



# Embracing LIFE in ministry




The Life of the Sent



- ✦ Grace Place
- ✦ The parish
- ✦ Stretching my heart wide open

# Live for One.



The thief comes only  
to steal and kill and  
destroy. I came that  
they may have LIFE  
and have it  
abundantly.

John 10:10



✦ Why an empty tomb matters in ministry...

# Sorting through the expectations

- ✦ Husband
- ✦ Children
- ✦ Family
- ✦ Congregation
- ✦ Self

# Deuteronomy 6:4-5



Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

# Deuteronomy 6:1-3



“Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules — that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, *all the days of your life*, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

# Deuteronomy 6:6-9



And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



# Deuteronomy 6:20-23



“When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the Lord our God has commanded you?’ then you shall say to your son, ‘We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. And the Lord showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. *And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers.*




The answer to expectation

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Love the Lord your God

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# Invite and Be Open to Invitation



# 2 Corinthians 6:11-13




We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; *our heart is wide open*. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.



- ✦ Opening our hearts to Christ
- ✦ Opening our hearts to our husbands
- ✦ Opening our hearts to His people
- ✦ Opening our hearts to His church

# 2 Corinthians 6:3-10



We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

# Finding a Mentor





# Our marriage



## ✦ Protect it

“Catch the foxes for us, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards, for our vineyards are in blossom.”

Song of Songs 2:15

## ✦ Model it

**THIS IS MINISTRY!**

# Getting creative



- ✦ Date night – at home or away
- ✦ Marriage Devotions and prayer time
- ✦ The Marriage Sandwich
- ✦ “Love” notes
- ✦ Family traditions
- ✦ Connecting to friends and family far away

# Filter the Tongue



# 1 Timothy 3:8-11



Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. *Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things.*

# 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11



But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore *encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
TO  
ATTEND  
EVERY  
ARGUMENT  
YOU  
ARE  
INVITED  
TO

#SPEAKLIFE  
TOBYNAZ

# Hebrews 10:23-25



Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us *consider how to stir up one another* to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

MAKE  
*each*  
WORD  
*a Gift*



# Exceptional Calling



HELLO  
my name is

# Vocation v. Identity



✦ Identity = Child of God

Redeemed

Set Free

Baptized

Image of God

Holy to the Lord

Forgiven, Restored

# Vocation



“The maid who sweeps her kitchen is doing the will of God just as much as the monk who prays – not because she may sing a Christian hymn as she sweeps but because God loves clean floors. The Christian shoemaker does his Christian duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship.”

- attributed to Martin Luther

# Relational Ministry



# Sacrificing it to God



# A Family Calling

