

Sermon Notes

Daily Bible Readings (October 12-18)

Sun:	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	Face-to-Face Legacy
Mon:	2 Corinthians 5:1-10	At Home With Jesus
Tues:	Psalm 92:12-15	Fruitful in Old Age
Wed:	Numbers 12:1-8	Humility Commended
Thurs:	Hebrews 11:13-16	Seeing From Afar
Fri:	Job 19:25-27	My Redeemer Lives
Sat:	John 5:24	Crossed Over Now

Life Notes

Discovering God’s Plan #5:
“The Legacy of a Godly Life”
Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Opener:
What would you like your tombstone to say?

Go Deeper: (Exploring the Bible)

- Read Deuteronomy 34:1-12. What strikes you most about how Moses’ life ends? What emotions do you imagine he felt on Mount Nebo?
- Compare Deut 34:10 with Exodus 33:11. What does “face to face” communion with God suggest about prayer and faith?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:6-9. What gives Paul courage about death and daily living? How does this connect to Psalm 116:15 and John 5:24?
- Read Numbers 20:7-13 and Deut 3:23-28. How did God deal with Moses’ failure? What do you learn about God’s justice and mercy?
- Read Psalm 92:12-15. Identify the promises for “old age.” Where do you see these in your life?

Live It: (Applying to Our Lives)

- Faithfulness:** What is your “Nebo” this week—a specific, small act of faith you can do? Name it and schedule it.
- Humility:** Who is a “Joshua” you can encourage or empower? Write the text, make the call, or extend the invitation.
- Retirement Phases:** If you are retired, which phase best describes you — Vacation, Loss, Trial & Error, or Reinvention? What’s one Spirit-led next step to move toward Reinvention?
- Plant the Apple Tree:** Identify one “seed” you can plant this week—a visit, a note, a serving role, a mentoring coffee—that will bear fruit beyond you.
- Hope in Grief:** How do Job 19:25-27 and 2 Corinthians 5:8 comfort you regarding loved ones in Christ—and your own future?

Upcoming Week

Sunday, October 12
FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK: OCT. 12-19
“Meet A Pastor” (following each service)
8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship & Children’s Church, WC
11am Contemporary Worship & Children’s Church, WC
12:15pm Small Group Leadership Training, B7

Monday, October 13
9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Joining Jesus Study, FH
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4
4pm Confirmation Class, C1
6pm Joining Jesus Study, FH

Tuesday, October 14
9:30am Esperanza Bible Study, C5
1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meet in home
2pm Naomi Bible Study, C5
7pm AA Men’s Meeting, C5

Wednesday, October 15
9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
4:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)
Dinner at Zur Kate
8pm AA Meeting, C5

Thursday, October 16
10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5
11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4

Friday, October 17
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, October 18
8am Men’s Bible Study, C5
4pm Worship, WC
“Meet A Pastor” (following service)

CH = Chapel
FH = Fellowship Hall
C5 = Fireside Room
NR = Nursery
WC = Worship Center
C4 = Community Room

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WiFi

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Discovering God’s Plan

October 11 & 12, 2025

“The Legacy of a Godly Life”
Deuteronomy 34:1-12

THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor

SCAN ME

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GOD TIME: Reflections from the Luther-Bach Pilgrimage
Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Eighteen travelers connected to Victory Lutheran Church recently returned from an unforgettable twelve-day Luther-Bach Pilgrimage through Germany—a journey that beautifully intertwined faith, history, and music. From Munich to Leipzig to Berlin, the group traced the lives and legacies of two towering figures whose influence still shapes the theology and worship of Victory Lutheran Church today: reformer Martin Luther and composer Johann Sebastian Bach.

In Wittenberg, they stood before the Castle Church door where Luther posted his 95 Theses, igniting a movement that reawakened the Gospel of grace and forever changed the Church. At the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, they reflected on his year of hidden solitude—a season of spiritual renewal that led to his translation of the New Testament into the language of the people. In Leipzig and Naumburg, the group listened to the sacred strains of Bach's music in the very spaces where he once directed choirs to the glory of God. Throughout the pilgrimage, travelers reflected on Luther's rediscovery of the Gospel and Bach's theology of beauty—each a living testimony that faith and art can proclaim the same eternal truth.

The journey also carried a sobering depth. Standing in silence at Dachau and at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin on the 35th anniversary of German Unity Day, pilgrims were reminded that God's grace still breaks through humanity's darkest walls with light and hope. All returned home renewed—grateful to live and worship by the same Gospel cry: **Christ Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone.**



GATHER TIME: Meet A Pastor

"Greet one another with the love of Christ." – Romans 16:16

One of the most beautiful things about being part of God's family is the simple power of connection. A smile. A handshake. A short conversation that reminds you—you belong.

