BECOMING
A FRAMEWORK
FOR COMMUNAL
SPIRITUAL GROWTH

theFormed.life

Put the “formed” back in biblically “informed.”

Let’s take that next step together to be formed by God’s word, in God’s ways, with God’s people, every day.

CONTENTS

3 | Becoming More
12 | Who We're Becoming
21 | The Way of Becoming
30 | Becoming Through Knowing
39 | Becoming Together

INTRODUCTION

Few questions have remained central to humanity quite like “What is a good person?” and “How do I become one?” In a world longing to discover our truest selves, God longs for us to truly become our best selves. What is remarkably often overlooked is the reality that Jesus has made a way for us to become better than “better.” We can become good. Throughout history, this journey of becoming has been described as the way of virtue. Jesus not only invites us to become people of virtue, he does so in a way only he can.

Join us for the next five weeks as we learn from the Apostle Peter just how God has invited us to become remarkably good people like Jesus.

The discipline of "remembering" invites us to actively recall and live out the truth of the gospel by developing Christian virtue and becoming more like Jesus. In his writings, the Apostle Peter emphasizes that those who fail to live virtuously have forgotten their cleansing and identity in Christ. Remembering, therefore, is not simply recalling facts but actively re-engaging with the transformative truths revealed in Jesus and reawakening our hearts to God.

Remembering as a discipline is a relational and embodied practice that keeps us rooted in our identity, shapes our actions, and keeps us attentive to the Holy Spirit’s transformative work in us.

Cultivating this discipline guards against spiritual amnesia and spurs us on toward lives marked by faith, goodness, knowledge, and love. Embracing the discipline of remembering helps to sustain the pursuit of becoming more like Jesus, fulfilling Peter's call to "make every effort" to remember the gospel.

Prayer

Prepare my mind for your truth,

Prepare my eyes for your beauty,

Prepare my ears to listen for your voice,

Prepare my heart for your gentle correction,

Prepare my hands to praise you,

Prepare my body to obey you in all things,

Prepare my whole self to love you and my neighbor more and more.

– Amen

Following along with *theFormed.Life* (Weekly Flow)

Monday: Remember on Monday

Tuesday: Remember God's Story

Wednesday: Remember by Heart

Thursday: Remember Jesus With You

Friday: Remember Your Future

Saturday: Remember God's Ability to Transform

Sunday: Remember Who We Are Together

READ: 2 Peter 1:1–2, 17–18

Which story in the gospels is Peter quoting from?

What role does "the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord" play in growing grace and peace in your life?

Read or listen to the blog on *theFormed.life*

FOCUS:

Read or listen to the blog by a congregant "remembering" how the gospel impacts their work.

PRAY:

Ask God for ways to respond to the gospel today.

A Liturgy For Joy in Good Works

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to you,
that our work would not be a burden, but a delight. Give us such a mighty love for you that our obedience will be sweet.

Oh, let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves,
but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children,
delighting ourselves in you, and rejoicing in your work.
Amen.

– Every Moment Holy, Vol. III, McKelvey

REMEMBER GOD'S STORY

READ: Genesis 1–2

What does the creation account reveal about God and his character? God provided Adam with meaningful work in the garden (Genesis 2:15). How do you view the work God has given you? Is it a source of worship for you?

FOCUS:

- The biblical framework of "Ought, Is, Can, Will," is best described as the **way things ought to be** (how God created the world to be) compared to **the way things are** in contrast to **how they can be** if we are in relationship with Christ and **how the world will be** when Christ returns and restores it.

- Reflect on a time God transformed you or something in your life.

PRAY:

Pick a small item as a physical reminder of the gospel story. While holding it, reflect on your week and consider what facet of God you saw. After a moment of silence, thank God in prayer for who he is.

MEMORY VERSE

2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
3 His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.
4 By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, 6 knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, 7 godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:2–8

WEDNESDAY ___/___/___ REMEMBER BY HEART

READ: 2 Peter 1:2

FOCUS:
Meditate on this passage by reading it in silence once. As you read, pay attention to any words or phrases that stand out to you. With these in mind, read it aloud a second time and pause for reflection. Lastly, write the verse down.

PRAY:
Go on a walk to meditate on 2 Peter 1:2. Ask God to transform your character. End by resting in his presence and your identity as God's beloved.

THURSDAY ___/___/___ REMEMBER JESUS WITH YOU

READ: Mark 1:7–17
What does the voice from heaven tell us about Jesus' identity?
What can we learn from Jesus' experience in the wilderness?
What does "follow me" mean in the context of Jesus' call to discipleship?

