



What
is your
reaction
to the cross?
NLA11

"...God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?'"

ACTS 2:36b-37

We are a Christ-centered circle of believers
with an outward focus.

 **COMMUNITY** | Always invited

 **WORSHIP** | Always worshiping

 **MISSION** | Always sent

QUESTIONS?

Find us on-line at www.harvestdowntown.org
Email us at thechurch@harvestdowntown.org

HarvestDowntown is associated with the Christian & Missionary Alliance.
To find out more about the C&MA, go to www.cmalliance.org.

Cover art by Nancy Anderson

All Scripture references are from the English Standard
Version, unless noted otherwise.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Staff of HarvestDowntown	4
From the Lead Minister	5
A Call to Worship Kurt Trempert	6
Fasting 101 Brandon DelGrosso	8
A Prayer Model Paphoua Hang	10
Creating Access Events	11
Compass Groups	12
The Vision of HarvestDowntown	14
A Tree on a Hill Kurt Trempert	16
What's Up With Those Banners?	17
Communion? Every Sunday? Why? Kurt Trempert	18
Family Connection	19
Sacrificing Our Son Ben McFarland	20
Of Lent, Winter, and Perseverance Amy Marshall	21
Ten Years of 10,000 Hours Benjamin Weilert	22
The Way: A Call to Action Will Marshall	24
Happenings	25
Upcoming Events	26
Opportunities to Serve	27

THE STAFF OF HARVESTDOWNTOWN

Kurt Trempert: Lead Minister
kurt@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.310.9098

Brandon DelGrosso: Associate Minister
brandon@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.440.5336

Paphoua Hang: Assistant Minister for
Spiritual Formation
paphoua@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 763.670.9449

Chris Clonts: Creative Worship Director
chris@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.494.6794

David Wilson: Associate Minister
david@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.238.6791

Ben McFarland: Assistant Minister for
Youth
ben@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 307.757.7515

Peter Houk: Assistant Minister for
Pastoral Care
peter@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.290.9786

Amy Marshall: Administrative Assistant
thechurch@harvestdowntown.org
Cell: 719.246.2746



STAFF

Back, left to right: Amy Marshall, Kurt
Trempert, Brandon DelGrosso, Chris
Clonts

Front, left to right: Ben McFarland,
David Wilson

ELDERS

Bill Bayles
Dusty Hill
Gary Friesen
Peter Houk
Rob Tumbelston

DEACONS

Anthony Kieu
Daniel O'Rear
Jared Lujan
Kerri Donaldson
Leanne Schmidt
Pat Altemose
Richard Lujan

GREENHOUSE RESIDENTS

Eli Bachali
Felipe Olavarria

FROM THE LEAD MINISTER

Welcome!

Thanks for joining us at HarvestDowntown! Whether you are new to the church, or have been a part of the church for a long time, I want to invite you into our community known as HarvestDowntown. We are a Christ-centered community that wants to see our city and world transformed by the power of Christ working through His Church.

We believe that everyone is invited into the Community of Christ and into relationship with God through Jesus. We believe that humanity is always worshiping someone or something—it's just a question of what or whom. We also believe that the follower of Jesus is always sent into the world to live in such a manner that others will see their lives and glorify our Father in heaven.



We value our children and want to provide a safe environment for them to also grow in their faith and if you remain a stranger, it will make it hard on them! If you want to know more or you are just intrigued, please introduce yourself to us. We would love to get to know you and help you find the right church that will inspire you to be a participant in the Body of Christ—His Church.

Living the journey together,
Kurt & Terasue
719.310.9098
kurt@harvestdowntown.org

A CALL TO WORSHIP

Kurt Trempert



Every Sunday, all over the world, every church service begins with a call to worship. For some this is just a song, others it is a scripture reading, silence, prayer, or a devotional. However a church chooses to do this, the purpose is the same: invite the community of Christ into the manifest presence of God. This is not to say that worship is starting – because that would also mean that it will come to an end! It is there to serve as a catalyst for worship – a reminder that we are gathered for a singular purpose, and that purpose is to worship God as His people.

There are specific promises in scripture that indicate the value for community in worship. For instance, God commands Himself to bless those who dwell together in unity, (Psalm 133:1-3). Jesus promises to be present in the community that gathers in His name, (Matthew 18:20). This is not to take away from the omnipresence of God, but it is to emphasize His manifest presence and glory. For this reason, we invite one another into worship, sacrifice, and into His presence.

