

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

February 23, 2025

Three Words for Growth in 2025 –Part 2

- Jason Wright

The first word we looked at in this series on church growth was **compassion**...sympathy, pity and concern for others. Jesus modeled this throughout His ministry. We should as well.

Imitation is a word I think of when I consider church growth. Imitation is the act of using something or someone as a model. Paul imitated Christ according I Corinthians 11:1. The scriptures teach we should also.

As Peter discusses Christ's willingness to suffer for us, he reminds us that *Christ was our example* and that *we should follow in His steps* (I Peter 2:21). In John 15:9-11, Jesus teaches His disciples to love as He loves and to obey God's commandments just as He has.

Jesus loved to teach. After all, His mission was to *seek and to save the lost* (Lk 19:10). This cannot be done by example only; we have to open our mouths and share the gospel. Penn Jillette, one half of Penn and Teller who perform magic and comedy in Las Vegas is an Atheist. He asked, "How much do you have to hate somebody to not proselytize?" "How much do you have to hate somebody to believe that everlasting life is possible and not tell them that? If I believed beyond a shadow of a doubt that a truck was coming at you and you didn't believe it, and that truck was bearing down on you, there's a certain point where I tackle you. And this is more important than that." I am certainly not saying we should imitate an Atheist, but in this case, he speaks truth.

Paul said *be imitators of God as dear children* (Eph 5:1). When my grandson, August is with me, he follows me wherever I go, even repeats—**imitates**—the things I say and do. He wants to be like me; he wants to be with me and do the things I do. And by-the-way, I love it!

Christ was all about teaching others and doing good. You might recall when He taught the lawyer, a Pharisee in Matthew 23:39, He said, *thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself*. Jesus exemplified this again and again and in Matthew 15, he feeds more than 4,000. He taught them and fed them. Why? In verse 32, He said, *I have compassion on the multitude*.

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Connections



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LADIES' DAY

March 8, 2025

With Tiffany Reddick

Are You Adding To Your
Faith Considering All Things
You've Been Given?



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8

Imitating Jesus' Faithfulness

- Love- Mark 12:30, 1 John 4:10, 1 Samuel 12:24
- Trust- Psalm 20:7, Proverbs 3:5, Luke 23:46, 2 Timothy 1:12, 4:8
- Commitment- Matthew 6:24, Luke 9:62, Colossians 3:1-2
- Obedience- John 14:15, 2 Corinthians 10:5, 1 John 5:3, Romans 14:8
- Sacrifice- Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 10:34-39, 19:29, Luke 9:23
- Endurance- Hebrews 12:1-2, John 15:19, 2 Corinthians 6:17, 1 Peter 4:3-5

Three Words for Growth in 2025 *continues*

He fed more than 5,000 in the previous chapter. We demonstrate love for our neighbor when we feed them physically and spiritually.

Christ gave His life for you and me; He paid the price so we don't have to. He was crucified; died and was buried; He rose again. This is the Gospel; the Good news that every soul needs (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

Imitation is a good thing as long as who we are imitating is Christ-like (John 13:13-16). Christ served others and loved His enemies (Matthew 5:44). He learned obedience through the things He suffered (Hebrews 5:8). He was forgiving (Col. 3:13) and humble (Phil. 2:5-8) and so much more. Christ is worthy of imitation!

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 19 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (Vs. 1, 3, 4)

Prayer

Song: 495 O the Depth and the Riches

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 220 He Lives

Song: 274 I Have Found a Friend in Jesus (Vs. 1, 3)

Song: 350 Jesus, Hold My Hand (Vs. 1, 3)

Song: 717 Victory in Jesus

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 12:1-2

Sermon

Song: 50 Are You Washed in the Blood? (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 680 There's Not a Friend (Vs. 1, 3)

Prayer

Hebrews 12:1-2

S	E	D	E	D	E	R	O	F	E	R	E	H	T
U	N	E	O	N	S	E	S	S	E	N	T	I	W
R	D	R	S	A	O	E	E	N	E	D	I	S	A
R	U	U	W	H	Y	R	O	I	D	E	N	U	A
O	R	D	E	A	A	R	T	S	N	E	N	I	S
U	A	N	L	N	H	A	C	S	H	A	M	E	N
N	N	E	S	T	S	F	I	N	I	S	H	E	R
D	C	N	S	G	D	A	A	S	A	R	H	M	L
E	E	T	H	E	A	R	S	U	F	T	J	O	Y
D	N	U	R	K	H	S	A	S	T	A	N	O	I
G	R	E	A	T	O	W	N	E	D	H	I	O	E
O	N	H	R	R	E	O	T	J	I	O	O	T	O
T	E	T	C	U	E	E	C	A	R	H	A	R	H
R	T	H	G	I	R	C	N	R	E	V	E	R	Y

RUN
SAT
FINISHER
AUTHOR
ENDURED
JOY
CROSS
RIGHT
JESUS
THEREFORE
GREAT
ENSNARES
ENDURANCE
SIN
RACE
THRONE
HAND
SHAME
SURROUNDED
LAY
WITNESSES
ASIDE
EVERY
FAITH

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NKJV)

- 1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
- 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23