FOCUS:
Recall a situation or a specific memory when you believed that Jesus was not present but you now know he was with you all along. Take a few minutes to remember this moment, then give this memory a name. Where might Jesus have been that you didn't have eyes to see at the moment? Write down a few details about this situation with Jesus as a part of the story.

PRAY:
Ask God to give you more awareness of his presence with you in your everyday ordinary moments.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

– Prayer of St. Patrick

REMEMBER YOUR FUTURE

Watch this video by **The BibleProject.**

Use this code or go to *theFormed.Life*

READ: Matthew 6:33

What does "kingdom of God" represent in this passage?

How might you seek God's kingdom and righteousness?

Are there areas in your life you need to "repent" and turn toward Jesus?

FOCUS:

Spend a few minutes imagining Jesus' kingdom that is both here now and is yet to come. What will this place be like? What is/will be present? What is/will be absent?

PRAY:

Pray the Lord's Prayer adding your own personal prayers after each line.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

REMEMBER GOD WITH YOU IN THE PAST

READ: Luke 5:4-11; Matthew 26:31-34, 69-75; John 21:15-17; Acts 2:32-36 (Peter)

What characteristics of God are on display in Peter's story?

Reflecting on Peter's spiritual journey, what are some areas of temptation for Peter?

In what way did God bring about redemption in Peter's story?

What virtues did God grow in Peter? *(Note the difference between the Peter that denies Jesus in the gospels now boldly proclaiming Jesus in the book of Acts).*

What aspects of Peter's journey do you relate to?

FOCUS:

Engage in the prayer practice of examen which is a reflective prayer posture. List several things to give thanks for and ways you failed this week. Ask God where he's inviting you to "make every effort" to grow, identify one small action step, and trust his grace to meet you there.

PRAY:

Postured Prayer: Choose a position for prayer that aligns with the heart-posture you desire to have toward God. Pray and ask God to transform you in a particular virtue. Thank Jesus for offering you his light and easy yoke.

READ: 2 Peter 1:1-2, 17-18

FOCUS:
Ask God to bring a person to mind that needs to be reminded of the truth about who God is or who they are. Encourage this person today.

PRAY:
Pray that as we gather together we would become a more virtuous people together.

SERMON NOTES:

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What practical steps can you take to rely on God's righteousness rather than your own efforts?
- Peter's firsthand experience with Jesus affirmed his faith in Jesus' power and authority. How does spending time with Jesus or in his word do the same for you?
- What "cleverly contrived myths" as it relates to Jesus and Christianity are we susceptible to believing as Christians living in America?
- Peter quotes the moment of Jesus' baptism when God the Father affirms Jesus' identity as God's beloved Son that he is well pleased with. How does your identity as Christ's beloved impact how you show up in your work day to day?

MONDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER ON "MONDAY"

READ: 2 Peter 1:3–4

What do you think it means that God's divine power has already given us "everything" needed for life and godliness through the "knowledge" of him? Rewrite verse 3 in your own words.

What does it mean for you to "share in the divine nature"? How does this shape your understanding of living a Christlike life?

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FOCUS:

Read or listen to the blog by a congregant "remembering" how the gospel impacts their work.

PRAY:

Ask God for ways to respond to the gospel today.

A Liturgy For Joy in Good Works

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to you,
that our work would not be a burden, but a delight. Give us such a mighty love for you that our obedience will be sweet.

Oh, let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves,
but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children,
delighting ourselves in you, and rejoicing in your work.
Amen.

– *Every Moment Holy,* Vol. III, McKelvey

TUESDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER GOD'S STORY

READ: Genesis 3, 37, 50:15–21

What are the eternal and relational consequences of sin or "the Fall" in Genesis 3?

What other effects of sin are displayed in the story of Joseph and his brothers?

What glimmers of redemption can be seen both in Genesis 3 and in Joseph's story?

FOCUS:

- The biblical framework of "Ought, Is, Can, Will," is best described as the **way things ought to be** (how God created the world to be) compared to **the way things are** in contrast to **how they can be** if we are in relationship with Christ and **how the world will be** when Christ returns and restores it.

- Reflect on a time God transformed you or something in your life.

PRAY:

Pick up the item you chose as a physical reminder of the gospel story. Reflect on your week and consider what facet of God you saw. After a moment of silence, thank God in prayer for who he is.

