

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- Extol: Prayer & Praise - Thursday, January 9th @ 7 pm
- Women's Morning of Solitude - Saturday, January 11th @ 9 am
- Cityteam Oakland - Saturday, January 18th
- VBC Winter Basketball Begins - Begins Sunday, January 26th (Registration Open)

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our
VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at
www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

"Found In You" - Paul Baloche, Andi Rozier

"Everlasting God" - Brenton Brown, Ken Riley

"Be Thou My Vision" - Eleanor Henrietta Hull,
Mary Elizabeth Byrne, Russell Mauldin

"O Praise The Name" - Dean Ussher, Marty
Sampson, Benjamin Hastings

"Goodness of God" - Ed Cash, Jenn Johnson

To listen or watch today's message,
visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,434.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$1,790,568.00

Giving Last Week.....\$81,349.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$1,911,122.00

Visit vbc.online/give for more info on ways to give.

HABITS of the HEART

01/05/20 | MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH | MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MESSAGE NOTES

Christ Dwelling in Our Hearts
Ephesians 3:14-21

Remember last week's challenge:

1. Identify current ungodly time-wasters in your life.
2. Pick one time-waster and replace it with an activity intended to grow your devotion to Jesus.
3. Actively trust that God will honor your efforts to grow in your devotion to him.

Paul's prayer reveals the source for all internal strengthening (discipline).

1. The object:

Eph. 3:14 *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,*

2. The subject:

Eph. 3:16 *that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17a so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—*

3. The details:

Eph. 3:17b *that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*



Valley Bible Church

vbc.online

925.227.1301



CROSSING CAMPUS
7106 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588



ALTAMONT CAMPUS
6749 Southfront Road, Livermore, CA 94551

4. The confidence:

Eph. 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

5. The outcome:

Eph. 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

How does Paul's prayer become a reality in our lives?

1. We must understand our role in this internal strengthening and act on it (v.16).

1 Tim. 4:7b Rather train yourself for godliness; **8** for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

2 Cor. 4:16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. **17** For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, **18** as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

2. We must understand how faith influences Christ's indwelling (v.17).

We exercise faith when we...

a. ...trust God's ability.

Eph. 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us

Matt. 9:28 When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord."

b. ...choose trust over fear.

Mark 4:40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?"

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

c. ...remember God's dependability.

1 Th. 5:23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **24** He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Matt. 16:8 But Jesus, aware of this, said, "O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread? **9** Do you not yet perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? **10** Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you gathered

d. ...maintain our focus on God's promises.

2 Pet. 1:4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

Luke 8:15 As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

Looking Ahead - All of these habits must focus on the heart & the indwelling Christ.

Week 1: Christ Dwelling in Our Hearts

Week 4: Cultivating Habits in Our Church Family

Week 2: Cultivating Habits in Our Individual Lives

Week 5: Cultivating Habits in Our Lifework

Week 3: Cultivating Habits in Our Families

Week 6: Reshaping Our Lives

This Week:

1. Remind yourself daily of the value found in internal strengthening.
2. Cultivate a heart/mind that focuses on the eternal.
3. Identify weakness in your faith and diligently choose to exercise.