

THE  
COMPASS



This Sunday



**smile!**  
*Philippians*

March 26, 2017



THE  
ASCENT  
CHURCH



# This Sunday's Message

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## "Why Jesus Smiles" Philippians 2

### Sermon Notes:

Three looks at His smile.

It \_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 2:1-11 (NIV)

Action Step: \_\_\_\_\_ others \_\_\_\_\_ (7 a day for 7 days).

It \_\_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 2:12-18 (NIV)

Action Step: \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ (at least once this week).

It can be \_\_\_\_\_ to in \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 2:19-30 (NIV)

Action Step: \_\_\_\_\_ from God's \_\_\_\_\_.

# Get Connected

If this is your first visit, welcome! We hope your visit is meaningful, and we are glad you are here. Please fill out a Connection Card and drop it in the offering box or at the Welcome Area. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



## Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team.

- Woodmoor Campus: every 1st Sunday, 10:15 am in Room 212.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.



## Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and to be involved in God's mission and vision in our region. Explore II includes why and how to become a member, our trail map for each family member, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Explore II classes are held quarterly.



## Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at [theascentchurch.com/basecamps](http://theascentchurch.com/basecamps).



## Serving Opportunities

How is God calling you to help create a welcoming and inviting Sunday experience for our guests and regular attenders? Serving opportunities are available in many areas from Hosting and Greeting, Service Prep Teams, or Technical and General Set-Up Teams. Training is available for each role.

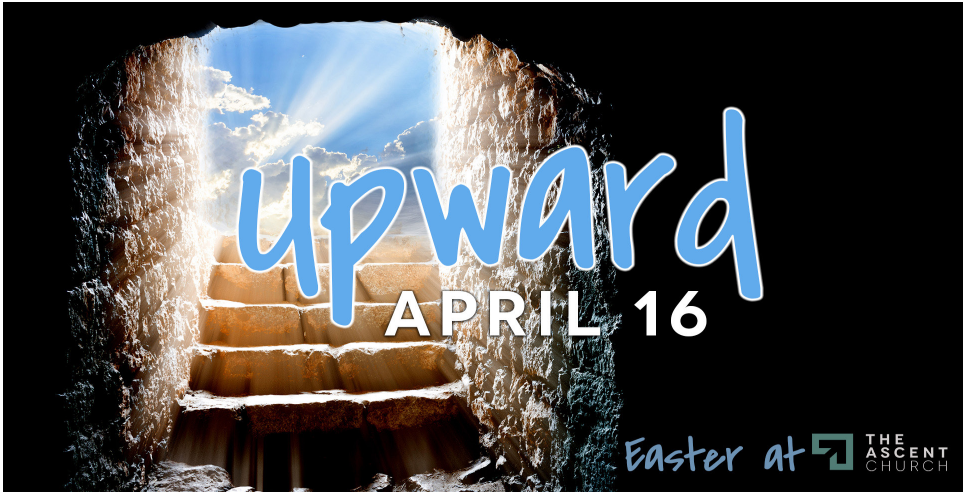
If you have any questions about hosting or serving roles, please email [info@theascentchurch.com](mailto:info@theascentchurch.com).



## Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's Bible studies. For more information, visit our website at: [www.theascentchurch.com/equipping](http://www.theascentchurch.com/equipping).

# Community Life



# Connection Opportunities *This Week*



## Ascent Student Ministry

**ASM Tuesday Dates:**  
April 4, 11, 18, 25 for

MS and HS.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:45pm

### **ASM Upcoming Events:**

[www.theascentchurch.com/students](http://www.theascentchurch.com/students)

**ASM Vision Meeting:** March 26  
(Today) at 11:45am, Northgate  
Campus, Student Lounge

### ASM Deep

**ASM DEEP Dates:** April 2, 9, 23, 30.

- Northgate: 10:15am, upstairs.
- Woodmoor: 11am, upstairs.

### Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

**Tiny Town:** Birth - PreK

**Adventure Quest:** K - 4th grade

**Elevate:** 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9am, 11am
- Northgate Campus: 10:15am

**Kids' Camp:** June 7-9, 2017, La  
Foret Event Center, Black Forest.

Registration is now open at:

[www.theascentchurch.com/kids](http://www.theascentchurch.com/kids).

### Missions

For more information on upcoming  
mission trips to Guatemala and the  
Dominican Republic, visit:  
[www.theascentchurch.com/missions](http://www.theascentchurch.com/missions).



## Equipping Ministry

**Connections Class:**  
Sundays, 10:45am,

Woodmoor Campus Room 213. The  
Connection Class will be studying the  
book of Hebrews. All are welcome!

**Parents of Teens Class:** Sundays,  
10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room  
210.

### Women's and Men's Ministries

#### **Men on the Ascent Bible Study:**

I & II Corinthians, 6:00am coffee;  
6:15am start. Join us anytime.

- Woodmoor Campus: Room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at  
Marcos Pizza

#### **Women on the Ascent Bible Studies:**

- Tuesdays, 9am, Woodmoor  
Campus, childcare available.
- WOTA Journey: I & II Corinthians,  
Wednesdays, 6:30pm, Woodmoor  
Campus, childcare available.

#### **Women on the Ascent:**

**WOTA Retreat:** April 7-9, Friday, 6pm-  
Sunday, 11am, Spring Canyon. Be  
refreshed and renewed in the  
mountains. Guest speaker will be  
Melissa Maimone. Register:  
[www.theascentchurch.com/women](http://www.theascentchurch.com/women).



