

WITH GOD

Beyond the Rules,
Beneath the Formulas
...in His Presence



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
November 1, 2026

PLUGGED IN

Pastor Dave Larson | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

See Revelation 2:2-5

1. My _____ isn't measured by my _____.

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:8-10 (NLT)

On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' But I will reply, 'I never knew you.' Matthew 7:22-23 (NLT)

2. My _____ flows from a heart _____ Jesus.

Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. Revelation 2:5a (NLT)

Then he appointed twelve of them and called them his apostles. They were to accompany him, and he would send them out to preach. Mark 3:14 (NLT)

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:4-5 (NLT)

3. I'll build _____ into my life and serve from _____.

Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat. Mark 6:31 (NLT)

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)

To everyone who is victorious I will give fruit from the tree of life in the paradise of God. Revelation 2:7b (NLT)

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1. My WORTH isn't measured by my USEFULNESS.

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On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' But I will reply, 'I never knew you.' Matthew 7:22-23 (NLT)

2. My SERVING flows from a heart WITH Jesus.

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3. I'll build REST into my life and serve from OVERFLOW.

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Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
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CONNECT

What's your "background app"? Name something small that quietly drains your battery during the week. It could be a group text, a chore you keep putting off, or a show you swear you're not addicted to.

ENGAGE

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

GROW

1. What "good things" in your life right now might be quietly draining you spiritually? Why are good things harder to notice than bad ones?
2. Read Revelation 2:2–5. The Ephesian church was hardworking, faithful and doctrinally sound, yet Jesus said they had lost their first love. How can a person or a church keep doing the right things while the love goes cold? What are the early warning signs?
3. "If I couldn't serve, if I got sick, got sidelined, or someone else took over what I do, would I still believe God loves, approves, and cherishes me?" How would you honestly answer that? What does your answer show about where your sense of worth comes from?
4. Jesus said to "remember," "turn back," and "do the works you did at first," not to try harder. Think back to when your faith felt most alive. What were you doing then, or not doing, that you could return to?
5. Matthew 7:22–23 describes people with impressive ministry résumés who missed knowing Jesus. Why do you think it's possible to do so much in Jesus's name without really knowing him? What does "knowing" him look like for you?

LEAD (YOURSELF)

"Rest isn't just the absence of work. It's the presence of Jesus." What gets in the way of real Sabbath for you? What would one "plugged in" rest day or morning look like this week, and who in the group could encourage you to follow through?