

**经节：惟有一个撒马利亚人行路来到那里，看见他就动了慈心。**

**（路加福音十章33节）**

若说有人能清楚了解「忙碌」会使自己远离神的事工，这是非耶稣莫属！他曾经提到一个譬喻，贴切地描写这个危险：某个犹太人在前往耶利哥的途中，被强盗攻击，被殴打到濒死的边缘，倒在路旁。首先，来了个祭司，后又来了个利未人，经过他。他们都是宗教领袖，当然会怜悯一个受伤的人！然而，他们急忙赶路，因为已经和人约好，没有时间停下来，径从他的身边走过。只有时间较充裕的人，才会停下来帮助这个受伤的人！最后，来了个撒马利亚人。撒马利亚人是被犹太人所鄙视的族群。这个撒马利亚人比任何人都更有理由走开，不管这受伤的犹太人，毕竟犹太人是他的宿敌。然而，他宁可行程被拖延，因为有人需要他的帮助。

我们很容易陷在忙碌当中，而漠视周围人们的需要。你的行事历可能被有意义的好事占满，以至于你没有办法帮助周围的人。神正在你的朋友、邻居、家人的身上动工。祂可能会要求你中断手上的工作，要你辅导他们。当你听到神要你停止手中的工作，去帮助人时，无论计划表的事情多么紧急，都不能成为你漠视神声音的藉口。如果生活太忙碌，以致不能够帮助你周围的人，求神重建你生活的优先顺序，好叫你不会错失任何事奉祂的机会。

**Never Too Busy**

***But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. Luke 10:33***

If anyone could understand the temptation to let busyness distract Him from the Father's activity, Jesus certainly could! He told a parable that clearly illustrated this danger: A certain Jewish man was on his way to Jericho when he was brutally attacked by thieves and left to die by the road. First a Levite, then a priest, passed by. These were religious leaders; surely they would show compassion to a wounded person! But they had places to go and appointments to keep, so they passed him by. Surely someone else would come along who had more time to help the wounded man! Then a Samaritan, despised by the Jews, came along. Of all people, this man had reason to look the other way, since the wounded man was his enemy. But wherever he was going could wait, for someone needed his help.

It's easy to become so busy that you are oblivious to those in need. Your schedule can become so full of accomplishing good things that you are of no help to the people around you. God is at work in the lives of your friends, your neighbors, your family members. He may ask you to interrupt your day long enough to join Him as He ministers to them. Nothing on your agenda, no matter how pressing, is reason enough to ignore the voice of God when He tells you to stop and help. If you have become too busy to minister to those around you, ask God to reestablish your priorities so that you do not miss opportunities to serve Him.

10月17日（星期一）- 标题：一个人的罪

**经文：你起来，叫百姓自洁，对他们说：「你们要自洁，预备明天，因为耶和华——以色列的神这样说：以色列啊，你们中间有当灭的物，你们若不除掉，在仇敌面前必站立不住！」（约书亚记七章13节）**

诚如一个顺服神的基督徒可以成为其他人的祝福，一个基督徒的罪也可以伤害许多人。以色列百姓很快地进入应许之地。在进攻耶利哥城一役，他们曾经历超自然的胜利。他们继续往下一个要征服的目标迈进。出乎意料之外，他们居然在攻打小小的艾城时，被打得落花流水。他们向神求问失败的原因，神的回答揭露：他们当中有人未遵守祂清楚的命令，神不准他们私留任何耶利哥的战利品。一个人与其家人的不顺服，造成整个民族的气馁！亚干以为自己可以暗暗地干下这件勾当，也不会影响任何人。神决定要让自己的百姓明白罪的毁灭性。一个不顺服的行动，使亚干与他的家人付出生命的代价。不但如此，这个不顺服的行动也导致同胞们打败仗，使许多无辜的军人被杀。他的罪已经严重地影响其他人，阻拦别人得到神的祝福、能力与胜利。

