

VILLAGE ONLINE

Announcements—August 16, 2020

Philippians 1:12–26

Pastor Ken Wytsma – To Live is Christ



High School Justice Seminar

We are excited to host a high school justice seminar on campus! Through teaching sessions by Kafi Carrasco, Samuel Carrasco, and Leroy Barber, group discussions, activities, and more, we hope to begin to look at what the Bible says about justice and use this information to inform our understanding of current events. We are so excited to lead and shepherd our high school students through this critical subject. [Register here](#). Registration is limited to 20 students, so make sure to sign up soon! For more information email [Mary Joy Wytsma](#).

Beirut, Lebanon

Continue to pray for the ministries in Lebanon that are working overtime to bring hope and healing to people devastated by the disaster last week. With hundreds dead, thousands injured, and hundreds of thousands homeless, many are hurting and in need of assistance. There is also anger over the cause of the disaster leading to the resignation of the government and increased instability of the country. Pray for discernment of leaders, compassionate response from believers, and support from other countries in relief. Pray also that Christians will know how to respond most effectively and have the resources to not only physically help people, but to also be able to bring the message of hope in Jesus to many people during this time.

To empower our Lebanon ministry partners during this time, donate to the [Disaster Relief](#) fund. All donations to the fund this week will be sent to Lebanon through our trusted partners.

Read more about the incident [here](#).

Praise Report - Village Distribution Center

Thank you for all your support and prayer for the Distribution Center. Click [here](#) to read all the ways God is using the Distribution Center to care for our community.

Flu Immunization Clinic Survey

We are in talks with pharmacists about providing an immunization clinic at Village in September to provide the flu vaccine and possibly a few others. If you are interested in participating in this event, please complete our short survey. Your responses are not committing you to participating but will help us plan for the number of pharmacists and types of vaccines to have available. More details regarding the date and registration for the clinic will follow in the coming weeks. [Take the survey here](#).

PushPay Giving

You can access PushPay from our church app, the church website, or from your phone by texting VILLAGEGIVE to 77977. Thank you for your generosity towards Village! For more information, email [Patty](#).

Giving Updates

Looking for updates on giving? Want to give? Please visit our giving page by [clicking here](#).

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Dig Deeper—August 16, 2020

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Prayer Points

Please join us in prayer over the following items:

- Continue to pray for the ministries in Lebanon that are working overtime to bring hope and healing to people devastated by the disaster last week. Pray for discernment of leaders, compassionate response from believers, and support from other countries in relief. Pray also that Christians will know how to respond most effectively and have the resources to not only physically help people, but to also be able to bring the message of hope in Jesus to many people during this time.
- Thank God for the outpouring of love for people in our community through Village's Distribution Center. A recent praise is for a grocery store owner who donated 2200lbs of rice just as we received a request from an Asian Pacific group who has numerous families in need of rice.

Discussion Questions

Take time after the service or during the week to think on these questions:

- Pastor Ken said, " We serve Christ, brothers and sisters, and Paul is showing us that we get to rejoice, even when in chains or house arrest or quarantine, because God is faithful to ensure that the Good News about Christ is spreading." Paul rejoiced in the spread of the gospel even when it didn't change his circumstances for the better. How can you rejoice in the spread of the gospel through your life and other believers today?
- Read Philippians 1:21-22 and discuss how an eternal perspective is necessary part of biblical joy. How does Jesus's offer of eternal life and the role it plays in the life of faith matter in your day to day life?
 - 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! 23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; 24 but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.
- Instead of asking God "what is your will for my life," we were encouraged to ask, "God, what is your will and how do I serve it with my life." How does the reframing of this question based on the example of Paul's life challenge you?
- Pastor Ken talked about the messiness of life (it's usually harder than we think it should be) and the mystery of God (He is often more silent than we want Him to be) and that the life of faith is lived in the tension between the two. How does "living the questions" or walking by faith despite uncertainty and hardship look in your life right now? Share with your group or journal about one or two of the hard and confusing aspects of life right now you are or want to trust God with.

Connect with Others

We want to help connect you with other members of the church in your walk with the Lord. Please click below for more information or to sign up for weekly newsletters for any of our ministries.

[Weekly Church Wide Email](#)

[Kids Ministry](#)

[Korean Fellowship](#)

[Middle School Ministry](#)

[Hispanic Fellowship](#)

[High School Ministry](#)

[Asian American Fellowship](#)

[Seniors Ministry](#)