

Sermon Notes

Life Notes

Forward Together #3: "More Than Enough" - Joshua 2:1-14

Opener:

Name one promise someone made to you and kept.

Go Deeper: (*Exploring the Bible*)

1. **Read Joshua 2:1-14.** How does Rahab's faith challenge your assumptions about who God can use?
2. **Compare Rahab's confession in v.11 with Romans 10:9.** How is her faith similar to ours today?
3. In Ephesians 3:14–21, Paul prays for believers to know the "immeasurable" love of Christ. What does "immeasurable" suggest about God's nature?
4. **Read John 10:10.** How do you define "abundant life"? How might it differ from cultural definitions of success?
5. **Read Hebrews 11:31.** Why is Rahab included in this "hall of faith," and what does that teach us about grace?

Live It: (*Applying to Our Lives*)

1. Where has God's grace found you in an unexpected place or moment?
2. What fears are holding you back from stepping forward in faith or generosity?
3. How have you seen God's abundance show up when you acted in faith, even when it didn't make financial or emotional sense?
4. Rahab used what she had—her home, courage, and voice—for God's mission. What do you have that God might use this week?
5. What "scarlet cord" step is Jesus inviting you to take—time, talent, or treasure?

Daily Bible Readings (November 9-15)

Sun:	Joshua 2:1-14	Faith at the Wall
Mon:	Ephesians 3:14-21	Immeasurably More
Tues:	John 10:1-10	Abundant Life
Wed:	Romans 5:6-11	Grace While We Wait
Thurs:	Hebrews 11:31-40	Faith That Saves
Fri:	2 Corinthians 9:6-11	Sowing Generously
Sat:	Philippians 4:10-19	Content in Christ

Upcoming Week

Sunday, November 9

Annual Meeting Q&A following service, B7
"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

3pm Tetra String Quartet, WC

Monday, November 10

9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Joining Jesus Study, FH
**11:30am S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)
Little Mesa Cafe**

12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4

4pm Confirmation Class, C1

6pm Joining Jesus Study, FH

Tuesday, November 11 - Veterans Day

9:30am Esperanza Bible Study, FS
1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meet in home
2pm Naomi Bible Study, FS
7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

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

Wednesday, November 12

9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Men's Bible Study, C1
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
1:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC
8pm AA Meeting, C5

Thursday, November 13

10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5

4:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site) Bingo at Sunland Village

Friday, November 14

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 15

8am Men's Bible Study, C5

3:15pm Mission & Ministry Fair

4pm Worship, WC

"Meet A Pastor" (following service)

3pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)

Menopause: The Musical 2, Bus leaves @ 2pm

5pm Pizza & Shoebox Packing Party, FH

Victory Lutheran Church

5946 E. University Drive, Mesa, AZ 85205

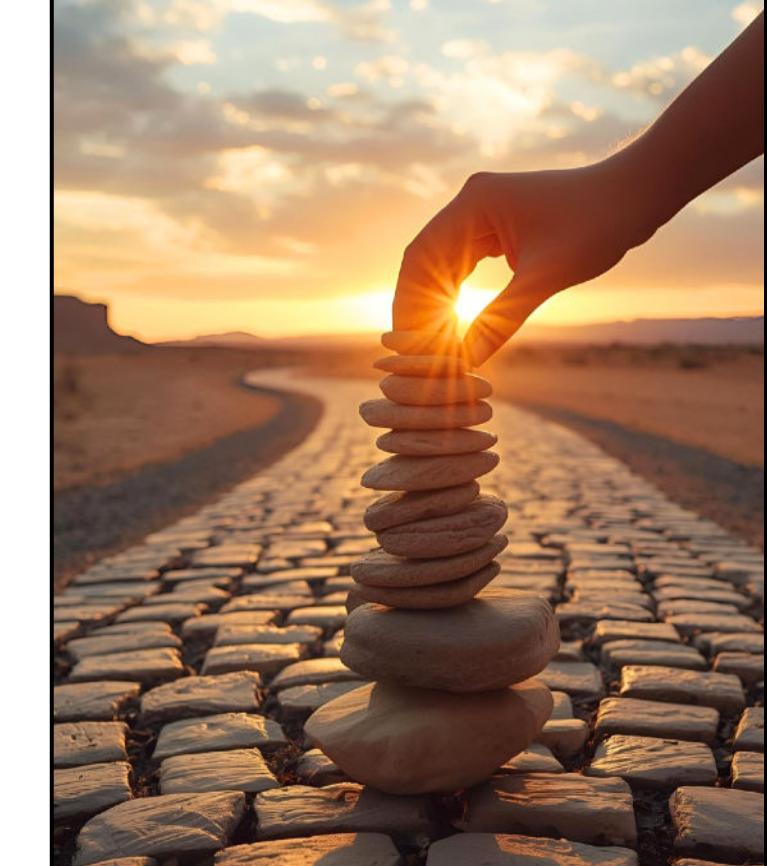
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FORWARD  TOGETHER



November 8 & 9, 2025

"More Than Enough"

Joshua 2:1-14

 THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor

Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor



Connect with us!