你的罪会影响其他人。不顺服神的选择，可能会使你的家人失去神的祝福；你的教会可能因你悖逆的行为，而失去神的大能：你的朋友们可能因你不正直的生活而受苦。你要努力地顺服神的每一句话，因为你不知道自己的不顺服，会如何影响周围的人。圣经上有应许，如果顺服神，你的生命会成为他人得福的管道（诗篇卅七：25～26）。

### **One Man's Sin**

***Get up, sanctify the people, and say, "Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.'" Joshua 7:13***

Just as the obedience of one Christian can bring blessing to others, the sin of one Christian can bring harm to many others. The children of Israel were rapidly advancing into the Promised Land. They had experienced a miraculous victory over the city of Jericho, and they were continuing toward their next conquest. To their surprise they met decisive defeat as they attempted to capture the small town of Ai. They sought God's explanation for their failure, and He provided it. He revealed that someone among them had disobeyed His clear command not to keep any possession from Jericho. The disobedience of one man and his family had paralyzed an entire nation! Achan thought he could conceal his sin and it would not affect anyone else. God chose to demonstrate the destructive power of one sin to His people. One act of disobedience cost Achan and his family their lives. It caused his countrymen to lose the battle; innocent soldiers were killed. His sin had serious repercussions for others, denying them the blessing, power, and victory of God.

Your sin will have an impact on others. Choosing to disobey God may cost your family God's blessing. The power of God may be absent from your church because you are living in disobedience. Your friends may suffer because you are not living righteously. Diligently seek to obey every word from God, for you do not know how your disobedience could affect those around you. Scripture promises that if you will obey the Lord, your life will be a channel of blessing to others (Ps. 37:25-26).

10月22日（星期六）- 标题：向聪明通达者隐藏

**经文：正当那时，耶稣被圣灵感动就欢乐，说：「父啊，天地的主，我感谢你！因为你将这些事向聪明通达人就藏起来，向婴孩就显出来。父啊！是的，因为你的美意本是如此。」（路加福音十章21节）**

唯一能阻碍我们听到神的话语，是我们自己的智慧。智慧就像成功一样，可能会欺哄我们，让我们自以为应该扮演教师的角色，而非学生的角色。知识会哄骗我们，让我们自以为拥有足够的智慧，可以面对任何挑战。自以为有智慧会使我们挑剔人的缺点，却不知道自己还有许多地方需要成长。法利赛人是当时的宗教专家，他们拥有许多关于神的知识，但是他们与神毫无个人的关系。知识遮掩了他们在神面前，对真实景况的认知。耶稣感谢天父，没有把属灵的真理显示给那些「专家们」，反而显示给那些谦卑、并且自知需要神启示的人。

当宗教领袖们灵性失败时，他们跌倒之处往往出人意料之外。其实是不该如此的，那些拥有丰富知识的宗教领袖，有时候对神的话毫无反应。知识很容易导致人的骄傲，骄傲会阻碍人寻求神。

你怎么知道自己是「法利赛人」？当你没有一颗受教心之时。当有基督徒伙伴关心你的属灵状况，你变得相当自我保护之时。当你不寻求神的心意，而相信自己知道神的旨意之时。当你觉得自己可以帮助别人的属灵生命，而没有人可以教导自己任何东西之时，不要让你现在有限的知识，蒙蔽了神仍要显现给你的伟大真理。

### **Hidden from the Wise**

***In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. Luke 10:21***

One hindrance to hearing a word from God may be our own wisdom. Wisdom, like success, can delude us to think we should take the role of teacher rather than student. Our knowledge lulls us into thinking we have sufficient wisdom to meet any challenge. Believing we are wise tempts us to evaluate the shortcomings of others yet be unaware of how much growth is still required in ourselves.

The Pharisees were the religious experts of their day. They possessed much information about God, but they had no personal relationship with Him. Their knowledge clouded their view of their condition before God. Jesus thanked His Father that it was not to these "experts" that the Father had revealed spiritual truth, but rather to those who were humble and who recognized their need for God's revelation.

