

Communion at FOCUS

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the Lord's Table, also known as Communion. We have open communion, which means you do not have to be a member to receive with the rest of the church congregation. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies. For a list of ingredients, please see Linda Griffith.

FOCUS Youth Group -

Tonight 6:30-8PM

FOCUS Youth Group will be meeting at Andy and Linda Griffith's home tonight, 6:30-8PM. For directions to their home or for any questions, please contact pastor Anton.

Worship & Praise planning meeting, today 2-4:30PM

The Worship and Praise team members will be meeting today 2-4:30PM. This gathering is open to all who are interested in helping with our worship services, and specifically with our music ministry.



FOCUS

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Who's job—God's or mine?

By Ed Rotz | Sep 1, 2016

I first heard John Ortberg speak a number of years ago and I was immediately struck with his biblical, common-sensical approach to teaching God's Word. Since then I have considered him to be a long-distance mentor, of sorts. While taking a few days of vacation in northern California in late August, I heard him speak in his home church in Menlo Park. It was a personal grace.

Some time ago, Ortberg asked the question of his audience, "Is spiritual growth (sanctification) God's job or mine?" Some have taken the position that sanctification is solely God's job, and say, "I can't do anything at all. It's not my responsibility to become sanctified." At the other end of the spectrum are those Christians who take the drill instructor approach, evaluating spiritual growth as the end result of one's commitment level and development of moral muscle. The question is perplexing, one that many followers of Jesus wrestle with. Who's responsible for whether I become more like Jesus—me or the Holy Spirit?

Ortberg's wise response is tethered to Philippians 2:12-13 where Paul admonishes his friends, "Work out your salvation . . . for it is God who works in you . . ."

We have a role to play, but we don't control it. He illustrates it beautifully by pointing out the differences between a motorboat and a sailboat. In the speed boat, I'm in control, but in the sailboat, while I'm not passive, I have a role to play: sails need to be hoisted and the rudder needs to be steered, but I have to depend on the wind to blow to get anywhere.

Likewise, God has ordained a partnership when it comes to our spiritual growth. When God's wind/Spirit blows it is my responsibility to trim the sails, catch the breeze, and keep my hand on the rudder.

The responsibility for spiritual growth is not an either/or matter; it is both God and me..

September 11, 2016

FOCUS Wesleyan Church

Counter Culture "Baal is Busted"

Main Scripture passage: 1 Kings 18:17-40



1) Not answering is an

Revelation 3:20

Notes:

2) The gods we may be tempted to follow offer no true

A _____, no G _____,
and no W _____

Isaiah 42:8-9

Notes:

3) Our God is a _____ God

Deuteronomy 13:1-5

Notes:

Reflection: What is one new thing you believe God spoke to you today as a result of worshipping at FOCUS?

What is your **next step** upon hearing God's Word? What has been holding you back, if anything, from fully committing to following Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of your life? In what area(s) of your life might God be prompting you to take a more courageous stand for Truth?

Challenge: This week I will pray each day for the following friend: