

EXPANDING THE CIRCLE OF MORE

Answering the Ache for Life to be More

Divinity

“Consider carefully what you hear,” he continued. “With the measure you use, it will be measured to you — and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.”

MARK 4:24-25

“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”

2 PETER 1:3-4

“If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”

JOHN 14:15-21

“Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

JOHN 17:21

In this series we are reaching for answers to the question of “more”? We want and need for life to be more. We were created and redeemed for a life that is more “to the full” (Jn 10:10). How can it happen, how does life become more than survival, more than an endless search for satisfaction? The Bible challenges us that the bigger life we seek isn’t found by simply expanding the circle of possessions/playtime/pleasures that our lives contain. We don’t find more by indulging all our desires but by transforming them. God’s truth calls us to a path of more through our involvement, investment and participation in what is truly bigger, truly valuable. It is not surprising in a church service that we would be talking about needing more of God in our lives, but we must know that the more we want, the more of God that is truly on offer, comes through an intimate personal connection that is:

1. substantial not superficial
2. relational not religious
3. empowering not enslaving