MEMORY VERSE

2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
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2 Peter 1:2–8

READ: 2 Peter 1:2–3

FOCUS:

Meditate on this passage by reading it in silence once. As you read, pay attention to any words or phrases that stand out to you. With these in mind, read it aloud a second time and pause for reflection. Lastly, write the verses down.

PRAY:

Go on a walk to meditate on 2 Peter 1:2–3. Ask God to transform your character. End by resting in his presence and your identity as God's beloved.

THURSDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER JESUS WITH YOU

READ: Mark 5:21–34

The woman came forward in fear and trembling but in her desperation still told Jesus the whole truth. How comfortable are you with being honest and vulnerable with God? How might your relationship deepen with God if you showed up to be with him in this way?

What significance can be found in Jesus calling the bleeding woman "daughter"?

FOCUS:

Before you were a believer, how was God drawing you to himself? Take a moment in silence to remember ways God was working in your life, then give this memory a name. Write a few words about Jesus being present even before you knew or acknowledged his existence.

PRAY:

Ask God to give you more awareness of his presence with you in your everyday ordinary moments.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

– Prayer of St. Patrick

FRIDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER YOUR FUTURE

READ: Matthew 5:21–48; 7:13–20

Jesus speaks of a narrow gate leading to life and a wide gate leading to destruction. How do you see these two paths presented in your daily life? How does Jesus take the Ten Commandments one step further in these verses? What does it reveal about Jesus?

Living in God's kingdom is not always easy. What specific action can you take this week to show kindness or mercy to someone who has wronged you?

FOCUS:

Spend a few minutes imagining Jesus' kingdom that is both here now and is yet to come. What will this place be like? What is/will be present? What is/will be absent?

PRAY:

Pray the Lord's Prayer adding your own personal prayers after each line.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SATURDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER GOD WITH YOU IN THE PAST

READ: Joshua 2, 6:22-25; Hebrews 11:31; Proverbs 25:21-22 (Rahab)

What characteristics of God are on display in Rahab's story?

What virtue(s) does Rahab display in this story?

Rahab demonstrated faith by helping the spies despite great personal risk. How is God calling you to step out in faith, even when it feels risky?

How does showing love to enemies reflect God's love for us, as seen in Rahab's story and the gospel?

FOCUS:

Engage in the prayer practice of examen which is a reflective prayer posture. Recall a person of virtue in your life. What virtues did this person possess? Recall specific memories or stories. How do you think God formed that virtue in them? What may God be seeking to transform in you and how might you submit to him in this?

PRAY:

Postured Prayer: Choose a position for prayer that aligns with the heart-posture you desire to have toward God. Pray and ask God to transform you in a particular virtue. Thank Jesus for offering you his light and easy yoke.

SUNDAY ___/ ___ / ___

WHO WE'RE BECOMING

READ: 2 Peter 1:3-4

FOCUS:

Ask God to bring a person to mind that needs to be reminded of the truth about who God is or who they are. Encourage this person today.

PRAY:

Pray that as we gather together we would become a more virtuous people together.

SERMON NOTES:

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- How can you remind yourself of God's promises more often so that you can escape the "corruption that is in the world"?
- If God has already given us everything required for "life and godliness" why do you think we so often fall short? What do you think Peter means by this?
- Since God has given you everything necessary for a godly life, what is one way you can confidently live into that truth this week?
- How will you intentionally share in God's "divine nature" in your relationships, work, or service to others this week?

READ: 2 Peter 1:5–9

Peter calls believers to "make every effort" to grow in qualities like goodness, knowledge, self-control, and love. Which of the listed virtues in the passage do you feel God is calling you to develop more intentionally right now? What's one practical step you can take toward developing that virtue in your life?

Peter warns that those who lack these virtues become spiritually blind and forget God's cleansing work. How do you think remembering and "knowledge of Jesus Christ" is connected to fruitfulness?

Read or listen to the blog on *theFormed.life*

FOCUS:

Read or listen to the blog by a congregant "remembering" how the gospel impacts their work.

PRAY:

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A Liturgy For Joy in Good Works

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to you,
that our work would not be a burden, but a delight. Give us such a mighty love for you that our obedience will be sweet.

Oh, let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves,
but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children,
delighting ourselves in you, and rejoicing in your work.
Amen.

– *Every Moment Holy,* Vol. III, McKelvey

REMEMBER GOD'S STORY

READ: Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 28:2–7; 1 Corinthians 15:12–19

Why is Jesus' death *and* resurrection significant for the redemption and restoration of all things?

What is significant about Jesus living a spotless and sinless life prior to this?

