going on in the gym.
And then at 5.30, outside, Christmas Around the Tree. So dress warm. Just watch the weather. If it rains on us, we'll move inside of the youth center. Otherwise, we'll be outside 5.30.
A wonderful time as we sing together and study God's Word. Christmas Around the Tree outside at the south entrance. And then just make sure and notice your bulletin. And then also all of our newsletter information that's got special services, special times and events.
The big thing to know about, of course, is our Christmas Eve service, which all of a sudden is not far away at all. That'll be Christmas Eve at 6 and 8.
[2:16] We'll have child care for babies through two-year-olds at both of those services. They're identical. You can come to either one. We hope that you'll be able to join us with your family, 6 or 8 o'clock.

But this is a great time of year to really pay attention, if you would, to our newsletter we send out. So you can make sure and be aware of all of the special events and the times and details of it.
If you don't receive that newsletter, just use that connection card. Give us your name and email. Say, add me to the newsletter. Drop it in one of the giving boxes. We would love for you to be fully informed and to know what's going on and to be a part of this Christmas season with your church family.
Let's turn our attention to Philippians chapter 1 as we think about what the Lord would have to say to us through His Word. You know, when a baby is born, there's some predictable things that happen.
Of course, first, everybody oohs and aahs as they gaze upon this precious gift of a baby. But then very predictably, the comparisons begin. My observation is that the parents of the mom look at the baby and say, Oh, that baby looks just like you to their daughter.
[3:32] And the parents of the husband and the dad say, Oh, that baby looks just like you. And I never see those crossed. It's so strange. Nobody thinks they look like the other side of the family.

And then after that predictable part comes the really weird part that makes it even more confusing. Because then people say things like, Oh, he's got his grandfather's nose.
Or those are just his aunt's eyes. And it just gets really weird and wacky. But people look at this baby and they see all kinds of comparisons of what they think looks like they're a part of this family.

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And sometimes, Marsh and I will be at a store and I'll just casually say, Oh, that person looks just like so-and-so from church. And she'll say, Oh, they don't look alike.
They have very different shaped eyes. I don't even know what shaped eyes I have. I just meant, in general, he reminds me of that guy. But it seems that we're just kind of hardwired to notice comparisons.
[4:33] And when somebody looks like someone or somebody reminds you of somebody. Well, that ought to be true in our Christian life. We ought to have a family resemblance.

There ought to be some things about us that somebody says, They look like Christ to me. I can tell they're Christians because I recognize the way they live.
I know that they must believe the Bible because of the way they talk. They must belong to the family of God because there's a family resemblance as they look at our lives together.
Our text this morning is going to show us some of those things that we should have in common because of what the Lord has given to us that we now possess.
It's fitting as we kick off this Advent season that we'd find ourselves at the end of Philippians 1 because this final paragraph really is about gifts the Lord gives to us.
[5:42] As our mind on this time of season is on gifts and trying to find a special gift to give to someone in your life that would communicate love and value and affection, we read today about some of the gifts God gives to us.

And because we're a part of one family, if we're believers, we all share in these gifts. And so there should be a family resemblance in that way. Interestingly enough, one of the gifts mentioned in this passage is one that would come quickly to your mind and another one that the Lord mentions in this passage through His Word might sound even a bit strange.
Both are very important. Philippians 1 verse 27 This is a clear sign to them of their destruction.
But of your salvation and that from God. Watch this. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ, you should not only believe in Him, but also suffer for His sake.
Engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. I want us to look at this brief passage with two headings.
[7:36] First, verses 27 and 28. Public proof of a Christian's commitment to God. Public proof of a Christian's commitment to God.

We need to go public with our faith. The world around us ought to know that we are not ashamed of the gospel. One of the beautiful things that we do at our church that is so thrilling to me, we've already been able to witness this morning, when someone is baptized, and you get to hear in their own words, how the Lord brought them to faith, how the Lord opened their eyes, how the Lord brought them from death to life.
In our next service, we'll have others who are baptized and to get to hear the same kinds of testimonies. But it's about going public with your commitment to God.
But it's not just at our baptism that happens. Our entire life ought to be a public display that we belong to Him.
They ought to see the character traits of Christ alive in our life as we live. And there are several public proofs that we can give.
[8:55] There are some family resemblances that we all ought to have in common as people look at our life. Number one, write down consistency. This comes from verse 27.

