

TAKING IT HOME

9. We cannot love others as ourselves if we do not love ourselves first. What is one thing that you can do in the next week to take care of yourself and value yourself?
10. Who is someone you have a difficult time getting along with that you need to ask God to help you love this week?
11. What committee or mission can I actively support here at SRUMC that will afford me the opportunity to help others?

PRAYER GUIDE

Praise & Thanksgiving:

Sugar River Youth Retreat
P.U.S.H., prayer shawls and hats mission

Pray for healing:

Curt Johnson, at home after 1st cancer treatment
Harold Morris, Carol Kendall's father, lung cancer
Diane Lukas
Jim Vander Pas

Pray for:

Mary Kay Ogle, job search.
Each week we pray for a UMC from our district, this week: Marshall,
their pastor Marianne Cotter and its 167 members.
Verona Area Food Pantry
Haiti earthquake victims and relief efforts

Sugar River United Methodist Church SERMON OUTLINE for Sunday, February 7, 2010

When Christians Get It Right Back to Basics

Text: 1 John 4:11-21

Pastor Gary Holmes

1. The Tale of Two Teams

Which coach gets it right?

2. The Goal of the Christian life

The Two Commandments

1. _____
2. _____
- Mark 12:30-31

3. What does loving God look like?

Loving God and loving neighbor (who is my neighbor?)
- Luke 10:25-37

4. Putting on the new self

Dressing for Success – Col. 3:9-14

Resources: *Unchristian* by David Kinnaman and Series by Adam Hamilton

GROWTH GUIDE – Sugar River UMC

For the week of February 7, 2010

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Share a time when you "got it right." What blessings came out of that situation for others? For yourself?
2. Name a time when you were shown an unexpected act of love/compassion. How were you affected?
3. Who in your life "gets it right?" How has that approach affected his/her life? Your life? Others' lives?

DIGGING DEEPER

4. How do you know that God lives in you? What does it mean to live in God?
5. What's the difference between doing good selfishly, from a wish to be seen and praised, and doing it unaffectedly, so that others are moved to praise God? What place on that spectrum do you tend to occupy?

6. In this world where we are cautioned to be wary of strangers, who is your neighbor? Is it really anyone you encounter as in the story of the Good Samaritan? How do you decide whom to help? (Example: Someone on the median of the street asking for food; A person on the subway asking for money)
7. When people look at you, what do they learn about Christianity?
8. How might your actions change if you were to ask yourself, "What would happen to him/her if I were to help?" vs. "What would happen to me if I were to help?"

Bonus Reflection: How does the Sugar River Purpose/Process statement support a "method" to help our ability to love God and others?

Connect: Through worship and fellowship

Grow: Through Christ-centered relationships and study

Serve: By alleviating suffering and offering hope to the World

...in our relationship with God and others.