Lent serves as a global call to worship to His Church. It is a catalyst that invites the people of God into the Father's presence as we intentionally engage in sacrifice together in Jesus' name. It is not a Biblical season, but a reflection of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for a three-year journey of intense ministry, (Matthew 4:1-11). These forty days were not the only time that Jesus spent praying or seeking the Father, but they serve as a reminder to us of how important the intentional engagement of prayer and fasting is.

Every great journey should start with prayer. The mistake so many make in prayer is asking God to bless their journey, endeavor, agenda, or initiative. But the point of prayer is not to get God to bless us, but it is to submit our steps, pathways, and choices to Him. I have come to realize that prayer is much more about alignment with the will of God than it is anything else. It is certainly important to ask Him to move on our behalf – we have not because we have neglected to ask, (James 4:2-3). But, even in this, it is about bringing our goals, objectives, and needs to Him with open hands expecting Him to bring our steps into alignment with His agenda, His kingdom, and His purpose.

I hope that you will allow Lent to call you into worship and sacrifice. Don't fall

into the trap of trying to manipulate God into blessing your agenda – God will not be mocked in this way. We do not fast and pray to get our way. We fast and pray to get out of the way so that God can have His way in our lives.

Here are a couple of wise sayings about alignment to God and His will for our lives:

Proverbs 16:9 "In his heart a man determines his course, but God determines his steps."

Proverbs 3:6 "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."



Here are a couple of opportunities that I hope you will step into this Lenten season:

- Corporate Fast: One-Day Corporate Fast during Ash Wednesday
- Concert of Prayer: Ash Wednesday, February 26th at 6-7PM
- 24-Hour Prayer Alignment: One-hour blocks from 6PM, February 26th to 6PM, February 27th
- 40-Day Communal Fast: Sign up for a one-day fast along with our church community
- 40-Day Lenten Fast: Offer a personal sacrifice to bring yourself into alignment with God

FASTING 101

Brandon DelGrosso



The majority of the fasts described in Scripture are food fasts. People would refrain from eating for a whole day, or series of days, to set aside the time for prayer and seeking God. Fasting from both food and water is described, but should be considered carefully, as you can go longer without eating than drinking, and it's possible to have health issues when one goes without water. There are other types of 'fasts' in which one takes a specific time(s) and sets it apart for prayer, or takes specific activities that one normally participates

in and instead chooses to devote that time to prayer. The longer fasts described in Scripture are 40 days, such as what Moses did when he received and gave the law, and like Jesus undertook just before starting His ministry. Thus, many Christian historical rhythms about fasting are connected to 40 days.

Fasting can easily become legalistic. "It must be a strict 24 hours! I can or can't have this or that! Despite nearly passing out, I must make it to the end." Legalism can take over the fast and even make it unbeneficial because you're only focusing on the dos/do nots rather than why you fasted in the first place. Throughout the Bible, God constantly reminds His people that doing things without your heart, a.k.a. just for legalistic purposes, is not acceptable or pleasing to Him. This can be fasting that is done to impress people, and sacrifices that are blemished, so check your heart before jumping forward in a fast. And give yourself grace, especially if this is your first food fast.

You might experience some unusual things - physical discomfort, headaches, body shakes. Take note of how long this is happening. Sometimes this is a good, normal thing, as your body is reacting to the fact that you're not doing something your body is used to. If it's prolonged, you may want to lighten your fast, eat a little something. Health concerns should be noted prior to fasting such as medications you're taking or other health issues. If you think they may come into play during your fast or cause potential danger, please consult a health professional before fasting.

The most important thing is that you listen to the Spirit, submit your will, and take time to pray. This is why food is a great way to fast. You specifically set aside the 30 minutes you'd have during a meal, breakfast, lunch and dinner, to pray. Your body also reacts to being hungry, so every time you feel a hunger pain, pray. The purpose is prayer, and setting aside yourself and time to seek God. As we've been talking about in recent sermons, when we seek God, He is found!

Preparation for the fast is key! Just as you would prepare to participate in a sporting activity, you want to prepare your heart and body for your fast. Pray about what you should pray about. Pray about how long you should fast and what type of fast God is calling you into. We're asking you to do a 24-hour food fast during Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26th, as a corporate fast. Then, we also ask you to pick any day from Friday, Feb. 28th – Saturday Apr. 4th to fast. We have decided that 40 days (partly to line up with the Lent season) is the timeline for us as a church to collectively fast and seek God together. This is a natural rhythm for us already, as this was the timeline we focused on for our Perspectives on the Passion art show. We're hoping that 3 people will be fasting each day. Prep the day before by perhaps eating a few smaller meals or just fruits, veggies, salads, or soups to make it easier on your body.