Let's look at the text together. Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ so that whether I come and see you or am absent, that I would hear your standing firm.
This is actually one long sentence. Actually, in the original text, verse 27 to verse 30 is one very lengthy sentence. It starts with only. This is essential. This is something that must be true for us. Only let your manner of life. This cannot be forsaken. This must be done. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel.
This is how we are to conduct ourselves. This phrase here, to let your manner of life, that phrase of how we're to live, the way that we conduct ourselves, that exact word is found only two places in your New Testament.
[10:11] One is here, and the other is Acts 23, verse 1. Let me read it to you. And looking intently at the council, Paul said, Brothers, I have, here it is, lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day.

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Conduct yourself. To live your life. The root of this word in the original text refers to a city and the people who would be citizens of that city.
There's a certain way the citizens of that city are supposed to conduct themselves. There's a certain way that believers are to conduct themselves.
We who have been saved by grace through faith, who belong to Christ. We whose home is heaven. There is a certain way that we are to conduct ourselves.
Let me show it to you in Philippians where we see the same idea expressed. Look at chapter 3, verse 20. You see the same idea expressed here. But our citizenship is in heaven.
[11:24] What city do we belong to? Our citizenship is in heaven. Hebrews 13 says here, we have no lasting city. We seek the city which is to come.

As Christians, our ultimate citizenship is in heaven. Our home is in heaven. Because that's where our God dwells.
And so, we could think of it this way. That while alive on this earth, we have a dual citizenship. Yes, we are human beings alive, living this life on planet earth.
And we are to live this life for the sake of Christ. Yet, our ultimate home is in heaven. And this is expressed in the earlier parts of chapter 1.
We looked at a few weeks ago where Paul says, For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Every day I live is a gift, and when I die, it's gain.
[12:21] There's a dual citizenship. I will make the most of my life on this earth. And when my life comes to an end, I'm going to my true home to be with the Lord.

There's a consistency with how we conduct ourselves as Christians. That we live as those who belong to Christ.
And the text says, whether I am with you or I'm absent. Conduct yourself the same way. This is the prayer of every parent.
That their children would not just act obediently and honorable when mom and dad's there to watch. But when mom and dad is away, that the children would act with the same obedience and same honor if mom and dad were watching.
This is the hope of every teacher. That their students are learning and doing their work with integrity. And if the teacher leaves the room, that they would continue to do their work with integrity.
[13:26] This is the prayer of every boss. That the employees, that they would supervise. That they would work just as hard, just as diligently. If the boss is watching, as if the boss is not watching.

That there's a consistency with how you live your life. Whether your human authority is physically present or absent, you would live the same way because you belong to Christ.
And my friends, I want to encourage you. This is how we are to display publicly our faith in Christ. That we live the same way whether somebody is watching or we are all by ourselves.
That we wouldn't be two different people. That the words you speak and the places you go and the activities you engage in, that all of it would be consistent whether mom and dad is watching, whether your spouse is watching, whether your friends are watching, or if it's just you and God.
That you would be the same person because you belong to Christ. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear that you are standing firm.
[14:58] There's a word I want to draw your attention to here. Let your manner of life be worthy. Mark that word. Let your manner of life be worthy.

To be worthy, if you trace the language back here, it means to be equivalent. It means the scales were balanced.
So think of it this way. If I were to have two scales here, and on one side of the scale, we had the idea or the word Christ follower, and on the other side, we were to put your life, the picture is that it should be balanced.
That what you would expect of a Christ follower would be balanced, equivalent to what would be true in your life. So when you read the New Testament, and you look at how a Christian is to live, how a Christian is to conduct themselves, if someone examines your life, your life ought to balance, ought to measure up to what the biblical expectation of a Christ follower would be.
It doesn't mean we're perfect, but it should give evidence that we are changed. Let me just give you an example.

