

# THE F I V E

February 18 + 19, 2012

## **JONI EARECKSON TADA IS COMING TO WESTGATE MARCH 17 + 18!**

*March 17 + 18 – live at 5pm service, videocast at all others*

Joni, the founder and CEO of Joni and Friends, is an international advocate for people with disabilities. A diving accident in 1967 left Joni Eareckson a quadriplegic in a wheelchair, unable to use her hands. After years of rehabilitation, she emerged with determination to help others in similar situations. We're excited to have her here at WestGate, this is a weekend not to be missed! *Avoid the crowds and help us make room in the 5pm service for guests, by attending another service if possible.*

## **GIRLFRIENDS' GETAWAY MARCH 23 - 25: REGISTER TODAY!**

*March 23 – 25, Koinonia Conference Grounds (near Watsonville)*

*Cost \$155 (\$55 non-refundable deposit) Register online or in the lobby this weekend*  
Speaker Kathi Lipp will share about "Woman Interrupted - When life doesn't go according to plan."

## **TEACHER APPRECIATION DINNER: FRIDAY, MARCH 9**

*Contact [heathernomi@hotmail.com](mailto:heathernomi@hotmail.com) or [schoolimpact.wufoo.com/forms/z7x4a3/](http://schoolimpact.wufoo.com/forms/z7x4a3/)*

For 5 years, we've worked to support the Moreland School District in San Jose. This year, we're honoring Moreland Employees (staff & teachers), as well as those from 3 schools in the Santa Clara School District with an evening will be filled with games, dinner and laughter. *Join in the fun and help love them in the following ways:*  
6pm – Table Host\* 7:30pm – Childcare 9pm – Clean up \*Must be a Six40 Disciple to Host

## **DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE WORKSHOP**

*Starting February 26, 6 - 8pm, \$99 per household (Scholarships may be available)*

*Childcare is available for a fee. Contact: [groups@westgatechurch.org](mailto:groups@westgatechurch.org)*

Thinking about your relationship with money? Invest in this 13-week series chock full of practical steps to change your relationship with money and move towards financial peace. Sign up in lobby THIS WEEKEND. Space is limited.

## **KIDZTOWN LIVE-WHERE KIDS TAKE THEIR PARENTS TO LEARN**

*5:30-7:00pm, Contact [kids@westgatechurch.org](mailto:kids@westgatechurch.org) before March 5 to RSVP*

Families with K-3rd graders, come enjoy a FREE pizza dinner and our fun, interactive, music and drama-filled production! This month's virtue will focus on CONVICTION-standing for what is right, even when others don't. Remember to invite a few people... KTL is a great event to invite someone new to!



1735 Saratoga Ave, San Jose, CA 95129 408.252.3700  
[www.WestGateChurch.org](http://www.WestGateChurch.org) [Staff@WestGateChurch.org](mailto:Staff@WestGateChurch.org) Find us on Facebook!  
Services: Saturdays at 5pm + 6:40pm Sundays 9:30am + 11:15am



 **WestGate**

# SIX40 REAL LIFE

*Loving God, our neighbors, and one another*



## HEY HIGH SCHOOLERS... HOW WAS WINTER CAMP?

"The one thing that I learned from winter camp was that our faith in Christ is not an every other day type of thing. It is a 24-7 way of life. If we pick and choose when to have faith and when not to have faith, then we really don't have faith in Christ.

Winter camp also reminded me that we all have marks from our past that at times we are ashamed of, and we will live with those marks for the rest of our lives.

What we can do now is to forgive those people who gave us those marks or learn from past choices and be marked by God.

When we accept Jesus as our Savior the Bible does not say that life will now be easier; having Jesus as our Lord and Savior makes us that much more accountable for our choices. The big reminder that I forget sometimes is that God is always with us, through good times and bad, He is there for us 100% of the time and He will never fail us." -Brodie Nakama

We are so unworthy of forgiveness from a perfect God with no marks so how can we allow ourselves to withhold forgiveness toward others who share the same marks as we do?

Seeing everyone, including myself, brought to tears from the power of worship is something I will always cherish. God's presence was all around us that weekend and I feel so blessed to have been a witness." -Michaela Crider

"At camp, I learned that the marks in our life shape us to be the person we are today. I learned also in the seminars that you read the Bible to change, and not to finish. Ever since camp, I've been really getting into my Bible and journaling about things that stick out to me." -Ashlyn Smith

"Winter camp was an amazing experience. One of the most difficult concepts for me to grasp is forgiveness. Steve's sermons really touched my heart and helped me understand that forgiving doesn't always mean forgetting.

