

Sermon Notes

Life Notes

The Recipe of a Godly Life: Perseverance
Luke 9:51-62

Opener:
When did you have to keep going at something long after you wanted to quit?
Maybe a job, a project, a season of life?
What kept you going?

Go Deeper: *(Exploring the Bible)*

- Read Hebrews 12:1. The race is “marked out for us,” we don’t design the course. How does it change things to know your hardest stretch is part of the race, not a wrong turn?
- The “cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 11) is full of people who failed: Abraham, Moses, Rahab, yet finished. What does that say about who God uses?
- Jesus is called the “pioneer and perfecter” of our faith (v. 2). Why does it matter that He both starts and finishes our faith, rather than leaving the finishing to us?
- In Luke 9:51, Jesus “set his face” toward Jerusalem. How does His refusal to turn back shape how we understand perseverance?

Live It: *(Applying to Our Lives)*

- Where in your life are you closest to “growing weary and losing heart” (v. 3) right now? What would it look like to bring that to Jesus this week?
- Perseverance isn’t gritting your teeth; it’s fixing your eyes. What practically pulls your eyes off Jesus, and what helps you look back?
- Is there a “weight” you’ve carried for years, a grudge, a worry, a habit that you could lay down, not to earn God’s love, but because you already have it?
- Who is in the “cloud of witnesses” for you? Someone whose quiet faithfulness still preaches to you? How could you thank God, or them, this week?

Daily Bible Readings (June 21-27)

Sun:	Isaiah 40:28-31	Strength renewed
Mon:	Romans 5:1-5	Suffering Produces Perseverance
Tues:	James 1:2-12	Testing Produces Endurance
Wed:	1 Corinthians 9:24-27	Run to Win
Thurs:	Philippians 3:12-14	Press On
Fri:	Galatians 6:7-10	Don't Grow Weary
Sat:	Philippians 1:6	He Will Finish It

Upcoming Week

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Sunday, June 21
8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC

Monday, June 22
9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm GriefShare, C4

Tuesday, June 23
7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

Wednesday, June 24
9am Feed My Starving Children (off-site)
Bus leaves @ 8am
9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Men's Bible Study, LR
12:30pm AI-Anon, C4

Thursday, June 25
10am Prayer Group, B7
11am AI-Anon Meeting, C5

Friday, June 26
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, June 27
8am Men's Bible Study, FS
1pm Celebration of Life for Doy Gillespie, WC
4pm Worship, WC

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

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THE
Recipe
OF A
GODLY LIFE



June 20-21, 2026

Perseverance
Luke 9:51-62

THE
PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
Dirk Duhlstine, Chaplain
Kristin Holton Prouty, Director of Worship & Music



Connect with us!
   

GOD TIME: Fatherhood and the Heart of God
Daniel Curran

Before having children, my relationship and idea of God the Father was basic and incomplete. But now living out the sacrament of marriage in a "domestic church" with my wife and our seven children, that idea and relationship has grown, dramatically. I'm still figuring out this vocation of mine as father every day, relying on the example of how God the Father raises us.

Raising seven kids has taught me that grace builds on nature, and that every child is unique. I have to parent each child differently. One needs a bit more sternness, another a bit more gentleness, another long talks, another just wants to play. Meeting them where they are opens my eyes to how God handles each of us. He doesn't see a crowd. He knows our names, our quirks, and deals with each of us uniquely with perfect love.

This has changed how I look at Gods mercy. I don't love my kids because they follow every rule. I love them because they are mine. If I, an imperfect father, can love my kids through their unique differences and struggles, how much more does our perfect Heavenly Father love us despite our problems?

This vocation drives us fathers to constant prayer, forcing us to lean on grace rather than human strength. I know most dads in the pews today can relate with what I'm saying. Whether we have toddlers or adult children, we try our best to rely on God the Fathers grace to lead our children to God their True Father.

Today, we can learn more about God as Father through the example of men who have helped raise us—biological dads, adoptive fathers, grandfathers, mentors, pastors etc A huge Thank you and Happy Fathers Day to fathers of all types , for your guidance, sacrifice and love and of course to Our Common God and Father, we love you!

HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY



GATHER TIME: A Father's Greatest Gift — Pointing Our Children to Jesus
Alisson Unglaub

As a father, I'm learning that teaching our children to follow God looks different in every season of life. When they are little, we teach them to pray simple prayers. As they grow, we help them understand worship, Scripture, and why faith matters in everyday life. Each age brings new joys, but also new challenges.

Lately, I noticed my 7-year-old son, Alec, was getting very distracted during worship. Like many kids his age, sitting still and paying attention to a sermon is not easy. I started wondering how I could help him engage instead of simply telling him to "pay attention."

