# THE FIVE

#### **KIDZCAMP**

July 13-17, Saratoga Campus or July 20-24, South Hills Campus, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM WestGate's KidzCamp, Mt. Everest, is just around the corner. Camp is for incoming (Fall 2015) Kindergarten to Fifth grade students. We'll be at both campuses, with one great program, learning how to conquer challenges with God's mighty power, so feel free to pick the week that works best for you. Registration and volunteer opportunities are now open online. For questions or comments, email kids@westgatechurch.org.

#### **BAPTISM**

In 2 Weekends: May 30 & 31 at Both Campuses

Baptism is about freely and publicly proclaiming your choice to follow Jesus as savior. While it is not a requirement for salvation, it is an important step along the road that Jesus walked. It is about both proclamation and celebration. It is about Six40 Discipleship. Sign up at westgatechurch.org/baptisms.

#### **DISCOVER WESTGATE**

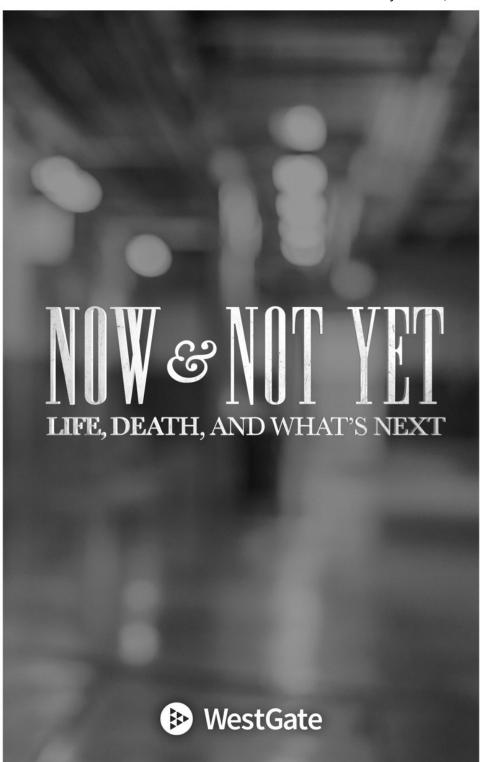
WED. May 27 (5:30 – 8:30 PM) @ WestGate South Hills (Fellowship Hall) If you are new to WestGate or have been around a while and have not yet connected into community, this is a great place to begin. It is a casual way to hear our church's story and vision for Six40 Discipleship from our leaders, Steve & Dana, as well as to meet others looking to connect. A free meal and childcare are included. Sign up at westgatechurch.org/discover-westgate.

#### **WESTGATE WATER**

WestGate Church and Living Water International have partnered together to turn your plastic bottles and aluminum cans into clean water wells. By using funds from recycling, WestGate has been able to provide thousands of people with clean water by building 8 wells since the inception of WestGate Water in 2013. Since WestGate and Living Water partnered in 2010, we have dug, sponsored, or repaired 105 wells through offerings (including Advent Conspiracy) and recycling funds, providing clean water for more than 40,000 people total! Now we need your help sorting and crushing cans & bottles—Just 2 hours a month makes a difference! All ages are welcome. Visit westgatechurch.org/water to sign up or get more info.

#### L2

THURS. nights @ WG Saratoga; westgatechurch.org/about/young-adults/ Have you heard about our College and Young Adults group? L2 is a community of 18-28 year olds striving to Love Jesus and Live Jesus. We'd love to see you! Join us every Thursday night in the WestGate Saratoga Theater from 7-9 PM. If you'd like more info, visit the L2 page on our website. You can also check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/westgateL2.



# **WESTGATE** WATER



#### **Serving with WestGate Water**

Water is a basic necessity of life. Without it we die, and when it's bacteria infected it can be deadly. That is why over 5 years ago WestGate decided to tackle this enormous issue when we found out that there were still over 700 million people without access to clean water. With your generous donations and through a program we started in 2013 called WestGate Water, we have been able to dig over 105 wells around the world, bringing fresh clean water to over 40,000 people daily.

WestGate Water has grown tremendously and weekly, many of you are bringing bags of aluminum cans and CRV plastic bottles. Just through the WestGate Water recycling program, we have dug 8 wells (giving safe water to over 4,000 people daily) and are working on our 9th well right now. We need your help in not only bringing your cans and bottles, but also serving 2 hours each month with WestGate Water. Sorting and crushing cans is one way you can make a regular commitment to serve (all ages welcome).

For information or to volunteer, please email us at water@westgatechurch.org or visit www.WestGateChurch.org/water.