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[16:17] You might just write down 1 Corinthians 6, 9-11. Let me just read it to you. Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?

Do not be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.
Verse 11. And such were some of you, but you were washed. You were saved.
There's hope for the immoral. There's hope for the homosexual. There's hope for the drunkard. There's hope for the swindler. And that hope is in Christ.
And the Christians, the body of Christ, the family of God, are not made up of people who are perfect and have always been perfect. Such were some of you.
[17:32] This is who we were without Christ. We were just like the world, guilty and condemned. But you were washed. You've been changed by God's grace.

And because you've been changed, you should be different. If the gospel you proclaim has not changed your life, you have not met Christ.
Such were some of you. But grace has washed us. Grace has changed us. And now our lives, when put on those scales, ought to balance, ought to look like what you would expect from a Christ follower.
The same in public. The same in private. Consistency. Let me give you a second public proof of our commitment to God. Write down the word, immovable.
Looking on in the text, that I may hear that you are standing firm. Immovable. You have convictions.
[18:46] You have commitments. And you are standing firm in those things. If you look here, specifically the text, when it says standing firm in the New Testament, that Greek word can be used to mean standing firm literally, or it can be metaphorical.

Let me just give you an example of it. In Mark 3.31, it says, His mother and his brothers came, and they were standing outside. Same word. Physically standing.
Or, it can be metaphorical. 1 Corinthians 16.13, Be watchful. Stand firm in the faith. Act like men. Be strong. When the New Testament speaks of standing firm metaphorically, it's talking about a picture of like a soldier who refuses to leave his post.
He's been given an assignment. Doesn't matter the weather conditions. Doesn't matter how tired he is. Doesn't matter how hungry he is. Doesn't matter what the enemy is doing. He's been given an assignment, and he will stand firm.
[19:55] Immovable. He will not retreat. He will not give up. He will not back down. He is immovable with what he's been assigned to do. And this should be the family trait of Christ's followers.

We are consistent in how we live, and we are immovable. It doesn't mean that in matters of preference that we don't give, we've got to show honor and preference to each other, but in matters of biblically revealed, convictional truth, in matters of the doctrine of who Christ is, and what the Bible says, and how a person is saved, and the reality of heaven, and the reality of hell, we are immovable in that.
It doesn't matter what the public opinion is. We believe the Word, and we preach the Word. Now to stand for the truth, you have to know the truth.
And if you don't know the truth, you won't stand for it. And if you're not convinced of what you say you believe, dial the pressure up hot enough, and you will retreat.
But citizens of God's kingdom, Christians, ought to have the family resemblance, the public proof, that we are consistent with how we live, and we are immovable.
[21:34] Threats don't shake us. There's a third proof, write down the word unity. Whether I come and see you, or am absent, I may hear of you, that you are standing firm.

Look how he describes it. In one spirit, with one mind. One spirit, one mind. This is biblical unity. Literally here, the word that says united in spirit, it literally would mean to be one soul. S-O-U-L-E-D. Our souls are one.
Where does that unity come from? Because we know the truth, we proclaim the truth, and we live the truth. That's what unites the family of God.
Publicly, and privately. Whether being watched, or someone is absent from watching us. Either way, we believe the word, we proclaim the word, and we live the word.

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[22:49] And then I want you to write down a fourth thing. That we are courageously faithful. Standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, that's our unity.

Striving side by side, for the faith of the gospel. We work together. We strive together.
We labor together. This same Greek word is used, if you look in chapter 4, verse 3. I ask you also, a true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me, in the gospel together.
We're courageously faithful, because we fight together. We're not standing toe to toe, fighting each other.
We're standing back to back, fighting together. Holding our post. Unified. Committed to each other.
[23:54] We're courageously faithful to each other. And look at how our courage is displayed in verse 28. Not frightened in anything by your opponents.

No fear. No fear. People who would be against you. People who would hurt you.
People who would seek to harm you. People who would come against you what you believe. Or people who would try to bully you into betraying what the Bible says.
We are not alarmed. We are not easily disturbed. We are courageously faithful. Not frightened in anything by your opponents. I love the way the New English Bible translates this.
It says, You are without so much as a tremor. Threats of the world. People who want to condemn you.
[24:55] Or hate you. Or betray you. Or accuse you. Not so much as a tremor. You believe the truth.