On the day of your fast, make sure you drink plenty of water. Whether you drink broths, coffee, juice, or anything else is up to you. As you find yourself with hunger pains, pray for Harvest, pray for the things you'd love God to show you in Creating Access. Pray for our decision-making about the building and what it ought to look like and how it ought to function.

Finally, conclude the fast the next morning. Break the fast with something smaller - again, like soups, veggies, or fruits for the early morning meal. One day will unlikely mess up your physical body and its natural rhythms, but if you do more than one day, you'll want to refrain from coming off a fast to really fatty foods or heavy carbs, as they may make you feel rough. You should look back on the fast in thankfulness for how God met you, and what it meant and how your heart was changed. Don't think about how glad you are to be done fasting. Thankfulness ought to also move you in that you have food to consume that the Lord has provided. Be thankful as to how He has blessed you with those things, and perhaps think about every meal a little differently.

I've had a rhythm of fasting throughout my life and have done some very long fasts as well. If this is something you'd like to pursue for a longer term, be it during our 40 days or after, I'd love to talk to you about it and wrestle through with you why you are doing it and how to prep for it. I have entered some fasts with the wrong motives, I have done some fasts horribly wrong (physically), and I would be glad to help you not make the same mistakes. I look forward to fasting alongside y'all during this season and I wait in eager expectation for how the Spirit will move amongst us as well. We will sacrifice together and offer ourselves to the Lord, and in this process, I know the Lord will bring us great unity of heart and vision.

A PRAYER MODEL

Paphoua Hang



"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8, NIV)

Matthew 7:9-12 continues in perspective that our heavenly Father loves us, giving good gifts to us as we ask, seek, and pursue what will be given to us. The instruction continues that we are to do to others what we would have them do to us.

It is clear in this passage that prayer is not just for one to seek for oneself, but to also seek for one another.

How then can we pray to ask, seek, and knock? The Bible provides several prayer structures that we can practice into discipline. Let us take from the prayer model Jesus gave to His disciples.

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

- Go to God, the Source Giver
- Ask for what is His that is to be given
- Acknowledge the needs
- Identify the brokenness; receive forgiveness from God and release others of offenses
- Invite, pursue and acknowledge the authority and power of God that delivers

For whom can we pray?

- Our circumstances
- Our family, friends, and community
- Society and governances

For what of God's goodness are we pursuing?

- Restoration
- Hope
- Love
- Justice

Of what is His deliverance being sought?

- Brokenness
- Oppression
- Poverty

Jesus has taught us this prayer model.¹ The power of prayer comes in companion with the Holy Spirit.² God is the source of all authority to give what is good and to deliver us from evil.³

This prayer was given from Jesus to His disciples and is now even for us. In this next season, may you pray for and with one another, delighting in the delivering love of the Father. May you realize the good gifts God has for you.

¹ Matthew 6:9-13, also known as The Lord's Prayer

² Acts 1:8, empowered by the Holy Spirit, prayer is witness

³ Psalms 34:4, seek the Lord; He answers and delivers

HARVESTDOWNTOWN creating access EVENTS



Join together with the whole church for a corporate 24-hour fast during Ash Wednesday (February 26).

**CORPORATE
FAST**

CONCERT OF PRAYER

On the evening of February 26th (Ash Wednesday), from 6-7pm, we'll be seeking the face of God together during a Concert of Prayer. Set aside the time to gather in community to sing and pray for the needs of our church, city, and world.

We will hold a 24-hour prayer alignment from 6pm, Feb. 26th to 6pm, Feb. 27th. The church building will be open; arrive at the top of the hour for at least a one-hour block any time during this 24-hour period.

**24-HOUR PRAYER
ALIGNMENT**

40-DAY COMMUNAL FAST

Sign up for a 24-hour fast with the church community between February 26 (Ash Wednesday) and April 5 (Palm Sunday).

Offer a personal sacrifice to bring yourself into alignment with God.

**40-DAY
PERSONAL FAST**

COMPASS GROUPS

We want to connect every person and family to a Compass Group. Compass Groups are small groups that journey through life together. They meet regularly to do life together, study the Word, and pray for and serve their neighbors. We have several located around the city to center you on True North. Contact the leader of the group for the location and more details.

If you are interested in starting up or hosting a HarvestDowntown Compass Group or if you have any general questions about our Compass Groups, please contact David Wilson at david@harvestdowntown.org.

INTERESTED IN LEADING OR HOSTING?

DOWNTOWN

Leader: Michael Schmidt
michael@cloudfollow.us
1st & 3rd Thursdays: 6:30 p.m.

