

SUMMIT SERIES: ENGAGING WITH GOD
Sunday message from September 25th, 2022

~ Notes & Reflections ~

- **Our mission: As Union Center Christian Church, we are practicing the way of Jesus by engaging with God, journeying together and spreading hope.**
 - ❖ Summit 3 will be discussing how we live out our “three initiatives” as a church.

- **“Jesus invites us into living freely and lightly.” ~ Eugene Peterson**
 - ❖ Read [Matthew 11.28-30](#) slowly. What word or phrase stands out to you? What might God be saying in that?
 - ❖ Is this passage your experience? How is your experience the same or different?

- **Christians are assimilating a culture of busyness, hurry and overload which often leads to God being marginalized. (Michael Zigarelli)**
 - ❖ How have you experienced this in your life? How might you have “skimmed over your life” recently?
 - ❖ What keeps you from engaging more deeply with God? What kept you from hearing the heartbeat of Jesus this week?

- **“Hurry and love are incompatible.” ~ John Mark Comer**
 - ❖ Read [Matthew 22.34-40](#) and [1 Corinthians 13.4a](#). What do these passages say about love—it’s description, importance, source and recipients?
 - ❖ What is the relationship between hurry and love? How do they impact each other? How might they be incompatible?

- **Hurry is a discipleship issue.**
 - ❖ Our fast pace of life shows that there is something other than God forming our heart. We have been formed to believe that it’s okay if our hearts are disordered as long as we do good things.
 - ❖ How do you see this in your own life? What good or godly things might actually be keeping you from deeper relationship with God?
 - ❖ Take a moment before God to consider the source of your identity and worth. How might that impact your pace of life, your goals and pursuit of them, the activities you choose?

- **We must slow our pace to engage with God. Let’s slow down to fall in love with Jesus, to fall in love with our neighbor.**
 - ❖ Read [Matthew 11.28-30](#) again, slowly. What does this look like in Jesus’ life?
 - ❖ Yoking ourselves to Jesus means we have to let Him dictate the pace. What might this look like in your life?
 - ❖ How might you respond to Jesus’ invitation to “come [follow, attach] to Me”?
 - ❖ What might it look like to pursue a slower pace of life? (silence, Sabbath, etc.)

- **Engaging with God is learning to be present with God.**
 - ❖ When, where and how does this happen in your life?
 - ❖ What would it look like for you to engage with God outside of church and church-related activities?
 - ❖ Slowing to be present with God might mean subtracting things from your life instead of adding things to it.

- What statements or aspects of this message bring comfort? Which bring conviction? Take some time to talk to God about what bubbles up as you read/hear and reflect on this message.
- What might God be inviting you into as a response to this message/reflection on engaging with God?