And the family resemblance, the public proof of our commitment to God, is that without any fear, we live our lives, in public and in private the same way.
And let the accusations come. Let the persecution come. Let the threats come. Not so much as a tremor, should it produce in the people of God.
We are courageously faithful as we stand shoulder to shoulder. No retreat. It says, This is a clear sign to them of their destruction.
But of your salvation. And that, your salvation, from God. Sometimes the best way to know that someone's faith is genuine is by who opposes them.
[26:04] when you look at the character of people who threaten the church, when you look at the lives of people who condemn the church, when you look at the life and the manner and the conduct of certain people who they oppose, sometimes the greatest evidence that you're walking with the Lord is that the right people oppose you.

not meaning their right and their belief, meaning their conduct shows they don't love Jesus. And this is the problem when the church wants to be liked by the world.
1 Corinthians 6 that I read to you a moment ago, those who are living in their sin, practicing their sin, flaunting their sin, they're not going to like what we preach.
However, when their heart gets convicted of their need of a Savior, and when they've come to the end of themselves of trying to satisfy their needs that they cannot do, and they see Christ for who He is, and His grace, and His mercy, and His forgiveness floods them, they will spend the rest of their life thanking the church that they preach the gospel without a single tremor of fear because they become washed by the grace of Jesus Christ.
But when churches desire the applause and the affection and the affirmation of the world, when churches become worldly to try to reach the world, we lay down the only weapon we have, which is the gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ alone.
[28:06] These are the public proofs of our commitment to God. This is our family resemblance that we should have together.

Now let me show you a second thing in this paragraph. It's an interesting transition that takes place. He goes from the public proof of our commitment to God to a second thing in verses 29 and 30.
And that's the gracious gifts from God to His people. Gracious gifts from God to His people.
And I want to draw your attention to three gifts that God gives His people. The first one would be the first that would come to your mind. It's the gift of salvation.
Look at verse 29. The language here is critically important. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in Him.
[29:14] Let's stop there. It's been granted to you that you would believe in Him. So the first gift as Christians we're given here in this text is the gift of salvation.

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Now I want you to notice this. The word granted means to graciously give. Okay? It's important to know this.
To be granted is to graciously give. This same Greek term we find throughout the New Testament. Let me just give you a quick sampling of it.
Philippians 2.9 it's used to describe how the Father gives the Son the name above all names. 2 Corinthians 7 it's used to describe how God gives us forgiveness.
In Philemon it's used to describe how God gives us answers to prayer. 1 Corinthians 2 it's used to describe how we receive from the Lord.
[30:18] So when you put that together this term that you've been granted means to graciously give. God has graciously given you when you read this term translated granted.

So why are you saved? because you believe in Christ. Why do you believe in Christ? Because God granted it to you. So if granted means graciously given just listen to the verse with that in mind.
For it has been graciously given to you to believe in Him. Christian you ought to live your life every day aware that the salvation you possess is not something you earned.
It was graciously given to you. it was gifted to you.
This is not a matter of just theological debate. This is a matter of worship. If you convince yourself in any way that your salvation is something you deserved or earned or gained because of the work of your hands or the dedication of your heart or any of that then you will consistently live your life dwelling on you.
[31:56] And when you struggle and sin you will consistently struggle with doubting your salvation because logically if you're saved because of you then it makes sense you would lose it because of you.

But the consistent teaching in the New Testament is that one who is truly in Christ cannot lose what was given to them which is eternal life.
And people who forget that their salvation was graciously granted tend to go through life thinking God owes me more.
But those who understand that the only explanation for your salvation is that it was graciously granted to you wake up every day and can testify that God has given me more than I could ever deserve.
In fact the Lord has been good to us. We've had a number of baptisms recently. Last Sunday we baptized several in both services and I saw a church member of ours commenting on someone who was baptized last week.
[33:16] There was a picture of their baptism and the response of our church member to the picture of the baptism caught my eye. To the one who was being baptized a church member commented praise the Lord for the faith he has given her.