So my wife and I bought him a kid-friendly Bible with large print and gave him a challenge: every time the pastor mentioned a Bible verse during the sermon, he should find it and highlight it in his own Bible.

That small idea became a total game changer.

Suddenly, Alec was listening closely, waiting for the next Bible verse. He was excited to follow along, search the pages, and mark the passages for himself.

One of his greatest days was at Victory, a church known for Bible-led preaching. As Pastor Todd preached, Alec was able to highlight seven Bible verses in his Bible! He was so excited afterward that he could not stop talking about how fun it was.

That reminded me that sometimes discipleship begins with something simple: helping our children see that God's Word is not just for adults — it is for them too.

This Father's Day, may we remember that one of the greatest gifts we can give our children is not only our presence, but a faith that points them to Jesus.



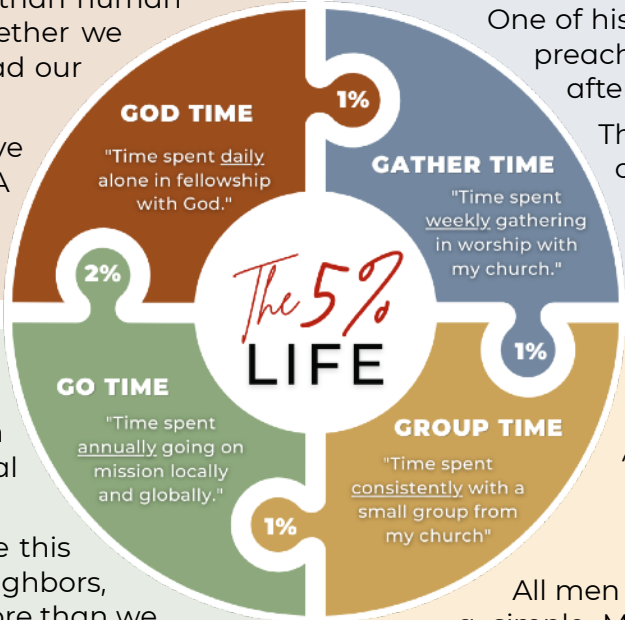
GO TIME: Invite Someone to Celebrate With Us!

This 4th of July, our nation will celebrate 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Here at Victory, we are marking this historic milestone with a special weekend of worship, music, fellowship, and community.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite someone to church. Invite cards are available this weekend at the Welcome Center for you to take and share with family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, or anyone you would love to see at Victory. A simple invitation can mean more than we realize. For someone who has been away from church, looking for a church home, or simply needing encouragement, your invitation may be the first step through the door.

Our celebration weekend will include special worship services on July 4th & 5th. **The Sonoran Brass Quintet** will perform during Sunday services and at the Patriotic Potluck on July 5th. The following Monday, July 13, we will also host a free movie matinee showing **A Great Awakening**. It will be a meaningful time to give thanks for the gift of freedom, enjoy fellowship together, and point our hope to Jesus Christ.

As you leave worship this weekend, take a few invite cards with you and use this celebration as an opportunity to practice your Go Time. Pray about who God may be placing on your heart. Then share a card, offer a personal invitation, and let them know there is a place for them here at Victory. A simple invitation can open the door for someone to experience the love of Christ and the fellowship of His people. Let's invite others to celebrate with us!



GROUP TIME: Men's Breakfast
Pastor Todd Mathison

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."
Proverbs 27:17

That is our hope for the men of Victory.

All men connected with Victory are invited to join together for a simple Men's Breakfast at Village Inn at Signal Butte and Baseline, near In-N-Out, beginning at 7:00am on June 24th.

This invitation comes from Michael Menke and Pastor Todd. For a season, they used to meet with a few other men for breakfast each week. It was simple: food, conversation, friendship, encouragement, and prayer. Over time, those mornings became a meaningful place to connect as brothers in Christ. Michael and Pastor Todd carry that same heart for all the men of Victory.

We are grateful for the men's Bible studies and small groups already meeting throughout the week. Those gatherings are a real blessing as men study God's Word, build friendships, and encourage one another in faith. This breakfast is not meant to replace any of those groups. It is simply another opportunity for men across the congregation to connect.

There is no big program and no sign-up required. Men will gather, order breakfast from the menu, enjoy conversation, get to know one another, and have the opportunity to pray for each other. Each person will simply take care of his own meal.

Christian friendship is important. God often strengthens us through brothers who listen, encourage, pray, and walk with us in faith. Whether you are already part of a men's group or have never attended one before, you are warmly invited. Just show up, pull up a chair, and enjoy breakfast with brothers in Christ.

Date: Wednesday, June 24 @ 7:00am

Location: Village Inn - 1863 S. Signal Butte Rd, Mesa, AZ 85209