When religious leaders experience spiritual failure, their downfall is often met with surprise. It shouldn't be. Religious people with the most knowledge are sometimes the ones least responsive to God's Word. Knowledge can easily lead to pride, and pride impedes us from seeking God.

How do you know if you are a "Pharisee"? When you do not have a teachable spirit. When you become defensive if a fellow Christian shares a concern about your spiritual condition. When you do not seek to hear from God, believing you already know what He thinks. When you feel that you are capable of helping others in their spiritual lives, but no one can teach you anything. Don't allow the limited knowledge you now have to blind you to the great truths God still wants to reveal to you.

10月21日（星期五）－标题：**把人带到耶稣面前**

**经节：他先找着自己的哥哥西门，对他说：「我们遇见弥赛亚了。」**

**（约翰福音一章41节）**

人们可以在许多方面闻名于世。在一个邪恶的世代，挪亚以正直闻名于世。大卫是以合神心意闻名于世。彼得是以直率闻名于世。约翰是以耶稣所爱的门徒闻名于世。犹大是以出卖者闻名于世。保罗是以无畏的福音宣告者闻名于世。安得烈则是以带领人到基督面前闻名于世。

第一个被安得烈带领到耶稣面前的，是他自己的哥哥彼得。彼得一加入门徒的行列之后，即变成十二使徒的发言人，而安得烈则隐藏在幕后。最后，是彼得，不是安得烈跃升为耶稣最亲密的核心使徒。我们没有读到安得烈憎恶彼得，安得烈似乎以带人到耶稣面前为满足，而结局则让耶稣决定。

当初是安得烈找到这个带着饼和鱼的小孩，把他带到耶稣面前（约翰福音六：8～9）；是安得烈把希利尼人带到耶稣面前，虽然希利尼人当时被虔诚的犹太人所憎恶（约翰福音十二：20～22）。圣经上没有记载安得烈曾经讲道、行神迹、写圣经中的一部书。他以带人到耶稣面前闻名。

安得烈是我们的好榜样。我们的工作不是把人变成基督徒，也不是要使他们认罪。使人做当做之事，不是我们的责任。我们的任务是带他们到耶稣面前，祂会在他们的生命中动工。

### **Bringing People to Jesus**

***He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). John 1:41***

People become known for many things. Noah is known as a righteous man in an evil age. David is known as the man after God's own heart. Peter is known as the outspoken disciple. John is known as the disciple whom Jesus loved. Judas is known as the betrayer. Paul is known as a fearless proclaimer of the gospel. Andrew is known for bringing others to Jesus.

The first person Andrew brought to Jesus was his brother Peter. As soon as Peter joined the disciples, he became the spokesperson for the Twelve, while Andrew remained in the background. It was Peter, not Andrew, who rose to prominence as one of Jesus' inner circle of three. We do not read of Andrew resenting Peter; it seems he was satisfied to bring others to Jesus and leave the results to Him.

It is not surprising that Andrew found the boy with the loaves and fishes and brought him to Jesus (John 6:8-9). Andrew brought Greeks to Jesus, even though they were despised by pious Jews (John 12:20-22). There is no record of Andrew ever preaching a sermon, performing a miracle, or writing a book of Scripture. He is remembered for those whom he brought to Jesus.

Andrew is a good role model for us. Our job is not to transform people into Christians nor to convict them of their sin. It is not our responsibility to make people do what they ought to do. Our task is to bring them to Jesus, and He will perform His divine work in their lives.

