

Second

BY SANTES BEATTY | FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second.

(Heb. 10:9)

WHILE GROWING UP, I was really competitive, and I didn't like coming in second. I always wanted to be first. Whether I was finishing an assignment or running a race, second place was never the goal. One day my mom pulled me aside after she saw me pouting because I came in second. I thought she was going to comfort me, but I soon found my idea of a needed hug came with a challenge. Her words ring true today: "Sometimes you gain by losing; sometimes second is best because it can be a great teacher." My young mind failed at first to see her logic, but time-tested experience has proved her wisdom to be true.

The book of Hebrews is all about telling us how Jesus is better, far superior, than anything else. He is considered the second Adam, who is better than the angels, better than the tabernacle, and even better than all the prophets. Hebrews describes his sacrifice as far superior than that of burnt offerings, sin offerings, and the like and that we should put aside the first and honor the second.

Through this second sacrifice, we who trust in Jesus Christ are made holy once and for all. If my mom were here, she might remind me that second is not always bad, but used properly it wields great power.

Set aside man-made, ritualistic sacrifices and honor God with obedience and humility.

Santes Beatty is director of multiethnic ministries for The Wesleyan Church.

March 3, 2019

Sermon Notes:

The Widow of Zarephath

1 Kings 17:1-14

1 Kings 17:15-16

The Widow at the Temple

Mark 12:41-44

1 Chronicles 21:22-25

1. Giving to God expressed our _____ dependence

Deuteronomy 26:8-10

2. Giving is one of the ways we _____ God

Proverbs 3:9-10

3. Giving trains my heart to _____ God more

Malachi 3:10-12

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

The Word of God directs us as we consider what the *next step* is for our lives. What is your next step as you are feeling prompted by the Holy Spirit when it comes to giving and generosity? Are you feeling led to begin tithing 10% of your income to the local church? If you are already practicing biblical storehouse tithing, are you feeling led to give above and beyond that amount? Or maybe you are feeling led to start giving something to the local church as an act of worship. Make the commitment before God and start living in greater freedom and closeness with God this week.

Challenge: This week I will pray for the following unsaved friend(s) or family members:

Communion at FOCUS

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the **Lord's Table**, also known as **Communion**. We have open communion which means all are invited to receive. We receive communion elements by intinction. Tearing off a small piece of the loaf of bread, dipping it in the communion glass of juice, and then consuming it immediately. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies.

FOCUS Small Groups

Are you interested in connecting with others throughout the week? We have several Small Groups already meeting and some preparing to start additional groups. Here are the groups already gathering during the week:

~ **Women's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Men's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Women's Life Group** - Wednesday Evenings 7 PM - **Life Group member's Home**, Sadieville, KY

~ Tentatively starting this week:
Youth Small Group - afterschool at Chick-fil-a, Georgetown, day and time TBD

*For more information about joining or starting a small group please contact Pastor Anton. afolz@focuswesleyan.org or 502-369-2096

STEM - April 6, 2019 - 8 AM

- 4 PM - Save the Date.

RSVP due March 6th



FOCUS
WESLEYAN CHURCH

At FOCUS we exist to;
Worship God,
Live for Jesus,
Love all People,
and Serve the World.

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