OLD NORTH END

Leader: Terasue Trempert
719.210.1566
Wednesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

ROCKRIMMON

Leader: Rob Tumbelston
719.231.6212
Wednesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

JR & SR HIGH YOUTH

Leader: Ben McFarland
307.757.7515
Sundays: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

LOWELL

Leader: Dylan Walsh
719.505.4602
Thursdays: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

SOUTHEAST

Leader/Host: Marshall & Hill
peterfmarshall@icloud.com
Wednesdays: 6:15-8:00 p.m.

OLD COLORADO CITY

Leader: Debbie Casey
630.220.1489
Thursdays: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

LADIES' DAYTIME GROUP

Leader: Kim Hill
214.773.1711
Tuesdays: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

LOWELL 2

Leaders: Friesen & DelGrosso
garyandlaurel@gmail.com
Thursdays: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

MESA

Leader: Graham Frank
970.805.0048
Sundays: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

IMPRINT ARTIST COLLECTIVE

Leader: Sam Friesema
440.591.4104
Fridays: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

LADIES' EVENING GROUP

Leader: Linda Bayles
719.527.2660
Tuesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

FOUNTAIN

Leader: Gary & Sarah Stacy
719.228.6084
Thursdays: 6:30-8:00pm

CENTRAL

Leader: Danny Doerksen
719.661.9714
Rotating Thursdays:
6:00-8:00 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SHADOWS

Host/Leader: Bogdanoff & Marshall
719.367.4538
2nd & 4th Thursdays: 6:00-8:00 p.m.



OUR VISION

- Connect families and individuals with a Compass Group
- Nurture a Lifestyle of Desperate Worship
- Cultivate Missional Living

To serve as a catalyst for spiritual change within our city

OUR MISSION

A TREE ON A HILL

Kurt Trempert

Tree on a Hill

Our vision tree has served us well in demonstrating and defining our ministry engagement. We have organized our ministries based upon where they hang on the tree and we have built our church on our three core values of Desperate Worship, Transformational Community, and Missional Living. Along the way HarvestDowntown has been blessed with ministry leaders and ministers of the church who have found alignment within these values.

Desperate Worship

Going forward, Kurt will be responsible for the leadership and support of all discipleship ministries. This means that all the teaching and mentoring for all the age groups will be championed by him and will report to him. This will include the following teams: HarvestKids, HarvestYouth, preaching, mentoring, music, spiritual formation, and our worship culture. Therefore, Ben, Paphoua, and Chris will all directly report to Kurt for their ministries.

Transformational Community

David will be responsible for the leadership and support of all the ministries in our church that promote transformation through community. The care, integration, hospitality, and communication will be championed by him. This will include the following teams and ministries such as Compass Groups, Deacons, and Prayer Web. Chris will report to David concerning communication and Peter will report to him concerning the pastoral care of our community.

Missional Living

Brandon will continue to be responsible for all the missional activity of our church. The training and equipping of our church community for mission, equipping the bridges of our community, and support of our sent ones will all be promoted by him. The Global Impact Team, Perspectives Arts, Interactive Nativity, HarvestBowls, MoPs, and all bridges to our neighborhoods and schools will be championed by him. Our future ministry to strangers and our Greenhouse Environment are both directly under his authority.

Intertwined DNA

Just like our vision tree grows from three roots, our church is made up of these three values. We are fully aware that there is ample opportunity for there to be confusion, but we meet weekly to make sure we are speaking into each other's ministry and submitting to one another. If you have a ministry that you are not sure who is your champion among the executive leadership – just ask one of us! We will ask you what your primary purpose is for your ministry and then point you in the right direction.

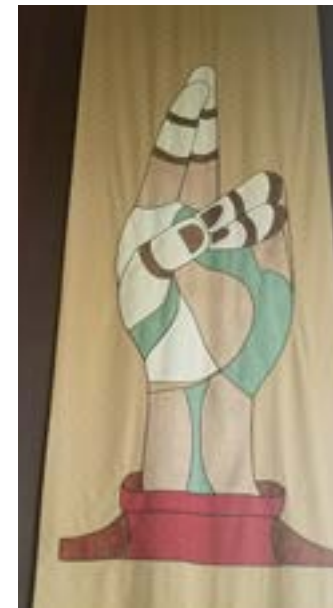
WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE BANNERS?

