

Suggested Resources

Below is a list of resources that will help you dig deeper into the topic preached about this morning. However, by recommending them, we are not giving a blanket endorsement to the author or every sentence you'll read. The only perfect person is Jesus and the only perfect book is the Bible so as you read these, practice discernment. In other words, "chew the meat and spit out the bones"!

- John Ortberg - *Soul Keeping* → this week's "Pastor's Pick"
- Ann Voskamp - *One Thousand Gifts*
- Mark Buchanan - *The Rest of God: Restoring Your Soul by Restoring Sabbath*
- Jo Robinson - *Unplug the Christmas Machine: A Complete Guide to Putting Love and Joy Back into the Season*

Suggested Bibles

We teach from the Bible on Sundays and encourage you to read the Bible throughout the week. Here are a few recommended versions of it:

Quest Study Bible

"The Question and Answer Bible."

CSB Study Bible

The CSB Study Bible offers the award-winning Holman study system, which includes over 16,000 study notes, tools, word studies, and articles from respected Bible scholars.

Teen Life Application Study Bible

includes sections explaining what the Bible has to say about the questions and issues teens face in the *Choices*, *I Wonder*, *Ultimate Issues*, and *My Story* features.

Kids Quest Study Bible

contains over 500 questions that kids ask, "Quest Challenges" to help you apply what you read and more!

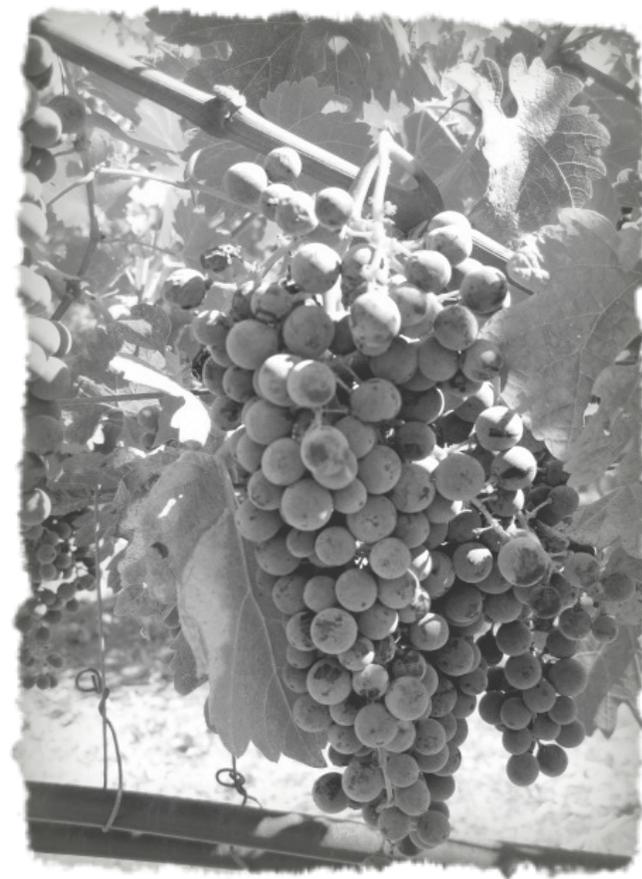
Plus... be sure to stop by the Info Table in our lobby and pick up a FREE copy of our Bible Reading Plan... as well as a FREE Bible!

// web: tevchurch.org // phone: 586.770.4712 //

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CHURCH



Peace Thief

Week 2 of Advent

December 10, 2017

We want people to encounter God on Sundays and not just "go to church." That is why today's 75-minute service will include an in-depth Bible teaching, communion, worship (feel free to stand or sit as we sing), and an opportunity to receive 1-on-1 prayer.

Peace Thief

(Dan Kopp - lead pastor of The Eastside Vineyard Church)

Notes:

Digging Deeper Questions

In our fast-paced culture, it's easy to be impacted by the sermon you hear at church on Sunday... only to forget about it by Monday. To make this message "stick" we created these Digging Deeper Questions so you can process and apply what you heard at church. Take some time this week to go through these questions by yourself, in your small group, with a friend, your family, or your roommate.

1. Icebreaker: What are some ways that your life tends to speed up between now and Christmas? What things get added to your calendar? What activities do you do a ton of over the next two weeks that you typically don't do much of the other 50 weeks of the year?

2. Is there anything you heard in this week's sermon or experienced in this week's service that was an "a ha" moment, something significant for you?

3. Read Psalm 39:6. A generation ago, if you asked someone "How are you?" they would most likely reply "fine." Nowadays when you ask the same question, the most common answer is "busy." What are some things that overload your schedule?

4. Keeping Psalm 39:6 in mind, how often are you in a hurry? How many times a day? How many times an hour? Give some examples of things you tend to do in a hurry...and how much peace you feel when you're in a hurry.

5. In *The Life You've Always Wanted*, John Ortberg writes: "We must ruthlessly eliminate hurry from our lives. Let me be clear... this does not mean we will never be busy. Jesus often had much to do, but He never did it in a way that severed the life-giving connection between Him and His Father. He never did it in a way that interfered with His ability to give love when love was called for. Jesus was often busy. But Jesus was never in a hurry." What are your thoughts on this quote?

6. Read Matthew 22:34-40. You can't live out either half of The Greatest Commandment when you're in a hurry. Love and hurry are fundamentally incompatible. Hurry is the great enemy of the spiritual life... because it kills love. Think about the past several days. Without throwing yourself too far under the bus, share a time when you weren't able to love those closest to you because you were in a hurry.

7. As of December 10th there are 15 days until Christmas. What are some ways you can ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life between now and December 25th, so that you can experience more peace and make this truly "the most wonderful time of the year"? Brainstorm ideas with your group. But don't just brainstorm... do it!

Key Passage:

We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing.

- Psalm 39:6 (NLT)