That church member nailed it. Not congratulations as if you just got promoted that work. Not way to go as if you just won a scholarship because of your ACT score.
Not even I'm so proud of your decision as if they're the ones who sealed the deal but just biblically said praise the Lord for the faith God has given her.
Everything about that response turned my attention to the goodness and the mercy of God. And when you see somebody come to Christ let your first response be praise God for the work he has done.
When you're praying for the lost to be saved and I hope that you are and when you're sharing the gospel with those who don't know Christ and I hope that you are and when you're pleading with them to repent and pleading with them to trust in Christ and I hope that you are when they believe let your response always be praise God for the work that he has done.
[34:49] Praise God for the faith he has granted. And if you say but where's our biblical basis for that it's right here in Philippians 1 29 it has been granted graciously given to you to believe let your response to the good work of Christ always be praising him when someone's baptized I'm excited for them they've been obedient to the Lord they're going public with their faith and that's not always easy to be in front of a crowd this size and to communicate your testimony that can be very difficult it can be intimidating and I'm really proud of the courageous faith that they display in being baptized but while I'm excited and proud of their faith I know where that faith came from it was graciously given to them so I will rejoice with them but the praise only goes to

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Christ be careful! Lazarus to life for one reason Jesus called him alive and so is the testimony of every believer in this room the gift of salvation there's a second gift he mentions and this one is not what you may expect it has been granted to you graciously given to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him that's the first gift of salvation look at the second gift but also suffer for his sake no break you've been given gifts you were given the gift of salvation and you were given the gift of suffering no break same God same giver and to his people he graciously gives the gift of salvation and the gift of suffering seems like a strange gift to us doesn't it you expect to think of salvation as a gift from God but rarely do we really think of our suffering as a gift from God but that's the very language of the New Testament it's a bit jarring to us it's been graciously given granted to you for the sake of
Christ that you would believe in him and also suffer for his sake and you've got to catch the phrasing here at the end of verse 29 to understand this ultimately biblically your salvation was for his sake his glory glory and your suffering is for his sake!
His glory you won't think like this unless you believe the Bible God will apart from the revelation of God's word you would assume your salvation is something you did you accomplished you achieved and you would assume that the suffering in your life is something strange and maybe even something unfair it's been given to you it's a gift to you that you would find salvation and that you would suffer and both gifts are not ultimately about you it's about his namesake that should change the way that you see your salvation and it should certainly change the way you see your suffering a lot of
[39:42] Christians fall into this trap of when suffering comes persecution comes sickness comes slander comes whatever it may be our first thought is God you've forgotten me you've neglected me you've abandoned me and the New Testament says no I've gifted you now let's just be honest that's a hard gift to receive isn't it suffering we rejoice in the gift of salvation the gift of suffering that very gift that was graciously given to you that sometimes we misinterpret and think it's actually the sign of

God's absence when in reality it's the evidence of his grace to us how in the world is our suffering a gift because it's for his name sake it's to show the greatness of our God let's connect this dot with where we started public proof God gives you gracious gifts that you can give public proof of your love for him the gift of salvation gets lived out and publicly people can see the difference grace has made and when you suffer and when you're persecuted and when you're opposed and when you hurt and when you're mistreated and when you're lied about and when you're attacked and when you don't understand what's happening this is your chance to give public proof that the glory and the love and the grace of
God is enough to satisfy your heart your suffering becomes another public proof that grace has changed you if in your suffering you can joyfully surrender to Christ that brings assurance to your heart to let you know you are a child of God it's the family resemblance there's a third gift here that I think is at least implied not just salvation and suffering write down solidarity verse 30 you are engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have there's solidarity here he says you've been given the gift of salvation all
Christians have you've been given the gift of suffering all Christians will experience it and we've been given the gift of solidarity together because we look around and we say you know what we're engaged in the same conflict Paul was in spiritual conflict and so am I and so are you and you look across our church and you say you know what we are all!
as brothers and sisters in Christ we've all been given the same gift of salvation we're all trying to walk with Christ and give glory to his name and we stand in solidarity together not because we have the same opinion on everything but because we have the same heart we're one soul together now just think of how the Philippian believers have seen Paul suffer this isn't a statement that's just made hypothetically this is made literally you are engaged in the same conflict you saw I had and now here I still have what conflict are we talking about Acts 16 Paul and Silas were seized they were dragged they were falsely accused they were victims of violence they were stripped and beaten and flogged and Paul says you know that we've been abused you know that we've been falsely accused you know that we've been injured in verse 30 you're engaged in the same conflict we're soldiers joint together shoulder to shoulder engaged in the same conflict the details of our suffering may be different but the reality of it is the same we share a family resemblance same salvation the gift of suffering and the gift of solidarity let me tell you why this matters when you