The banner depicting the Vine and the Branches

takes its primary inspiration from John 15 where Jesus states, "I am the Vine and you are the branches." This famous passage of scripture addresses His responsibility, our responsibility, the role of the Holy Spirit, and the Father's role. Certainly one can tell the kind of tree by the fruit it produces, and our tendency is to try and produce the right kind of fruit in order to not be cut off. However, it is not our responsibility to bear fruit – it is our responsibility to remain connected to the Vine. The production of fruit is a promise to all who abide in Him and who welcome the pruning work of the Father.



The second inspiration for this banner is the stained glass of the large round windows. Note the continuous circle of the vine that symbolizes the abiding responsibility of the church. The stained glass also demonstrates our interconnectedness as branches. The red circle in the middle captures the Life-blood of the Church – the sacrifice of Jesus, the God-Man.



WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT IS WITHIN YOU?

The banner of the hand with the crossed fingers

takes its inspiration from Colossians 1, Philippians 2, and the Gospels. The index finger represents the divinity of Christ while the middle finger represents His humanity. The two fingers are intertwined to demonstrate that He was one Person with two intertwined identities – the God-Man. The other description of this ancient symbol of Christ is that God's love and justice met in one event – the cross. The three other fingers are positioned to form one circle representing the three Persons of the Godhead in perfect unity for all eternity.

COMMUNION? EVERY SUNDAY? WHY?

Kurt Trempert



HARVESTDOWNTOWN
FAMILY CONNECTION

We at HarvestDowntown believe that the communion elements are representative of the Incarnation and Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for mankind. The broken bread reminds us of how Jesus' body was broken for us. The cup reminds us that His blood was shed for the remission of our sin. By partaking of these elements, we are proclaiming Jesus' death and resurrection until He returns. We do this because Jesus Himself ordained it, "Do this in remembrance of me."

When we decided to make the elements available to the church body every Sunday, our initial concern was that it may trivialize the significance of the ritual. However, we have been pleasantly surprised at how the community known as HarvestDowntown has fully embraced the practice as a regular and meaningful part of our regular worship experience. The elements remind us of the forgiveness offered us in and through Christ, and they in turn remind us that we cannot fully embrace Jesus' forgiveness unless we choose to forgive others.

We believe that communion should be available to all who believe that Jesus is the only way to the Father and that His sacrifice is the only sacrifice sufficient to satisfy God's wrath. We suggest that parents are the best ones to determine whether a child is ready to partake of the elements. If you need help talking to your child about the significance or meaning of communion, please feel free to speak to any of the pastors or elders. We also expect each believer to prayerfully consider each week if they are at peace with God and at peace with their fellow man before proceeding to the table.

If you are wondering, we honor the practice of intinction (rip and dip) as our method of partaking of the elements. We are not opposed to the use of wine in the cup, but because we recognize our role of living at peace with our brother, we offer grape juice in its place. We feel this honors the principles of representation without the burden of offense and is the most accepted practice in our context.

I would like to prod you to consider not just how one takes the cup and the bread in a church service, but how one eats and drinks in general. Do you eat and drink quickly without considering the sacrifice of Christ? What if we considered the subject of forgiveness before we ate? What if we wouldn't eat or drink until we forgave our fellow man and accepted the forgiveness of Christ? I believe people would probably be a lot healthier – or at least skinnier!

HarvestKids

At Harvest, we are always worshipping, and on Sunday morning its no different. During the 10:40 service, you are invited to bring infants and toddlers to the Annex for worship before the service. School-age children are invited to participate in singing and a special kids sermon before heading back.

Kids @ 9

At Harvest, we are always worshipping, and on Sunday morning its no different. During the 9:00 service, all kids are welcome to join in worship with the whole church. We don't mind if they run around a bit and make some noise. If they are getting really loud (like crying) you can step out for a moment to calm them down. No need to feel bad about it. They're kids, and we love them!

Nursing Moms

Sometimes moms like a private space to nurse with their little ones but don't want to miss the sermon. If that's you, there is a room in the balcony in the corner behind the sound tables. It's comfortable and private, and you can still hear what's being said. Feel welcome to make you and your baby comfortable in there.

SACRIFICING OUR SON

Ben McFarland



Almost 2 years ago a social worker brought a 5-week-old baby up the 3 flights of stairs to our apartment. We had no idea what a tumultuous journey we had just entered into by saying "yes" to our second foster care placement. Some aspects of the journey can be anticipated. Things like being up all night, developmental delays, and awkward conversations with biological family are to be expected. One thing we never expected is that we would get to be his "forever" parents.

For Jaxson to be our forever son, the Department of Human Services had to fail to find any other option. Because of this reality we have to hold our foster children with open hands to God and at the same time love them recklessly, without holding back, knowing fully well that we could get a call at any time that a social worker is coming in 3 hours to pick up our children and place them somewhere else. It is an emotional roller coaster!

