

# KNOWING THE AUTHOR NOT JUST THE PARK PASTOR LOUIS HOLTZHAUSEN | 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

# ANNOUNCEMENTS - POTCHEFSTROOM

#### **Dreamweek**

- R350 per person online
- Wristbands: Issued upon purchase. Please keep your wristband safe, as it is required for entry.
- If you bought your tickets via Main, you will receive your wristband from Main.
- Please note that the Tickets in CRC Potchefstroom have been sold out.

# **Sunday Service**

- 08:30 and 17:00, Dagbreek Estate (Next to Feather Hill)
- Every Sunday.
- Come expectant and with a friend!

### **Buy A Light**

- 1 Light = R1000
- Light: Sound Equipment, video equipment, stage lighting and acoustic treatment.
- At the church foyer, every Sunday. (card facilities)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS - KLERKSDORP

#### Dreamweek

- R350 per person online.
- Wristbands: Issued upon purchase. Please keep your wristband safe, as it is required for entry.
- If you bought your tickets via Main, you will receive your wristband from Main.
- Please note that the Tickets in CRC Klerksdorp have been sold out.

# **Sunday Service**

- 10:00 and 17:00, Portuguese Hall, Wilkoppies
- Every Sunday.
- Come expectant and with a friend!





### WELCOME & CONNECT - ICE BREAKER

Welcome all members who are joining the Homecell.

# PRAISE & WORSHIP

Sing at least 1 dynamic praise song and 2 intimate worship songs. As leaders, we set the pace for Praise & Worship, led by example and with confidence!

# ENGAGE – THE WORD

Let us recap on what Pastor Louis said this Sunday: Life is tough, and Jesus warned of trials and tribulations but urged us to stay cheerful.

From this opening statement as well as everything else that was preached on Sunday, ask the members to:

- Highlight what stood out for them from the sermon.
- Share what was a worry they have left at the feet of Jesus this week.

#### Read Matthew 11:28-30

Let's discuss this scripture: In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus calls those who are weary and burdened by life's struggles to come to Him for rest. He offers a "yoke" His teachings and way of life which is gentle and light, unlike the heavy demands of religion or worldly pressures. By following Jesus, who is compassionate and humble, people find spiritual peace and renewal for their souls, easing their burdens through His guidance and love.

Pastor spoke on the types of burdens we carry that we can lay down at the feet of Jesus:

1. The Burden of sin and guilt

Get a few people to read: James 1:12-13, Psalm 38:4 & Hebrews 12:1

- **Embracing Sin vs. Holiness:** Society often loves sin, not hating it. How can we reject sin and pursue holiness?
- **Freed from Sin's Power:** Jesus' sacrifice makes us saints, not sinners. How can we live free from sin, not excusing it?



- **Sin's Heavy Burden:** Sin, shame, and guilt weigh us down How can we release these burdens through Christ's work?
- **Running Unhindered:** Sin hinders our race of faith. How can we run freely, unburdened by sin's weight?

#### Let us discuss how people carry the burden of sin:

- **Guilt and Shame:** Guilt and shame create heavy burdens and fear of judgment. How can we find freedom through God's forgiveness?
- **Sin's Bondage:** Sin enslaves through habits and addictions, intruding everywhere. How can we break free with God's grace?
- **Sin's Damage:** Sin breaks relationships and steals peace and joy. How can we restore what sin has damaged?
- **Living Sin-Free:** Sin is an old trick; we can't make peace with it but can live free from it. How can we rely on God's grace to overcome sin?

Let us talk about the practical ways we can lay the burden of sin down:

Read: 1 John 1:9

This verse emphasizes God's promise of forgiveness and purification. When we **acknowledge and confess our sins to God**, He is faithful and just, forgiving us and cleansing us from all unrighteousness. It highlights God's grace, the importance of repentance, and the **assurance of restored fellowship** with Him through confession.

**Declare:** This guilt does not belong to me, Jesus carried it at the cross.

What not to lay down: The responsibility to repent, to resist sin, and to walk in holiness. Jesus forgives, but we still choose obedience.

#### 2. The Burden of cares and worries

Get two people to read: 1 Peter 5:7 & Psalm 55:22

To get the conversation going with this point ask the members what their thoughts are on the following:

- How can we practically cast our cares on God when life's pressures feel overwhelming?



- What steps can we take to trust God to sustain us when we release our burdens to Him?
- Why do we often hold onto anxiety instead of surrendering it to God's care?
- How does casting our cares on God strengthen our faith and bring peace?

There are three negative effects of worry that Pastor mentioned let us discuss them, but before we do let's read these scriptures:

Get a few people to read: Matthew 6:30, Matthew 13:22, Philippians 4:6-7 & Proverbs 12: 25

# 1. Spiritually

- Blocks trust in God: Worry is the opposite of faith it focuses on problems instead of God's promises. (Matthew 6:30)
- o Chokes the word of God: Matthew 13:22
- Steals peace and joy: Worry robs us of the rest God promises. (Philippians 4:6-7)

# 2. Mentally and emotionally

- o Creates anxiety, fear, and stress that clouds your judgment.
- o Leads to restlessness, sleeplessness, and overthinking.
- o Multiplies small problems into overwhelming giants.

### 3. Physically

- Medical research confirms that worry and stress affect the body: (Proverbs 12:25)
  - High blood pressure
  - Weakened immune system
  - Stomach problems, headaches, fatique.

In short: Worry wears down the soul, mind, and body, yet never changes the situation.

### Let us talk about why worry does not help:

#### Let's read: Matthew 6:27 & Matthew 6:34

- It doesn't change the outcome. (Matthew 6:27)
- It wastes today's strength on tomorrow's problems (Matthew 6:34)
- It focuses on the problem, not the Problem-Solver. (Worry magnifies the situation; faith magnifies God).



- It distracts from obedience. Instead of doing what we can with wisdom, worry paralyzes us with fear.

Let us talk about the practical ways we can lay the burden of worries and cares down:

Read: Philippians 4:6-7

Encourages believers not to be anxious but to present their requests to God through **prayer and thanksgiving**. It promises that God's peace, which surpasses understanding, will guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. In essence, it's a call to trust God with worries and find peace through faith.

Write down your cares and place them before the Lord as a daily act of surrender.

What not to lay down: The responsibility to plan wisely, work diligently, and steward what God has placed in your hands. Jesus carries the worry, but He empowers you to carry the work.

JESUS DOESN'T JUST REMOVE BURDENS, HE GIVES US HIS REST AND STRENGTH!

Altar call

# **WORKS & APPLICATION**

Encourage members to share personal testimonies of times when God came through against all odds when the situation seemed hopeless, the diagnosis was grim, but God stepped in and turned everything around.

Allow these moments to foster a supportive environment where the group can join hands and pray together for those facing challenges, drawing strength from Revelation 12:11 that says: And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