In the past I've struggled with doubting if I have actually forgiven someone because when I was with them, the pain they caused still had a way of overwhelming me. Realizing you won't always forget the hurt was actually comforting to me and I finally felt the burden from resisting full forgiveness lifted. Now I will try harder to have compassion and release the person, hopefully making it easier to break down barriers that could harm our relationship.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Day Event

**Sat Saturday Services\* 5 + 6:40pm, worship center**

Off Road (Jr. High) 6:40pm, gym

**Sun Sunday Services\* 9:30 + 11:15am, worship center**

Ignition (High School) 5pm, theater

Awakening (18-20 Something's) 7pm, worship center

\*All 4 services are the SAME, children's programs for Nursery - 5th grade are available at all services.

*HEY SUNDAY PEOPLE... DID YOU KNOW THIS?!*

## COMING UP

**Financial Peace Workshop**, starting February 26

**Explore**, March 1

**Discovery**, March 8 & 15

**School Appreciation Night**, March 9

**Joni Eareckson Tada**, March 17 + 18 (all services)

**Girlfriends' Getaway** (women's retreat), March 23 - 25

**HUNT**, April 7

**Easter**, April 8

**Explore**, April 22

**Beautiful Day Week**, April 23-29

**Discovery**, starting May 6

*MORE ON THE BACK!*

For info about these things and more check out [www.westgatechurch.org](http://www.westgatechurch.org)  
OR email [staff@westgatechurch.org](mailto:staff@westgatechurch.org)

## GIVING UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF 02/12/11

### General Offering:

Received: \$49,800

Budgeted: \$65,000

### Fiscal YTD:

Received: \$1,790,621

Budgeted: \$1,601,000

### Faith Promise Compassion/Missions:

08/31/11 - Current Received: \$140,709

Please note: any designated missionary gifts will be applied to the Faith Promise fund.

### IMPACT 50/50 Campaign:

5/15/10 - Current Received: \$1,579,443

5/15/10 - 05/15/13 Pledged: \$2,366,532

Individual Pledges - 630

**There's still time to pledge for Faith Promise or IMPACT 50/50!**

Get info on our website.

**Want to set up online giving? Visit:**  
[www.westgatechurch.org/news-and-events/giving-at-westgate/](http://www.westgatechurch.org/news-and-events/giving-at-westgate/)



Steve Clifford  
 (Steve@WestGateChurch.org)  
 February 18 + 19, 2012  
 Ephesians 2:4-9

Teaching Notes: Page 1

*"We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."*

-C.S. Lewis

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

*Ephesians 2:4-9 (NIV)*

**By Grace**

**Saved**

Substitution

Reconciliation

Redemption

**Faith**

**Impossible!**

**A**

**B**

**C**



Week of 02-12-12

These questions are designed specifically with Life Groups in mind, to help you apply the teaching to your life. Not in a group? Browse for a group & RSVP for Explore or Discovery online at [www.westgatechurch.org/ministries/adults/six40-discipleship/](http://www.westgatechurch.org/ministries/adults/six40-discipleship/)  
OR Contact: [Groups@WestGateChurch.org](mailto:Groups@WestGateChurch.org) to find the right one for you!

### MY STORY

Share a story about a time someone offered you grace.

### DISCUSS

1) Did any of the statements Steve gave as examples of a "karma mindset" ring familiar to you? If so, which one(s)?

2) Reflect on this quote from C.S. Lewis:

*"We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."*

Where do you find yourself in this quote, playing in the mud or on holiday at sea?

3) What makes grace a difficult concept for us to accept?

4) How do you feel when you think that God accomplished for you what is impossible for you to do on your own in order to have a relationship with him?

5) What is your response to God's limitless grace?

### INTO THE BIBLE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:4-9 (read this aloud at least twice)

### OBSERVATION:

1) What words or phrases capture your attention and why?

2) Paul writes that we were dead, then raised to life by Christ, and now seated with Christ in the heavenly realms. How do these images strike you when thinking about what Christ has done?

3) What is your reaction to being reminded that Christ's past work is complete, ongoing and unchanging with regard to your salvation?

4) What does it mean that God's people are saved by grace?

5) Paul says our salvation is by faith. Does that mean faith is our contribution to being saved? Explain your answer.

### APPLICATION:

1) What are some common ways people misunderstand the role and importance of good works? How does this relate to people's religions and beliefs?

2) How would you respond to someone who claims good works are the way to God?

3) What would it mean for you to live by grace rather than karma?

### PRAYER:

Pray for each other that you would each live this week by grace trusting what God has done for you in Jesus Christ. And thank Him that it's final and secure.

### SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Memorize Ephesians 2:8-9. If you've already memorized this passage, sit with it daily and listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. Look for and act on ways to reflect God's grace to others this week.