FOCUS:

- The biblical framework of "Ought, Is, Can, Will," is best described as the **way things ought to be** (how God created the world to be) compared to **the way things are** in contrast to **how they can be** if we are in relationship with Christ and **how the world will be** when Christ returns and restores it.

- Reflect on a time God transformed you or something in your life.

PRAY:

Pick up the item you chose as a physical reminder of the gospel story. Reflect on your week and consider what facet of God you saw. After a moment of silence, thank God in prayer for who he is.

MEMORY VERSE

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2 Peter 1:2–8

WEDNESDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER BY HEART

READ: 2 Peter 1:2–4

FOCUS:
Meditate on this passage by reading it in silence once. As you read, pay attention to any words or phrases that stand out to you. With these in mind, read it aloud a second time and pause for reflection. Lastly, write the verses down.

PRAY:
Go on a walk to meditate on 2 Peter 1:2–4. Ask God to transform your character. End by resting in his presence and your identity as God's beloved.

THURSDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER JESUS WITH YOU

READ: Mark 2:1–12
How does Jesus' authority to forgive sins and heal the paralyzed man deepen your understanding of who he is?
What areas of your life do you need to fully trust in Jesus' authority to forgive, heal, or transform?
Confess your sins to God and be reassured that he says to you, like he said to the paralytic, "your sins are forgiven."

FOCUS:
Recall a memory when you experienced pain, struggle, or temptation whether in a relationship, at work, in your family, or personally and yet experienced Jesus with you. Give this memory a name and write about it, highlighting how Jesus met you amidst it.

PRAY:
Ask God to give you more awareness of his presence with you in your everyday ordinary moments.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

– Prayer of St. Patrick

FRIDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER YOUR FUTURE

READ: Matthew 6:9–13, 7:7–8

What does “your Kingdom come” on earth mean? How do we know Jesus’ kingdom is coming on earth?

In what areas of your life do you need to surrender your own will and seek God’s kingdom purposes?

What are you currently asking, seeking, knocking for in your relationship with God?

FOCUS:

Spend a few minutes imagining Jesus’ kingdom that is both here now and is yet to come. What will this place be like? What is/will be present? What is/will be absent?

PRAY:

Pray the Lord’s Prayer adding your own personal prayers after each line.

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SATURDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER GOD WITH YOU IN THE PAST

READ: Luke 1:26-56, 2:16-20 (Mary)

What characteristics of God are on display in Mary’s story?

How does Mary show virtue in this story?

What character will God need to grow in her, knowing what all lies ahead of her as Jesus' mother?

In the midst of this mystery Mary is experiencing she turns to God in praise and thanksgiving. Spend some time giving God praise and thanks as it relates to something unknown or uncertain in your life.

FOCUS:

Engage in the prayer practice of examen which is a reflective prayer posture. List several things to give thanks for and ways you failed this week. Ask God where he’s inviting you to “make every effort” to grow, identify one small action step, and trust his grace to meet you there.

PRAY:

Postured Prayer: Choose a position for prayer that aligns with the heart-posture you desire to have toward God. Pray and ask God to transform you in a particular virtue. Thank Jesus for offering you his light and easy yoke.

READ: 2 Peter 1:5-9

FOCUS:
Ask God to bring a person to mind that needs to be reminded of the truth about who God is or who they are. Encourage this person today.

PRAY:
Pray that as we gather together we would become a more virtuous people together.

SERMON NOTES:

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- Why do you think Peter connects a lack of spiritual maturity with forgetting the cleansing of your past sins? How might you remember God's forgiveness and mercy toward you this week?
- In what areas of your life do you need to exercise greater self-control, and how might you seek God's or another believer's help with this?
- What specific area of your faith formation might God be asking you to make a greater effort in?
- How can you take practical steps to demonstrate love and endurance in your daily interactions?

MONDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER ON "MONDAY"

READ: 2 Peter 1:2–11

Why do you think Peter mentioned the qualities he did in this passage?
How do they keep us from being "unfruitful"?
What do you think it means to "make every effort to confirm your calling and election"?
What steps can you take today to walk in greater obedience, knowing God promises to provide for you richly with his eternal kingdom?

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FOCUS:
Read or listen to the blog by a congregant "remembering" how the gospel impacts their work.

PRAY:
Ask God for ways to respond to the gospel today.

A Liturgy For Joy in Good Works

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to you,
that our work would not be a burden, but a delight. Give us such a mighty love for you that our obedience will be sweet.

Oh, let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves,
but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children,
delighting ourselves in you, and rejoicing in your work.
Amen.