At Victory, we believe belonging begins with being known. That's why we're introducing a new opportunity each weekend to meet one of our pastors personally. **Right after worship**, one of our pastors will be available for a brief visit in **Conference Room B5**—as you exit the main doors, it's the first door to the right, across from the Nursery.

It's more than a quick handshake or polite "hello" on your way out. It's a chance to connect and begin to get to know you personally. Whether you've been worshiping with us for a while or are visiting for the first time, we'd love to meet you personally.

Church is more than a place to attend; it's a people to belong to. In a world where so many feel unseen or alone, God calls us into community—where faith is shared, prayers are lifted, and hearts are encouraged.

So before you head out today, take a moment to stop by Conference Room B5. We'd be honored to get to know you, to listen, and to walk with you as we follow Jesus together. Because at Victory, no one walks alone—we walk in the love of Christ.



GO TIME: Your Comment = A Life Transformed

Every now and then, we get a glimpse of how God is working — one comment at a time . . .

"This was exactly what I needed today."

"Thank you for this message of hope."

"God spoke to me through this."

These real comments from our social media channels remind us that God is still using everyday moments—and everyday people—to change lives. It's easy to scroll past content. But what if your like, your comment, or your share became someone else's turning point?

We often think of missionaries as people who go far away to preach the gospel. But Jesus calls each of us to be messengers of His love. In today's world, that includes the digital space too. Whether it's encouraging someone online or hitting "share" on a devotional, you're planting seeds of hope.

So here's the invitation:

👉 Keep watching. 💬 Keep commenting.

❤️ Keep sharing. ✨ Keep being a light.

Let's flood the internet with encouragement, truth, and the message of Jesus. You never know who's listening—or how your simple click could bring comfort, faith, or even salvation to someone in need.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Let's keep spreading hope and truth—together.

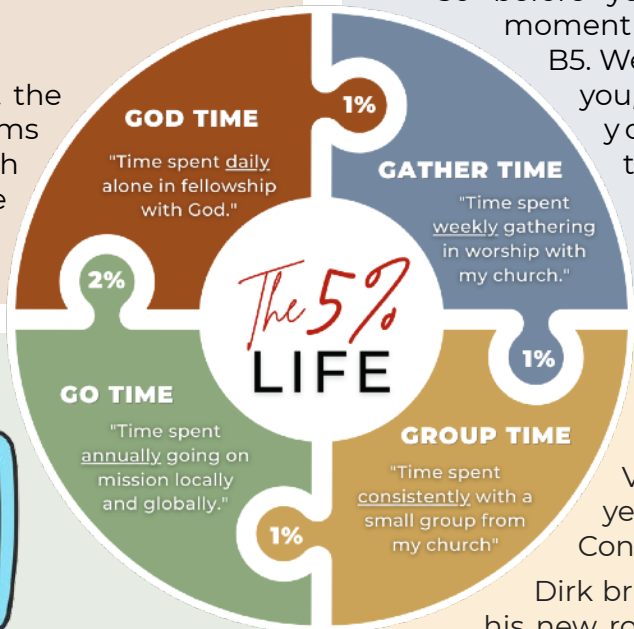


SUBSCRIBE TO
DAILY HOPE

Text the word **victory** to

888-897-5573

Receive a brief daily devotional and Bible verse directly to your phone.



GROUP TIME: Welcome Pastor Dirk Duhlstine—Our New Chaplain!

This weekend, we joyfully celebrate the commissioning of Pastor Dirk Duhlstine as Victory's new Chaplain. Pastor Dirk has served in pastoral ministry for more than 30 years and is already a familiar and trusted leader at Victory through his work with our Contemporary Worship service.

Dirk brings a shepherd's heart, a deep love for people, and a steady faith in Jesus Christ. In his new role, Pastor Dirk will oversee and nurture Victory's Care and Prayer Ministries, which include Stephen Ministers and GriefShare, as well as our visitation ministry to those who are homebound or hospitalized. Through these ministries, he will help ensure that every member of our church family experiences the love, presence, and comfort of Christ—especially during times of need.

Dirk's ministry reflects the heart of the Good Shepherd, who tends His flock with compassion and care. Whether he's leading a team of caregivers, offering prayer and encouragement, or sitting quietly beside someone in need, Pastor Dirk's calm presence and Christ-centered compassion remind us that no one at Victory walks alone.

Dirk has three children and two grandchildren. His wife Diane teaches Jr. High reading here in Mesa. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Dirk to this new calling, and keep him in your prayers as he begins this vital ministry among us. May God bless Pastor Dirk as he helps us care for one another in the love and strength of Jesus Christ.