10月18日（星期二）－标题：**你亲眼去看**

**经节：我从前风闻有祢，现在亲眼看见祢。（约伯记四十二章5节）**

约伯在他的时代是全地最正直的人。他十分敬虔，以至于主很高兴地把他指给撒但看（约伯记一：8）。然而，纵然约伯是如此深爱神，并且殷勤地顺服神的命令，他还是没能完全了解神。神曾经赐予约伯的祝福，并没有启示出神所有的本性。约伯非得经历一些逆境，才能理解神的某些特质。所以，主允许撒但用痛苦来试验约伯。

虽然约伯失去所有，包括七个儿女，约伯发现神仍然与自己同在。虽然他面对最困难及令人困惑不解、难以想像的磨难，他领悟到神的智慧远远超过自己的聪明（约伯记四十二：1-4）。当约伯忍受那些感觉迟钝之友的质问时，他学习到，神是唯一完全可信赖的。约伯从极度痛苦中更深地认识神。最后，他承认自己过去风闻神，而今亲眼见神（约伯记四十二：5）。

当你落在试炼中，神会向你显示自己的特性，是你从未看过的一面。你会经历到祂大能的同在安慰你。就像约伯一样，你会学习到，即使每个人遗弃你，神仍不离开你。当祂带你经过黑暗的时刻，你会更认识神。于是，你会亲身体验到神的特质，是你过去所风闻的。

### **Seeing with Your Eyes**

***I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. Job 42:5***

In his time, Job was the most righteous person on earth. He was so godly that the Lord took pleasure in pointing him out to Satan (Job 1:8). Yet, despite his love for God and his diligent obedience to His commands, even Job had not fully come to know God. The blessings God had given to Job had not revealed everything about God's character. There were characteristics that Job would come to realize only through adversity. So the Lord allowed Satan to test Job through suffering.

Although Job lost everything he had, even his seven children, Job discovered that God was still with him. Though he faced the most difficult and bewildering tribulations imaginable, Job came to understand that God was infinitely wiser than he (Job 42:1-4). As Job endured the insensitivity of his friends, he learned that God is the only One who is absolutely trustworthy. Job learned much about God through his anguish. Finally, he confessed that at first he had only heard about God, but now, through his suffering, he had come to see God (Job 42:5).

When you are in the midst of your trials, your Lord will reveal His character to you in ways you never knew. You will experience His strong and comforting presence. Like Job, you will learn that your Lord will remain, even when everyone else abandons you. You will see God more clearly as He takes you through the dark times. Then you will experience God in ways you had previously only heard about from others.

10月19日（星期三）- 标题：**这是你的生命**

**经节：因为这不是虚空、与你们无关的事，乃是你们的生命；在你们过约旦河要得为业的地上必因这事日子得以长久。（申命记三十二章47节）**

有许多基督徒除了偶尔翻翻神的话语，找找当日可用的简练思想以外，生活中根本不读圣经，这是一件令人困惑难解的事。神的话语不仅是提供良好意见的来源、预防性的警告、或是鼓舞人心的思想，神的话本身就是生命！

神聚集祂的以色列儿女们在应许地的边界，回顾他们曾经与祂一同经过的旅程。因为他们父母那一代不相信神的话，他们花了四十年的时间，漂流在荒漠里。因为不相信神的话，他们的父母在死前不得看见应许之地。即使那位敬虔的摩西，也很快就要离开他们。因为摩西曾经作出不敬畏神话语的事。他们其中很多人认识那些因不顺服神的话，而招致死亡的人。经过这么多年，神的话语成为以色列人生命中最重要的事。

神命令祂的百姓，要把神的话记在心上，也要殷勤以神的话语教导自己的儿女，无论坐在家中或行路躺卧，都要谈论神的话语（申命记六：4-9）。神的话在祂百姓的日常生活中，必须占有独特的一席之地。

我们对神话语的敬虔态度，不只由言语，也由行为表达出来。花费许多时间研读人的话语，而非神的话语，即揭露出我们心灵的状态。公然漠视神的话语，就是拒绝生命的本身。顺服神的话语，是经历神要赐予丰盛生命的稳当之路。

### **It Is Your Life!**

***For it is not a futile thing for you, because it is your life, and by this word you shall prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess. Deuteronomy 32:47***

It's puzzling that so many Christians try to live the Christian life without reading their Bible, except for sporadic perusals of God's Word, seeking a pithy thought for the day. The Word of God is not merely a source of helpful suggestions, preventative warnings, or inspirational thoughts: It is life itself!