– Every Moment Holy, Vol. III, McKelvey

TUESDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER GOD'S STORY

READ: Revelation 21–22:5

What are some of the characteristics of the new heavens and new earth based on this passage?
From the beginning God created us to be with him. Sin fractured our perfect union with God. When all is restored fully we will be with him unhindered again. How does this give you hope today?

FOCUS:

- The biblical framework of "Ought, Is, Can, Will," is best described as the **way things ought to be** (how God created the world to be) compared to **the way things are** in contrast to **how they can be** if we are in relationship with Christ and **how the world will be** when Christ returns and restores it.

- Reflect on a time God transformed you or something in your life.

PRAY:
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2 Peter 1:2–8

READ: 2 Peter 1:2–7

FOCUS:
Meditate on this passage by reading it in silence once. As you read, pay attention to any words or phrases that stand out to you. With these in mind, read it aloud a second time and pause for reflection. Lastly, write the verses down.

PRAY:
Go on a walk to meditate on 2 Peter 1:2-7. Ask God to transform your character. End by resting in his presence and your identity as God's beloved.

THURSDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER JESUS WITH YOU

READ: Matthew 11:25–12:8

How does Jesus challenge rigid, rule-focused religion in this passage? How does knowing Jesus is gentle and humble impact how you interact with him? How does knowing him as your Teacher impact how you relate to him?

How does taking on Jesus' "yoke" bring freedom rather than heaviness?

FOCUS:

Recall a memory when everything was right in your world and you felt joy. Where were you? Who was with you? What did you see, taste, hear, smell? Take a moment in silence to remember this moment, then give this memory a name. Where was God in that moment? Write a few words about this memory.

PRAY:

Ask God to give you more awareness of his presence with you in your everyday ordinary moments.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

– Prayer of St. Patrick

FRIDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER YOUR FUTURE

READ: Matthew 5:1–12

What does this passage tell us about what the kingdom of God is like? How can you regularly remind yourself that your reward is in heaven? Of verses 3–11, which one is good news to you personally and why?

FOCUS:

Spend a few minutes imagining Jesus' kingdom that is both here now and is yet to come. What will this place be like? What is/will be present? What is/will be absent?

PRAY:

Pray the Lord's Prayer adding your own personal prayers after each line.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SATURDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER GOD WITH YOU IN THE PAST

READ: Daniel 1:3-17; Proverbs 10:9 (Daniel)

What characteristics of God are on display in Daniel's story?

In what ways did Daniel demonstrate the virtue of integrity?

How does God respond in this story to Daniel's integrity?

How can we actively cultivate the character of integrity in our relationships, work, and broader community?

FOCUS:

Engage in the prayer practice of examen which is a reflective prayer posture. Recall a person of virtue in your life. What virtues did this person possess? Recall specific memories or stories. How do you think God formed that virtue in them? What may God be seeking to transform in you and how might you submit to him in this?

PRAY:

Postured Prayer: Choose a position for prayer that aligns with the heart-posture you desire to have toward God. Pray and ask God to transform you in a particular virtue. Thank Jesus for offering you his light and easy yoke.

SUNDAY ___/___/___

BECOMING THROUGH KNOWING

READ: 2 Peter 1:2-11

FOCUS:

Ask God to bring a person to mind that needs to be reminded of the truth about who God is or who they are. Encourage this person today.

PRAY:

Pray that as we gather together we would become a more virtuous people together.

SERMON NOTES:

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- How does knowing that God called you on the basis of “His own glory and goodness” and not your righteousness deepen your love and desire to serve Him?
- What "great and precious promises" of God can you rely on to face difficulties today (v. 4)?
- Which of the listed qualities do you need God to help you cultivate and why?
- Not possessing virtue is equated with being useless in the knowledge of Jesus. Why do you think knowledge of Jesus must always lead to changed character? When have you seen knowledge of Jesus not lead to change in a person’s life, including your own?

READ: 2 Peter 1:12–15

Note every time Peter mentions “reminding” in some way. Why do you think it’s easy to forget the foundational truths of your faith, even when you know them well?

Reflect back to the virtue you identified in week three as an area of needed transformation. How have you been continuing to “make every effort” in that area?

How can you cultivate daily habits that help you "refresh your memory" of God’s word, character, and promises?

Read or listen to the blog on *theFormed.life*

FOCUS:

Read or listen to the blog by a congregant “remembering” how the gospel impacts their work.

PRAY:

Ask God for ways to respond to the gospel today.