It was about about 3 months into our journey with Jaxson that our social worker told us that there was no other options and we would be the primary permanent option. With tears, we said that we would love to be! And so hope started to build that we would have the honor of raising him.

Just when we were sure that things were heading in that direction, another social worker sat down at our kitchen table and gave us some difficult news. Who was thought to be Jaxson's biological father was not and the man that is his biological father looked to be a viable option. She expressed that we need to be prepared that things could move quickly and Jaxson could be moving soon.

My wife held herself together until the social worker left and then cried like I had never seen her cry before. I don't know if Sarah knew that God had asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, but if she did, I would imagine that she would have cried like my wife did, the day Abraham took Isaac up the mountain.

And so we entered into another phase of our journey with Jaxson. It was a phase where we had to lay him on an altar daily and trust that God had a plan. And so we waited and looked to see what God would do. It was an excruciating feeling to lay down your loved son on an altar. It was hard to feel so helpless. All I could do was trust that God was good.

Over the course of the next year we saw God write the most amazing story for our son. God protected him from his biological father, who turned out to be a

danger to Jaxson. After the biological father was no longer an option, the judge ordered that the original "dad" become the legal father. God then moved in the hearts of Jaxson's legal father and biological mother to admit that they could not parent him and they wanted him to be in our home because they saw our love for him. And so the most unlikely thing happened. We became his permanent family!

As many of you know, our son's new name is Isaac. It is a perfect name for him. He laughs. He makes us laugh. He was laid on an altar and God provided.

OF LENT, WINTER, AND PERSEVERANCE

Amy Marshall



Waiting, waiting, walking
Through the fog of the season between -
Between Christmas and Easter,
Between birth and rebirth,
Between looking back and looking forward...

Waiting through the gray cold of hidden preparation,
Our souls hibernating,
Our bodies sleepwalking;
Waiting for that day when the Spirit
Enters this stale air and
Makes it come alive,
When sun melds with breeze and
Turns it warm and living,
When Holy Spirit blows the wind of hope
To wake us,
To thaw the world,
When our hearts pump Sunlight
Through frosted veins.

You gave us life;
We laid it down for you.
We wait.
Now raise the dead.

TEN YEARS OF 10,000 HOURS

Benjamin Weilert

Matthew 25:14-30



While Malcolm Gladwell's tenet that it takes 10,000 hours of deliberate practice to become a master of something has been disproven in recent years, the core of the idea that it takes time to learn a new skill is still there. Now that we are in a new year and a new decade, perhaps you want to pick up a new passion. If we still use the measuring stick of 10,000 hours, if you dedicate yourself for eight hours a day, 365 days a year, it will take you almost 3.5 years to master that new passion. Few people have enough time to dedicate to something for 3.5 years straight, so let's say that it takes about ten years of free time to master a new skill.

By now, most of our New Year's resolutions have faded to broken promises. As such, it is a great time to consider what we want to do with our time. Plenty of resolutions revolve around fixing something that's broken. Whether it's losing weight or stopping bad habits, rarely do our resolutions involve acquiring new skills. Take a moment and think to yourself, "What new thing do I want to do in my life?" Do you want to be more creative? Do you want to learn a new language and travel? Do you want to become a musician?

In our ever-busy lives, finding free time is like finding a needle in a haystack. The idea of rest is a Biblical one, with the Sabbath being a prime example. Now, what if we considered learning a new skill as a form of rest? I spend most of my days at work attending meetings and answering e-mails, so when I come home and finally have some time to myself, diving into some writing or photography helps activate the creative side of my mind and gives me a break from the logic of my day. Have I spent 10 years on these passions? I'm certainly getting closer, and it's because I chip out a little time each day to focus on the things I'm passionate about.

The trick with pursuing any passion is that it takes sacrifice. Sometimes it's the financial sacrifice to gain the right equipment or inventory, but more often than not, it's the sacrifice of our time. But if we're sacrificing our time to learn this new skill, then what time do we have left for God? While the Bible says we should "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17), which is one way to spend time with God, what if we consider our passions—your "talent" if you will—as worship? What if we put our passions on the altar of God? What does that look like?

HarvestDowntown has three elements of its DNA: Worship, Community, and Mission. Can your passion meet all three of these elements? If you are creating art or learning a new language or becoming a musician, have you found groups that share these passions? Can you use your sacrifice of time to connect with an unreached community? Can you harness your newfound talent to reach the lost?

