

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
GIVING!**

When you see hunger, injustice, or inequality around the world or around the block, the part of you that is touched, moved, or disturbed by what you see is the part of your heart beating in tune with **God's heart!** You were wired to care, and it has nothing to do with tax deductions. **Because you were formed in the image of God, your heart naturally beats in rhythm with God's heart!**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THAT GOD IS BLESSING?

Whatever you are doing that God is blessing—do more of the same!
"When God made his promise to Abraham, he backed it to the hilt, putting his own reputation on the line. He said, "I promise that I'll bless you with everything I have—bless and bless and bless!" Hebrews 6:13-14

MEN'S IRON-SHARPENS-IRON LUNCHEON PROVERBS 27:17

with Pastor Bob - a meeting you won't to miss!
SUNDAY 07/19/15 @ Rodney's, following the service

OUTCRY CHICAGO

AN AMAZING CONCERT EXPERIENCE WITH SOME OF THE FINEST CHRISTIAN BANDS AND VOCALISTS:

**HILLSONG UNITED // JESUS CULTURE
KARI JOBE // PASSION
LAUREN DAIGLE / TRIP LEE / DJ PROMOTE / NICK HALL**

FIRST MERIT BANK PAVILION AT NORTHERLY ISLAND
FRIDAY 07/24/15 AT 7:00 P.M. (TICKET SALES AT TICKETMASTER)

**SPORTS
NIGHT**

TUESDAY, JULY 28



CONNECTION CARD Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card in order to **"MEASURE"** our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.

OUT OF THE BOX CONNECTION CARD

I AM INTERESTED IN... _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Small group info: _____

Lay member
 Full-time pastor
 Regular Attender
 Church member (volunteer - Conductor)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Church member (volunteer - Conductor)

Church member (volunteer - Conductor)

OUT OF THE BOX

GREATNESS NEVER COMES FROM OUR COMFORT ZONES

JULY TEACHING SERIES

July 05 "Comfort Zone Dilemma" > *Abraham*
July 12 "Comfort Zone Surrender" > *Elisha*
July 19 "Comfort Zone Chronicles" > *Joseph*
July 26 "Comfort Zone Breakthrough" > *Deborah*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Breanna V.	▶ Health Issues
Lily M.	▶ Dementia
Anabelle G.	▶ Lung Cancer
Andrew H.	▶ Health Issues
Noe F.	▶ Health Issues
Linda L.	▶ Health Issues
Elizabeth S.	▶ Health Issues
Kenny D.	▶ Skull Fracture
Trevor W.	▶ Deployed to Afghanistan
Paul S. III	▶ Complete Healing
Peggy K.	▶ Health Issues
Danny L.	▶ Awaiting Peace Corps Assignment
Ralph H.	▶ Fluid in the brain
Moe M.	▶ Lung Cancer
Ruth S.	▶ Undiagnosed Health Issues
Mark M.	▶ Cardiac Issues
Jim B.	▶ Eye Problems

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"God isn't using us because of who we are. God is using us despite who we are."
-Jim Cymbala

07/05/15

METRICS
THAT MATTER

29

ATTENDANCE

\$1,696²⁵

GIVING

0

GUESTS

8

VOLUNTEERS

0

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST

OUT OF THE BOX

GREATNESS NEVER COMES
FROM OUR COMFORT ZONES

COMFORT ZONE
SURRENDER—ELISHA

So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant. *1 Kings 19:21*

KILLING HIS COW AND BURNING HIS PLOW

- Elisha is called to follow Elijah.
- Elisha was in the field with his oxen and plow when Elijah arrived to bring him on-board.
- Elisha knew that there was something greater for him and he burned his plow and had an enormous barbecue for the people serving oxen.
- Elisha had a career that was respectable and safe.
- He knew that pushing a plow supported his family.
- He did the unthinkable: he killed his cow and burned his plow!

IMPLICATIONS OF THE BURN

- Elisha must leave the “old” before he embraces the “new”.
- He has no intentions of going back—he kills and burns his past!
- He does not store his plow in a barn in case times get tough. He puts all the chips on the table.

**You can't follow JESUS without
leaving some things behind, killing
some things off, and burning
some things up!**

KILLING SOME THINGS OFF

- In the Elisha story, he didn't just kill one cow. He killed two and possibly 24 (twelve teams of two).
- He killed what he was stuck behind and was keeping him from ever leaving that field and that farm.
- Nothing wrong with farming—it's respectable—Elijah had placed his mantle on him. **Don't miss that!**

What is it that you need to kill off in order to leave your **COMFORT ZONE?**

Is it your **SELFISH AMBITION**; your **PRIDE**; your **BAD ATTITUDE**; your **VICTIM MENTALITY**; your **EXCUSES**; or **BAD INFLUENCES?**

LEAVING OUR COMFORT ZONE CALLS FOR...

1

Complete **SURRENDER**

Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." *Matthew 19:1*

2

Willing **SACRIFICE**

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. *Romans 12:1*

3

A heart to **SERVE**

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." *1 Peter 4:10*