A Liturgy For Joy in Good Works

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to you,
that our work would not be a burden, but a delight. Give us such a mighty love for you that our obedience will be sweet.

Oh, let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves,
but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children,
delighting ourselves in you, and rejoicing in your work.
Amen.

– Every Moment Holy, Vol. III, McKelvey

TUESDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER GOD'S STORY

READ: Romans 6:8–11; 1 Corinthians 15:20–24

The overarching narrative of Scripture is Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. How does knowing God's story encourage you to count yourself "dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus"?

Jesus has defeated death! How might this reality change how you think, speak, and live today?

FOCUS:

- The biblical framework of "Ought, Is, Can, Will," is best described as the **way things ought to be** (how God created the world to be) compared to **the way things are** in contrast to **how they can be** if we are in relationship with Christ and **how the world will be** when Christ returns and restores it.

- Reflect on a time God transformed you or something in your life.

PRAY:

Pick up the item you chose as a physical reminder of the gospel story. Reflect on your week and consider what facet of God you saw. After a moment of silence, thank God in prayer for who he is.

MEMORY VERSE

2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
3 His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.
4 By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, 6 knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, 7 godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:2–8

WEDNESDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER BY HEART

READ: 2 Peter 1:2–8

FOCUS:
Meditate on this passage by reading it in silence once. As you read, pay attention to any words or phrases that stand out to you. With these in mind, read it aloud a second time and pause for reflection. Lastly, write the verses down.

PRAY:
Go on a walk to meditate on 2 Peter 1:2-8. Ask God to transform your character. End by resting in his presence and your identity as God's beloved.

THURSDAY ___/___/___

REMEMBER JESUS WITH YOU

READ: Mark 10:36–52
Compare and contrast the answers of the "blind" disciples and the "seeing" blind man. What may be revealed about their hearts based on their answers to Jesus?
Jesus asked the disciples and Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?" Imagine Jesus asking you this question. What would your honest answer be?
Bartimaeus immediately followed Jesus after receiving his sight. How has God's work in your life inspired you to follow him more closely?

FOCUS:
Recall a memory when you felt relational intimacy and comfort within a friendship or in your community. Where were you? Who was with you? What did you see, taste, hear, smell? Give this memory a name. Where was God in that moment? Write down a few details about the memory.

PRAY:
Ask God to give you more awareness of his presence with you in your everyday ordinary moments.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

– Prayer of St. Patrick

FRIDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER YOUR FUTURE

READ: Matthew 5:13-16, 7:24-28

As the "light of the world," what areas of darkness in your life or surroundings is God calling you to shine into?

What are some storms you've faced recently? How did they reveal the strength (or weakness) of your spiritual foundation?

Verse 24 says, "everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Why is it so important to act on what we hear and know?

FOCUS:

Spend a few minutes imagining Jesus' kingdom that is both here now and is yet to come. What will this place be like? What is/will be present? What is/will be absent?

PRAY:

Pray the Lord's Prayer adding your own personal prayers after each line.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SATURDAY ___/ ___ / ___

REMEMBER GOD WITH YOU IN THE PAST

READ: Acts 2:31–3:1 (The Church)

Rewrite Acts 2:31-36 in your own words. Verse 37 says "they were pierced to the heart," what do you think this means?

What virtues and spiritual practices are evident in this particular faith community?

What might our local church glean from this example of the early church?

FOCUS:

Engage in the prayer practice of examen which is a reflective prayer posture. List several things to give thanks for and ways you failed this week. Ask God where he's inviting you to "make every effort" to grow, identify one small action step, and trust his grace to meet you there.

PRAY:

Postured Prayer: Choose a position for prayer that aligns with the heart-posture you desire to have toward God. Pray and ask God to transform you in a particular virtue. Thank Jesus for offering you his light and easy yoke.

SUNDAY ___/___/___ **BECOMING TOGETHER**

READ: 2 Peter 1:12-15

FOCUS:
Ask God to bring a person to mind that needs to be reminded of the truth about who God is or who they are. Encourage this person today.

PRAY:
Pray that as we gather together we would become a more virtuous people together.

SERMON NOTES:

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- Peter emphasizes the importance of reminders even when people already know the truth. What spiritual truths do you need to remind yourself of daily?
- There is urgency for Peter to remind people of the truth because he knows he will not live forever. How does knowing that your own days on earth are numbered impact your motivation to “make every effort”?
- What legacy of faith would you like to leave behind for others?
- What is one key takeaway you want to remember from this sermon series, "Becoming"?

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