# **WEEKLY SERVICES**

<u>Day</u> <u>Campus</u> <u>Event</u>

Sat Saratoga Worship Services, 5 & 6:40pm

Saratoga JHM (*Jr. High Ministry*), 6:40pm, Gym Saratoga & South Hills Worship Services, 9:30 & 11:15am

South Hills JHM (Jr. High Ministry), 11:15am, Youth Room

Saratoga HSM (High School Ministry), 5pm, Gym

South Hills HSM (*High School Ministry*), 7pm, Youth Room

Thurs Saratoga L2 (College & Young Adults), 7pm, Theater

# **COMING** UP

Find more info under "More" and "News & Events" on our website. Questions? Email staff@westgatechurch.org.

**Discover WestGate** - WEDS, May 27, 5:30-8:30 PM @ WG South Hills

Baptisms - May 30 & 31, all services

Newcomers Reception - May 31, 10:45-11:14 AM @ WG Saratoga Peacemaker Ministries Conflict Coaching - FRI & SAT, June 12-13 L2 Summer Retreat - June 26-28 @ McConnell State Recreation Area KidzCamp - July 13-17 @ WG Saratoga or July 20-24 @ WG South Hills The Grill (for men) - 4 Tues, July 14 - August 4, 6:15—8:45 PM @ WG Saratoga

# **GIVING**

UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF 05/10/15

**General Offering:** Received: \$113,585

Budgeted: \$100,005

Fiscal YTD: (09/01/14-05/10/15)

Received: \$4,132,724 Budgeted: \$3,987,271

**WestGate Water:** (09/01/13—05/10/15) Weekly Recycling Total: \$315.70 Inception to Date: \$35,978.25 49.6% toward our 9th well at the Edra Ebola Holding Center in Sierra Leone

LOUD Compassion/Missions YTD:

05/10/15 - Current Received: \$727,169

Pledge Cards: 192

Please note: any decignated missionary aift

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

Got questions about giving, OR want to set up online giving?
Visit: www.westqatechurch.org/qive

**Compassion International Update:** Many of you had the opportunity to visit the Compassion Experience last weekend. Between both campuses, we were able to sponsor 477 at-risk children through Compassion International!

Steve Clifford sclifford@westgatechurch.org May 16 & 17, 2015

### **Now and Not Yet**

# What Jesus taught about life, death and what's next

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
Philippians 1:21 NIV

#### What will all this be like?

Birth of a child

Marriage of a king's son

Trees sprouting new leaves

Parable of vineyard workers

Parable of evil farmers

The Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24:1-25:46; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-36)

#### Context: Questions about the future (Matthew 24:3)

- 1. Don't be misled
- 2. Endure hard times
- 3. There will be a period of great distress
- 4. Don't be misled
- 5. Great disruption
- 6. Jesus is near and coming back
- 7. No one knows when

#### What Do We Do in the Meantime? (Matthew 25)

Be Prepared (v. 1-13)

Be Fruitful (v. 14-30)

Be Clear (v. 31-40)

Send Questions to: heaven@westgatechurch.org

#### Get more...

Free CDs of our sermons are available in the Saratoga lobby after the service.
WATCH, LISTEN TO and get the NOTES & DIGGING DEEPER for the sermons online at
www.westgatechurch.org under "More - Weekend Experience" [updated on Sundays at 3pm]
Watch current and past sermon videos online at vimeo.com/westgate
Use iTunes? Go to www.westgatechurch.org/podcast and subscribe to the sermons for free.



Week of May 17, 2015

# **Now and Not Yet**

### Part 1

#### **QUESTION 1**

What words, stories, or metaphors would you use to describe heaven to someone who had no understanding of it? How and why are your particular words, stories, or metaphors most helpful to you?

#### **QUESTION 2**

C.S. Lewis once wrote, "It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world (heaven) that they have become so ineffective in this (earth). Aim at Heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in'; aim at earth and you will get neither." What do you think Lewis means by this? Do you agree or disagree?

#### **QUESTION 3**

Break up into three groups and assign one of these three passages to each group:

- Matthew 25:1-13
- Matthew 25:14-30
- Matthew 25:31-46

Spend some time in your group reading your particular passage and making some observations together. What key, unique elements about heaven does your particular passage reveal? After some time in your groups, get back together as one group and share your findings with each other.

#### **QUESTION 4**

Jesus gives us stories and metaphors when describing heaven, not step -by-step instructions or details of the specifics. Why do you think this is? What does it tell us about what Jesus considers to be most important about heaven?

#### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions about heaven during this series, you can email them to **heaven@westgatechurch.org** and we will try to answer as many of them as we can, both on the weekly Digging Deeper podcast as well as a Q&A on the final weekend of the series.