

February 6 & 7, 2010

THE FIVE

But wait, there's more...! This is only a tiny portion of what we've got going on. Get more info about what's happening each week and our weekly giving updates by subscribing to our weekly email. Contact: Darlene@WestGateChurch.org or drop a card in the offering bucket with your info.



*"THE SAFEST PLACE IS AT THE
CENTER OF THE WILL OF GOD"*

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER SERVICE, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

*2nd Monday of every month, 7pm, Old Worship Center, Childcare is provided
Come relax, worship, spend some time with God, pray and be prayed for! Stay for as little or as long as you like.*

PANCAKE BREAKFAST - SUPPORT THE 8TH GRADE BELIZE MISSION TRIP!

*Sat, Feb 20, 8-10am, Gym \$5/person, \$20/family max (payable at the event)
RSVP Marilyn@WestGateChurch.org
This is an opportunity to support the students who are going to Belize as well as have a relaxing Saturday morning with other families and eat some delicious pancakes!*

IS THIS THE YEAR YOU WILL GO?

*Mexico Trip (family friendly) March 31 - April 5, \$250 / adult, \$150 / kids
Mexico info meeting, February 13, 5pm, Gym
Haiti, Summer 2010 (dates TBD), cost around \$1500 - \$1700
Haiti Info meeting, Feb 20, 5pm, Gym
We have many trips coming up throughout the year . . . Mexico, Haiti, Nepal, and more Mexico! Coming up we've got a family friendly Mexico trip & 2 teams going to Haiti to serve with the Mompremiers. Check out the meetings for more info. Make this the year you GO!*

EXPLORE & DISCOVERY

*Explore, Monday, February 22, 7 - 8:15pm, Gym
Discovery, March 1, 7 - 8:15pm, Worship Center Lobby
Contact: Dana@WestGateChurch.org, x230
Come **Explore** what WestGate's all about. If you're new, want to get more connected, or just want to get to know us better, this one time gathering is for you! Ready for more? More of who we are, our passions, what makes us unique and how to get involved? Join us for **Discovery** beginning March 1.*

BAPTISMS FEBRUARY 27 & 28

*February 27 & 28 after the 6:40pm and 11:15am services
Sign up on our website or contact Joanne@WestGateChurch.org
At WestGate, our priority is to follow the example of our teacher, Jesus, by loving God, our neighbors and one another. Another way we can follow his example is to be baptized as an outward symbol of our faith in Him. Join us also to support those being baptized!*

WestGate Church
1735 Saratoga Ave, San Jose, CA 95129
408.252.3700
www.WestGateChurch.org
Find us on Facebook!

*Services on Saturdays at 5pm & 6:40pm and Sundays 9:30am & 11:15am
Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am - 2:30pm*

“THE SAFEST PLACE IS AT THE CENTER OF THE WILL OF GOD”

February 6 & 7, 2010
Steve Clifford

Exposing the Lie:

John G. Paton

Charles Simeon

Explaining the Damage:

Emotionally Fragile

Spiritually Fragile

Embracing the Truth: Promises

Problems!

Not _____, but _____

James 1:2-4, 1 Peter 4:12, 2 Timothy 3:12-13, John 16:33

Power!

Not _____, but _____

Psalms 23:3, Isaiah 43:1-3

Peace!

Not _____, but _____

Romans 5:1-5, 8:28

Get more...

Free CDs & DVDs of our sermons are available in the lobby after the service.
Listen to and get the notes, group materials, digging deeper & powerpoints for the sermons online at www.WestGateChurch.org under "Latest Teaching."
Use iTunes? Go to www.WestGateChurch.org/podcast to sign up to get the sermons.



Week of 02-07-10

These group materials are designed specifically to be done in groups. Not in a group?
Contact: Andrea.Nyberg@WestGateChurch.org

MY STORY

As a child, did you ever deal with post-Christmas disappointment when Santa didn't deliver on what you asked him for?

Have you ever had an experience with God where following him cost you more than you would have expected? How was the cost "worth it?"

REVIEW

Think through the 3 P's that Steve mentioned. Which of these three is hardest for you to believe and own in your life?

How would truly believing these promises bring hope in times of suffering and pain in your life?

Steve talked about the lie of the "prosperity gospel" and the damage it causes in our lives. Can you think of a time that you were disappointed or angry that God didn't bless you in a way that you expected him to?

INTO THE BIBLE (S.O.A.P.)

SCRIPTURE: Read the following scriptures

James 1:2-4

1 Peter 4:12

2 Timothy 3:12-13

John 16:33

Isaiah 43:1-3

Romans 5:1-5, 8:28

OBSERVATION:

What is the common theme of these scriptures?

According to these passages, what should our attitude be in regards to suffering?

Reflecting on these scriptures (especially the verses in Romans) what is God's will for our life in regards to hard times?

APPLICATION:

Reflect on the hard things in your life. Does your attitude reflect the scriptures in regards to these "hard things"?

Is there something in your life that you have been trying to avoid or go around that God might be asking you to go through in order to experience the life that Jesus desires for you?

PRAYER

Lord, help me experience joy when I encounter various trials. Keep your Son's example and life ever before me that I might lay my life down as Jesus did. Give me the patience to follow you through my trials. Grow in me a Christ-like character that I might see the good that you bring forth from every situation. And let praise come from my lips as I see your promise of making me more like Jesus become a reality. Amen.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Read about and reflect on the life of a Christian martyr (Hint: You can find it online; just search for Fox's Book of Martyrs)

Steve mentioned that some of the damage that the prosperity gospel causes is that we become emotionally and spiritually fragile. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you an area of your life where you tend to pout, whine, become easily discouraged and lose hope. Look for ways that you can embrace the truth in God's promises to counteract these American tendencies.

Want to go deeper with this week's teaching?

Check out www.WestGateChurch.org for a daily study guide that will guide you through a deeper exploration of God's word on this topic. Look for the "Digging Deeper" link under "Latest Teaching" on the front page of our site.