Sure, there is some amount of risk in putting yourself out there with a newfound skill (ask me how my stand-up comedy went for an example). Although, just like in the parable of the talents, there was always a risk that these individuals who had received the talents would lose them all. Still, those who had more talents made more on their investment than the one who hid theirs. Perhaps your "talent" is only worth one unit right now. What would it look like if you built it up to five units? Ten?

In the same way that we can grow our talents, God can use these worship-filled sacrifices to advance his kingdom. Perhaps the art you create for one of the Perspectives shows speaks

to someone who doesn't know Christ. Perhaps in learning a language and the culture surrounding it, you're an ideal candidate to become a missionary. Perhaps becoming a musician will allow you to praise the Lord with the music team on Sundays. The fact of the matter is that the talents we are most passionate about are the ones that shine the brightest and have taken the most sacrifice to achieve. So ask yourself, "What talent can I refine?" or "What talent do I want to acquire?" Chances are it will be a long journey to get there, but God will be with you every step of the way.



Photo by Benjamin Weilert

THE WAY: A CALL TO ACTION

Will Marshall



Why do we continue to stand around gazing up to heaven like the apostles at the ascension? *"He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap"* (Ecc 11:4). There is work to do. The work is to be done by us. This is not a waiting game - we are the ones making the Kingdom grow, we *"are the body of Christ"* (1 Cor 12:27).

"Faith without works is dead" (James 2:14-26). Salvation in Scripture always comes as a real, tangible thing, and salvation is always effected *through* God's people when they submit to the method He has ordained. We are the ones given dominion in this world, and what have we to show for ourselves? Our silver talent is buried, our oil has run out, and we are asleep.

How then do we get a product on this earth? Every man has a tribe *within* him. Were you not instructed to be fruitful and multiply? Do not ask, "where is the harvest?", if you are not sowing seed or producing fruit. Do not forget that word is seed too! You will never reap what you do not sow, never see what you do not grow. Seed always traces back to its owner because it produces what it is; if your words are Christ's, then the fruit will be Christ's. If you mix the Word with those of the world, your family's generation will be fruitless for the Kingdom. *"You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the whole yield be forfeited, the crop that you have sown and the yield of the vineyard"* (Deut 22:9).

Do not be deceived, we are in captivity. The shackles of Rome bind us as tightly as when Jesus entered the world. Yet Jesus said we will do greater things than Him. How?

Jesus is the literal way. We are saved by following in His path. Believing that someone named Jesus walked the earth does not save you. Belief that a man can return from the dead does not save you. Jesus saves, only to the extent that we *follow* Him. The head is birthed before the body. Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection is the code, meaning that we come to the Father through Jesus when we follow His path, which is the narrow way of self-sacrifice and submission to the Father. *"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit"* (John 12:24). We don't get to pick how we submit and sacrifice; we don't just give up random things. How do we sacrifice like Jesus? We sacrifice by crucifying our self-will, by no longer judging good and evil by our own volition. We must

stop arguing about whether we have free will and ask, *should* we have it?

We submit by obeying our Father's commandments as Jesus did. He does not know workers of lawlessness (Matt 7:33). Can you honestly say that the law was your tutor unto faith if you have never been tutored by it? *"Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man"* (Ecc 12:13b). How so since there is no temple? Ah, but there is, for *"we are the temple of the living God; as God said, 'I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty'"* (2 Cor 6:16b-18). If we are confused on how to obey our Father's commandments we need look no further than Jesus. He is the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6).

HARVESTDOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS



Come on over to Harvest every Thursday to pray for our city and world. Prayer starts at 7am. Switchback coffee will be served.

**PRAYER FOR OUR CITY
& WORLD**
THURSDAYS @ 7 AM

MOPS 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS

Calling all moms & moms-to-be to join us for our twice-monthly meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, from 9:00am - 11:30am. Come for a time of fellowship & encouragement while enjoying brunch & coffee, a specific message from the MOPS *To The Full* curriculum, great conversation & childcare w/ reservation by Monday evening prior to meeting! For more information and to reserve your childcare spot, text Heather Kaczmariski @ 719-440-1802.

If you would like to read the Collect & Scripture during the 9:00 or 10:40 services, head to the Needs page on MyHarvest and pick a Sunday that works for you. Anyone is welcome to read.