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suffer the greatest threat that comes into your heart your mind is that you're all alone you start to feel like nobody knows what you're going through nobody has felt what you felt this is really personal for many of you thanksgiving
[45:57] Thanksgiving is so hard for some of you loved ones who have passed away it's hard relationships that are strained family that lives far away and in that suffering you can start to think that you're all by yourself that's what the enemy wants it is for you to feel like you're all alone on an island the Bible says no you're engaged in the same conflict doesn't mean the details of the battle are the same but we all know what it's like to love the Lord seek to honor him and have to deal with the imperfections of this life friends we are in the same conflict together you're not alone you're not there are other brothers and sisters in our church who have felt your grief there are others who are trying to worship

God as they've lost a spouse and trying to worship God as their kids are wayward and trying to worship God while their body hurts and try like Paul said trying to worship God while they're being attacked or accused he says you're engaged in the same conflict I have doesn't mean every detail is the same but we are fellow soldiers in the same battle together and where the enemy would like you to feel isolated the scripture says no no no you're a part of a family there's a family resemblance that lets us know that we're together and there's gifts God gives to us and one of those gifts is a joy salvation and one of those gifts is hard suffering both of them together remind us we are in solidarity together we are part of a family now that's only true for those who are in Christ if you find yourself here this morning and you don't know
Christ as your Savior those promises aren't true for you but by God's grace they can be even this day they can be because our God still saves 1st Corinthians 6 such were some of you but you were washed today can be your day of spiritual washing of spiritual cleansing maybe you're here this morning and you've never heard the gospel you've never heard that Jesus Christ lived a perfect life and died on a cross as a payment for our sin and that those who believe in him find forgiveness and that his perfection is given to you that's what happens to those who believe our sin paid for by Jesus his righteousness his perfection given to you and by grace we are saved through faith not our works and salvation comes not because you come to church not because you're a good person but simply because you take hold of who
Christ is and in faith you believe who Jesus says he is and the work of the Holy Spirit is to open your blind eyes and that which you used to not behold as beautiful you now say I want nothing else or maybe you've been in church all your life maybe you could stand here and explain the gospel as well as I might could but it's never taken life in your soul today can be your day of salvation maybe you've always thought salvation was for somebody else you don't need it or you don't really believe it or you'll take care of it later maybe this is the very day where you understand no this message is for me and God in his grace has allowed you yet one more opportunity to hear the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ the temptation for you might be to say I've heard it all my life I'll hear it the rest of my life and maybe right before I die I'll do something about it if you don't repent today what would ever make you think your heart would be different today you are face to face with the reality that our God saves sinners and would you even this day turn from your sin call out to Jesus Christ God have mercy on me and experience the gracious gifts that God gives to his people
[52:05] Lord we thank you this morning for your word and pray that you would use it to bring spiritually dead people to life and hope to those who are hurting encouragement to those who are struggling Lord you are good and you give good gifts to your people we confess that even in this text we see gifts you give to us that sometimes feel like they're hard gifts but without so much as a tremor may we with courageous faith trust you no matter what in his name we pray amen I love you church family thankful for you pray that even this day you would respond in obedience to the word tonight five o'clock evening worship we're going to sing together the word will be preached encourage you to come back and be a part of evening worship love you church

God bless you you're dismissed we're going to about we're going to out we're going to see you down on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on on fathers on on on on on on

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