GOD TIME: No Greater Love — Honoring Our Veterans

Pastor Todd Mathison

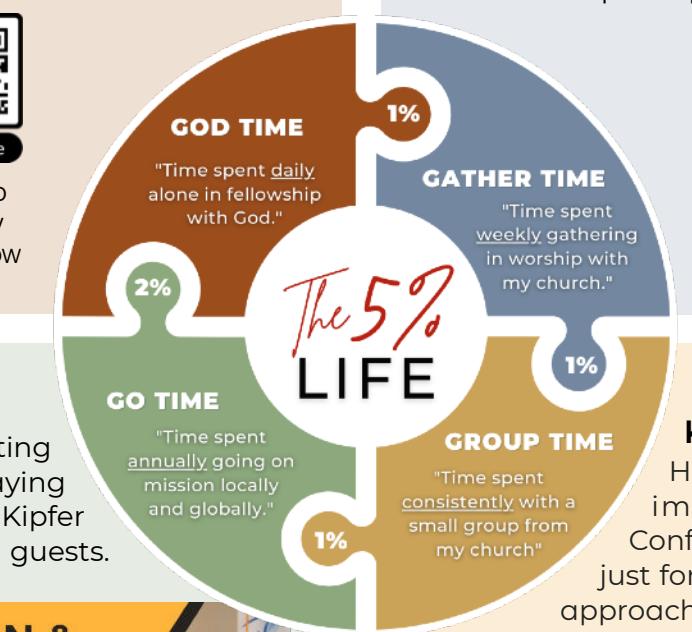
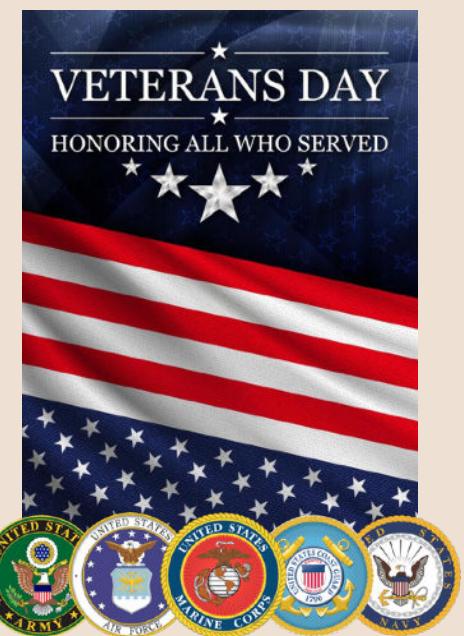
**"Greater love has no one than this:
to lay down one's life for one's friends."** — John 15:13

This Veterans Day weekend, we pause to honor the men and women of our Victory family who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces. Your courage, sacrifice, and devotion to duty reflect the highest ideals of our nation—and echo the heart of our Savior, who laid down His life for us all.

Freedom is never free. It is purchased with vigilance, endurance, and sacrifice. The freedoms we cherish today—to worship freely, to speak openly, to live without fear—were safeguarded by those who answered the call to serve. As we look around our congregation, we see faces marked not by medals or rank, but by humble faith and steadfast love for God and country. We are deeply grateful.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Serve one another humbly in love" (Galatians 5:13). Veterans embody that command, showing us what it means to put others before self. Their example calls each of us to live as citizens not only of this great nation, but of a greater Kingdom—one founded on grace, truth, and eternal peace.

So today we say: thank you. Thank you for standing the watch, for defending the weak, and for living lives of service. May God bless our veterans, their families, and this land we love. And may we, too, be found faithful in serving Christ and His Kingdom with courage and love.



GO TIME: Family Promise — Thank You

Thank you to all our incredible volunteers who served October 12–19, 2025! From setting up rooms and preparing delicious meals, to serving our guests and even staying overnight for the first time—you made a difference. A special thank-you to Gayle Kipfer for leading the nightly craft activities that brought joy and connection to our guests. Please continue to lift up in prayer the families experiencing homelessness and the Family Promise staff as they navigate ongoing challenges related to affordable housing. And be sure to stop by the Family Promise table next week at the Mission & Ministry Fair!

Upcoming Host Week: January 25–February 1, 2026

Kathy Michel, Family Promise Coordinator
kmichel@victorylutheran.com



GATHER TIME: You're Invited — Annual Meeting, November 16

Q&A Sessions held this weekend following worship in Room B7



NOTE: Annual Meeting documents are available to pick up at the Welcome Desk.



GROUP TIME: Building Faith Through Community

Karen Smithson, Women's Ministry President

Having been brought up by a Christian mother who emphasized the importance of faith formation through Sunday School and Confirmation classes, I learned early on that studying the Bible wasn't just for Sundays—it was a way of life. When I was about sixteen, my minister approached me and said, "I like what I've heard you learn. Would you teach one of our Sunday School classes?" I was surprised by the invitation—I had never imagined myself in that role. But I took it as a meaningful compliment and an opportunity to serve. I went on to teach for several years, up through my senior year of high school, until I began working. Teaching those young children helped me see the Bible in a new light—not just as stories like Moses parting the Red Sea, but as messages of God's love and faithfulness meant to shape our lives. That desire to dig deeper into Scripture stayed with me. Years later, as a working mother with two children, I joined Bible Study Fellowship and continued studying for 19 years. It's an international, interdenominational Bible study that has greatly enriched my walk with Christ.



Today, I'm in my fourth year on the Women's Ministry Board and currently serving as the outgoing President. I first joined as the Events Coordinator, drawn by our ministry's mission to support local 501(c)(3) organizations that help those in need within our community. As my term comes to a close, we are prayerfully seeking women who feel called to serve as our next President and Vice President in 2026. We meet once a month and encourage, train, and support one another in faith and leadership. Please pray about joining our Women's Ministry—your gifts and heart for service could make a lasting difference!

Questions? Contact Karen Smithson | 701-361-6777 | karen.d.smithson@gmail.com

