SUNDAY 01/15/23

677 Luda Street, Elgin | www.jccelgin.org



Make a commitment from January 1 through January 31, 2023 to GROW IN FAITH by reading the devotional by Max Lucado: God Is With You Every Day.

BREAKTHROUGH...

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. James 5:14-15

Join with us to pray

for those that have requested prayer. We believe that "the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick and the Lord will raise him up."

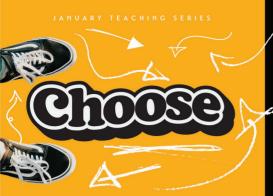
PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS TEAM...

scheduled to go to Ecuador in February.



- 1 That God will use their gifts to encourage the church.
- That God's preached word will break down barriers.
- That COVID-fear would be dispelled.
- For a fresh outpouring of God's grace and His Spirit.

2023 is a SEASON OF hope!



Jan 01 » We've Come This Far By Faith Jan 08 » Better over Busy Jan 15 » Purpose over Popularity Jan 22 » Surrender over Control Jan 29 » Prayer over Panic

Prayer REQUESTS

Walter Miner III	Gearen Fam	nily	Tom M.	Stein Family
Ryan K.	Tyler M.		Mandy W.	Dave. O
HEALTH IS	SSUES -			
Art B. » Health Issu	es		Bob Arias » Kidn	ey Issues
Armando » Back Issues			Kensey Dunlap »	Broken Back
Jean G. » Health Issues		George I. » Hospitalized		
Carlos V. » Leukemia		Samantha B. » Health Issues		
Karla D. » Cancer Recovery		Bob A. » Kidney Cancer		
Evelyn K. » Cong. Heart Failure		Dave O. » Hospice		
Mandy W. » Cancer		Christine P. » Bone Cancer		
Maggie B. » Chemo	therapy		Howard P. » Diag	nosis Pending
Merle » Health Issue	es			
Chuck » Hand Injury	/			
Carlos V. » Health Is	ssues			

METRICS THAT MATTER (01/08/23)

ATTENDANCE ▶ 37 GIVING ▶ \$1,145 GUESTS ▶ 0

VOLUNTEERS ▶ 15 DECISIONS FOR CHRIST ▶ 0



Purpose over **Popularity**

Imagine a world: Everyone likes you. Approves of you. Admires you. It will never happen.

Imagine a world: You don't care what others think. Focused on pleasing God. People's approval doesn't matter.



One of the biggest choices you can make: Purpose over popularity.



Living for the approval of people keeps you from the purposes of God.

Moses—Hebrew slave raised by Egyptian royalty! Comfort—Calling. Popularity—Purpose.

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. Hebrews 11:24-26

The Power of Purpose

Purpose diminishes distractions

One of the biggest distractions for most of us is the curse of comparing.

- · Comparing educational achievements.
- · Comparing earnings or income.
- · Comparing marital with single status.
- · Comparing home ownership.



The pathway to your purpose is paved with pain. Moses—David—Nehemiah—Esther—Mary—Jesus! Doing what God calls you to do-others won't like it. Purpose pushes you through pain.



How do you handle the critics?
So many people don't like you.
Nothing is easy. Purpose pushes you on!

Critics can't stop you.

Obstacles won't deter you.

Pain won't slow you. Purpose drives you.

You can't-with Christ I can. You won't-with Christ I will.

Purpose empowers you to please God

When Pharaoh tried to stop Moses—Moses wasn't deterred. When the people complained...



When the people criticized...
When the people rebelled...
Moses stayed on task.



Purpose empowers you to please God. Peter and other apostles preached Christ. Religious leaders said, "STOP"

Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings." Acts 5:29

We can't please everyone—but we can please God.



CHOOSE: Purpose over Popularity!

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. Hebrews 11:26



Greater Value

- -Being liked by people
- -Fun with friends
- -Start something important
- -In comfort
- -Being popular

- -Being loved by God
- -Faithful to God
- -Finishing
- -In answering God's call
- -Serving God's purpose