**SCRIPTURE READING
& COLLECT**



HARVESTDOWNTOWN UPCOMING EVENTS

Perspectives Arts is calling for artistic reflections during Lent. Invite everyone you know who may be interested in participating - especially folks who are not Christians! The 2020 Perspectives on the Passion art show is all about themes... themes that can be found in the story of Jesus' journey to the cross and in our own lives. These themes are: Sacrifice, Submission, Loyalty, Lament, Self-Preservation, and Condemnation. Perspectives on the Passion is not juried and all ages and mediums are welcome! Please sign up by Wednesday, February 26. For more information or to sign up, please visit the Perspectives Arts website: perspectivesarts.org/passion

CALL FOR ARTISTS

HARVESTPREPARE

The goal of HarvestPrepare is to address the beliefs of HarvestDowntown and why we believe them. Some of the beliefs that will be addressed are the Trinity, the Bible, the Gifts

of the Spirit, the Role of the Church, the Lostness of Man, and the contrast between Divine Healing and Faith Healing. The next 2½ hour seminar will be Saturday, March 28 from 10:00am–12:30pm, at Kurt's & Terasue's home (12 W Monroe St). If you would like to come, RSVP to Terasue at tissueat@msn.com.

February 29th, 10am-noon at the church. All current, future, and potential HarvestKids workers are strongly encouraged to prioritize this training. Continental brunch and gift provided. RSVP to Kurt required (kurt@harvestdowntown.org, 719.310.9098)

HARVESTKIDS TRAINING

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Come join our youth at 9am on Sundays in the Multipurpose Room during Lent, starting March 1st, for workshops on spiritual disciplines. Email Ben McFarland (ben@harvestdowntown.org) if you plan to attend and would like childcare, so he can make appropriate accommodations.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AT HARVEST

WORSHIP SERVICES

Audiovisual..... Chris Clonts.....chris@harvestdowntown.org
Service Set Up..... David Wilson.....david@harvestdowntown.org
Music..... Chris Clonts.....chris@harvestdowntown.org

CITY OUTREACHES

Interactive Nativity..... Brandon DelGrosso....brandon@harvestdowntown.org
Perspectives Arts..... Brandon DelGrosso....brandon@harvestdowntown.org
ServeSchools..... Brandon DelGrosso....brandon@harvestdowntown.org
MOPS..... Heather Kaczmariski....jnhkaczmariski@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CARE

Benevolence..... Ken Wilson.....kwilson@us.ci.org
Compass Groups..... David Wilson.....david@harvestdowntown.org
Mentorship Team..... Rob Tumbelston..... rtumbels@gmail.com
Prayer Care..... Peter Houk.....peter@harvestdowntown.org
Harvest Family
Celebrations..... Connie Hancock..... connie@petrafinancial.com
Men's Ministry..... David Wilson.....david@harvestdowntown.org
Women's Ministry..... Amanda DeJesus..... sacrificalserving@gmail.com
Cindy Meinert..... indogirlco@yahoo.com
Terasue Tremper..... tissueat@msn.com
HarvestKids..... Kurt Tremper.....kurt@harvestdowntown.org
Youth..... Ben McFarland.....ben@harvestdowntown.org

HOSPITALITY

Greeters..... Gary Stacy.....gm_stacy@hotmail.com
Church Family Meals..... Bekka Simmering.....bekka7@yahoo.com
411 (Information) Table... Gary Stacy.....gm_stacy@hotmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Branding & Culture..... Kurt Tremper.....kurt@harvestdowntown.org
Facility Upkeep..... Bill Bayles..... coloradobayles@gmail.com
Global Impact Team..... Brandon DelGrosso....brandon@harvestdowntown.org
Dusty Hill..... dusty_hill@wycliffe.org

OTHER SPONSORED MINISTRIES

Envision..... www.weareenvision.com
Camp Elim..... www.campelim.com
Life Network..... www.elifenetwork.com
Springs Rescue Mission..... www.springsrescuemission.org
Called to Serve..... www.calledtoserve.org
Lutheran Family Services..... www.lfsc.org

THE CHURCH
WITH THE
PURPLE DOORS

HARVESTDOWNTOWN

411 North Weber Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

www.harvestdowntown.org

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 a.m.

10:40 a.m.

HARVESTKIDS

Pre-K - 5th Grade

dismissed during service

10:40 a.m.

CHILDCARE

Newborns through

3-year-olds

10:40 a.m.

JOIN US ON
SUNDAY

GET
CONNECTED

Want to keep current with the happenings of HarvestDowntown? A MyHarvest profile will give you weekly email announcements, bi-monthly classifieds, access to calendars and groups, and help you find ways to serve. To obtain a profile, go to harvestdowntown.org.

Email: thechurch@harvestdowntown.org

Phone: 719.520.0197

COMMUNITY | WORSHIP | MISSION