

Suggested Resources

Below is a list of resources that will help you dig deeper into the topic preached about this morning:

- Greg Boyd - *Present Perfect: Finding God in the Now* → this week's "Pastor's Pick"
- Brother Lawrence & Frank Laubach - *Practicing His Presence*
- Jean-Pierre de Caussade - *The Sacrament of the Present Moment*
- Randy Fisk - *The Presence, Power and Heart of God*

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 (NIV translation)**
Read and understand the Bible like never before! This unique Bible addresses the common, uncommon, and perplexing questions people ask about Scripture, right as you read it! Passages that puzzle will snap into clarity.
- **Teen Study Bible**
This bestselling Bible keeps up with you! As an on-the-go teen, you're moving fast. God is moving faster! The NIV Teen Study Bible will help you keep in step with all He has done, is doing, and will do in the world -- and in your life.
- **Kids Quest Study Bible (NirV translation)**
All 66 books of the Bible translated into a reader-friendly version for kids ages 6-9. Plus it has over 500 questions children ask about the Bible, about their world, and about God. It speaks their language and answers their questions in a way they can understand.

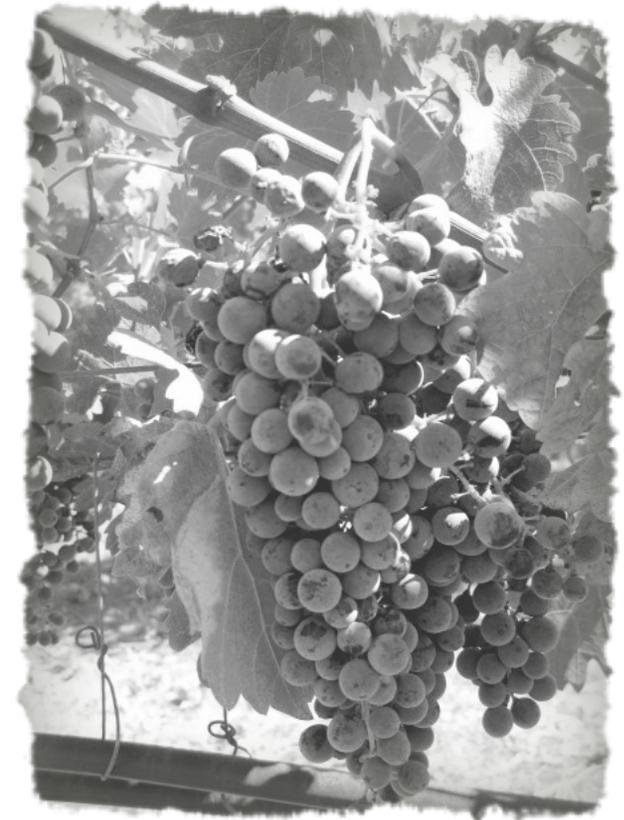
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It's Black-and-White For a Reason... One of our values is to be inwardly frugal so we can be outwardly generous. That's why this program is black-and-white and printed on plain paper. Printing them this way cuts our costs way down. So this program may not be fancy, but it gets the job done. This is one of the things we do that enables us to give away 22% of our budget to the poor and needy in our community and beyond.

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CHURCH



The Power of Now

Week 1 of Series: The Power of Now

April 3, 2016

We want people to encounter God - 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.

The Power of Now

Dan Kopp (lead pastor - 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 is an activity you love to do where you are "fully present" as you're doing it, where your mind doesn't tend to think about other things? Have fun with this question!
2. Is there anything you heard in this week's sermon or experienced in this week's service that was an "aha" moment, something significant for you?
3. Read Psalm 63:6 and Genesis 28:16. Do you tend to be more like David or Jacob? In other words, how aware were you of God's presence as you drove to church last Sunday... or when you were at work today... or eating breakfast last Wednesday... or doing whatever you were doing this past Monday at 8pm?
4. Read Galatians 5:14. The Apostle Paul says what matters most to God is showing love to your "neighbor."
 - Without throwing yourself too far under the bus, share a time when you did not show love to the person you were with because you allowed yourself to be distracted and didn't fully engage with him or her.
 - Without naming names, share a time when you felt unloved by someone because you realized they weren't really listening to you.
5. When you read your Bible and think of what it means to be a Christian, brainstorm a list of the things God calls us to do. What would you say are your Top 3 tasks as a follower of Jesus?
6. Keeping your answers to the previous question in mind, consider these words from Greg Boyd in his book *Present Perfect*: "Over the past twenty-plus years . . . I've become absolutely convinced that remaining aware of God's presence is the single most important task in the life of every follower of Jesus." What are your thoughts on this perspective?
7. Read Isaiah 43:18. Some of the reasons we aren't "fully present" every moment is because of thoughts and feelings about the past. Where does your mind tend to wander related to the past? What do you think about? What emotions result?
8. Read James 4:13-17. Some of the reasons we aren't "fully present" every moment is because of thoughts and feelings about the future. Where does your mind tend to wander related to the future? What do you think about? What emotions result?
9. With this being Week 1 of this sermon series, let's "begin with the end in mind." Fast forward a couple months to when we are wrapping up this series. What do you hope happens in your life between NOW and THEN as a result of what you experience on Sundays as we press into The Power Of Now?

Key Passage:

One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" - Matthew 22:35-39 (NLT)