

Upcoming Events

TMW ICE CREAM SOCIAL & MEETING

Bring a friend and enjoy fellowship together!

Thursday, August 13, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Family Life Center

Questions? Contact Libby at lgregg129@gmail.com or (618)954-6263

CONNECT LUNCH

Open to anyone new to our church!

Sunday, August 16, 11:45 a.m., Upper Family Life Center

Contact Bonnie with questions/RSVP at bonnie@troymc.org

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BUBBLE BASH

Lots of outdoor activities! Slip 'n slide, foam machine, & more!

Sunday, August 16, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Visit troymc.org/kids for more information

See our website for additional details— troymc.org/events

Message Notes

August 9, 2026

Christianity Isn't Self-Help

Luke 15:11-32; Ephesians 2:8-9

Self-Help Christianity is the belief that Jesus came to make us better people.

Why is Self-Help Christianity so attractive?

- Puts us in control – all we need to do is work hard to stop sinning
- We feel good about ourselves by appearing outwardly righteous
- We feel like we're earning God's favor by our successful sin-management
- Reduces Christianity to moral teaching - fits a pluralistic society

The problem with Self-Help Christianity? We don't need "help" – we need outright rescue!

The Truth: Jesus didn't come to make you a better person. He came to make you His!

Questions to reflect on:

1. Do I think I need "a little help," or do I recognize my need for a savior?
2. Practically speaking, am I trying to save myself by my goodness?
3. Am I working to become more like Jesus by my own will-power?