God gathered the children of Israel at the edge of the Promised Land to review their pilgrimage with Him. They had spent forty years in a desert because their parents had not trusted God's word. Their parents died without seeing the Promised Land because they had not believed God's word. Even the revered Moses was soon to leave them because he had not shown proper reverence for God's word. Many of them knew those who had been put to death as a consequence of their disobedience to God's word. Over the years God's word had become the most important thing in the life of the Israelites.

God commanded His people to bind His words on their hearts, to teach them diligently to their children, and to regularly discuss them in their homes (Deut. 6:4-9). So essential was His word that it was to hold a prominent place in the daily lives of His people. Our reverence for God's Word is revealed not only by what we say but also by what we do. Spending more time reading and studying the words of people rather than the Word of God, reveals our hearts' condition. To blatantly disregard God's Word is to reject life itself. To obey God's Word is the surest way to experience all that God has in store for us.

10月20日（星期四）- 标题：**预备敬拜**

**经节：祂必坐下如炼净银子的，必洁净利未人，熬炼他们像金银一样；他们就凭公义献供物给耶和華。（玛拉基书三章3节）**

敬拜的品质不是基于活动的本身，而是基于敬拜者的品格。教会可能误以为：音乐愈好、教会建筑愈宏伟、讲道愈感动人心、敬拜经验愈丰富，就有愈好的敬拜。但事实上，真诚的敬拜是由心灵生出的。如果与神的关系不健康，我们所做的事不过是宗教虚饰的外表。

利未人是当代带领敬拜的领袖，他们的任务是为百姓献上祭品。神过去曾经宣告他们要以公义献祭。祂首先要以祂的火炼净他们，洁净他们的罪污。就算是教会全职事奉人员、负责教会圣工、并且参加敬拜仪式，都不能保证这些宗教的行为能够被神所悦纳。

我们现在的倾向是着重于一些外在的事，来加强我们的敬拜。然而，敬拜真正的品质是基于敬拜的一群人。如果不肯让神先来洁净我们，我们的敬拜不会拥有祂的同在。如果没有一颗清洁的心，我们所献上的奉献不会被神所悦纳。参加宗教性的崇拜，并不能保证我们与神相遇。

如果你不满足敬拜的品质，不要马上责怪环境，要先查看自己的心。允许神炼净你的心，直到讨神的喜悦为止。如此一来，你将能自由地敬拜祂，这是神本来要给予你的。

### **Prepared for Worship**

***He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness. Malachi 3:3***

The quality of our worship is not based on our activities but on our character. Churches can mistakenly assume that the better the music, the more impressive the building, and the more eloquent the preaching, the more worshipful the experience will be. Genuine worship, however, originates from within our hearts. If our relationship with God is not healthy, all these things are nothing more than religious pageantry.

The Levites were the worship leaders of their day. Their task was to offer sacrifices on behalf of the people. God declared that before they could worship Him in righteousness, He would first refine them with His refiner's fire, purging them of any impurities. Merely being members of the religious profession, having official responsibilities in the temple, and going through the rituals of worship, did not guarantee that their religious activities would be acceptable to holy God.

Today, we tend to look to external things to enhance our worship. The true quality of our worship, however, rests within us. If we have not allowed God to purify us first, our worship will be void of His presence. If we do not have a pure heart, we may give offerings, but they will be unacceptable to God. Attending a religious service will not automatically ensure an encounter with God. If you are not satisfied with the quality of your worship, don't be too quick to blame your environment. Look first to your own heart. Allow God to refine your heart until it is pleasing to Him, and you will be free to worship God as He intends.