# CANDY DONATIONS

FOR COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNTS

- Collection bins will be available at each campus
- Please bring **NUT FREE** candy that will fit in a plastic egg



## Giving at The Ascent

- Offering boxes in worship
- Online: [theascentchurch.com](http://theascentchurch.com)
- Kiosk
- The Ascent Church App



# OVERFLOW

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE THROUGH BAPTISM  
APRIL 30: ALL SERVICES



Ascent Student Ministries

## Vision Meetings

Jesus loves students,  
and students need Jesus

Woodmoor | 3.19.17 | 12:30pm | 216  
Northgate | 3.26.17 | 11:45am | Student Lounge



## Introduction to The Compass Devotions (on the following pages)

The Compass provides individuals, families, and Base Camps a Bible-centered tool to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who love God, one another, their neighbors, and God’s world. Daily study of God’s word, prayer, and growth in the practices of the Christian faith provides God the opportunity to shape us as His people. The Compass begins on Monday, with each day’s reflection anchored in the passage for the upcoming Sunday, providing the whole church shared preparation for worship and group life. Thank you to our team of writers and editors. For more information, contact Pastor Scott at [scott@theascentchurch.com](mailto:scott@theascentchurch.com).

### The Compass Passages for March 27 - April 1, 2017:

Philippians 3

# Monday, March 27, 2017

**Read** Philippians 3:1-9.

**Reflect:**

God's way of making us right depends on our faith in Christ.

Read verse 8 several times and reflect on its meaning. Paul states, "I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord . . ." In what ways has knowing Christ exceeded your expectations? Is His work in your life evident to you?

Verse 9 records that your righteousness in Christ comes through your faith. Have believers always been saved by faith or by the law? Skim Hebrews 11. How were the following people made right with God?

- Noah (verse 7)
- Abraham (verse 8)
- Isaac (verse 20)
- Jacob (verse 21)
- Joseph (verse 22)
- Moses (verse 23)
- Rahab (verse 31)

Based on what you've learned from Hebrews and Philippians, were Old Testament saints made right with God (saved) by the law or by their faith?

How do Hebrews 11:13 and Philippians 3:7-8 remind you that the reward of your faith will not be fully realized in this life?



## Tuesday, March 28, 2016

**Read** Philippians 3:10-11.

**Reflect:**

What does it mean to know the power of Christ's resurrection?

Paul desires to know Christ and the power of His resurrection. As you experience this season of Lent, list three or four things you know about Christ's resurrection. (See Matthew 28, Mark 16, and Luke 24.)

How does the power of Christ's resurrection shape your understanding of who Jesus is and what His purpose is? How is the message of Easter significant to you in your life? How does His power over death make a difference in your life?

## Wednesday, March 29, 2016

**Read** Philippians 3:12-14.

**Reflect:**

We must press on toward a heavenly prize.

According to verse 13, Paul forgot what was behind him (his accomplishments, failures, trials, and frailties). How did the faith Paul practiced (see verses 7-9) allow him to keep his focus on Christ?

Verse 14 is a popular, often-quoted verse: "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Paul is able to take a long-term, heavenly view of his circumstances. Are you facing challenging circumstances right now? (Work, school, finances, health, or relationships?) Journal two or three things you know about your future with God in heaven. Pray God will help you shift your focus from day-to-day worries to a more eternal view of your purpose in Him. Ask Him to calm your heart, and then rest in Him.

## Thursday, March 30, 2016

**Read Philippians 3:15-16.**

**Reflect:**

After reading verses 15-16, did you feel as if Paul sent a text message to you?

Verse 15: “All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things.” Are there areas you consider yourself mature? (Your ability to trust Christ, your prayer life, your Bible study commitment, your good deeds?) If you don’t consider yourself a mature Christian, ask God to help you.

“And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.” God is able to provide you clarity as you read His Word. Ask Him for wisdom—pray for understanding. Assess how much you are able to “press on toward the goal” of heaven and see beyond your circumstances. If this is a struggle, ask God to remove barriers that hinder you from trusting Him.

## Friday, March 31, 2016

**Read** Philippians 3:17-20.

**Reflect:**

Your citizenship is in heaven.

Paul lays out several attributes of those who are enemies of the cross of Christ.

- *“Their destiny is destruction.”*  
Do you have destructive behaviors in your life?
- *“Their god is their stomach.” (Things they eat/drink/consume.)*  
Do you struggle with addiction, gluttony, or the desire to feel filled by something other than God?
- *“Their glory is in their shame.”*  
Do you defy God’s Word in rebellion to the principles He has laid out for you?
- *“Their mind is on earthly things.”*  
Are you consumed by the world around you? Your career, school, relationships?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, how can you shift from being an enemy of the cross to a citizen of heaven?

Transformation of your mind is difficult! Take a sneak peek at next week, and read Philippians 4:7-8. Begin to guard your heart and mind. Set up boundaries around your thinking through the lens of whatever is noble, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, or praiseworthy. These are the things to dwell upon. Write down three things that meet this criteria, and reflect on them throughout the day.

## Saturday, April 1, 2016

**Read** Philippians 3:21.

**Reflect:**

Christ has the power to bring everything under His control.

Through Christ's suffering on the cross, His obedience to God, and His resurrection, He is now seated at the right hand of God and has the power to bring everything under His control (verse 21).

What hope do you have, knowing everything is under His control?

What in your life can you turn over to God (your worries, your brokenness, your guilt/shame) and bring under His control?

What hope and joy do you find as you face your future with your eyes on heaven and Christ awaiting your arrival?

## Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week one of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service.

**Prepare:** Make two signs: **Poor Choices** and **My Future**. Hang the signs on opposite walls.

**Say:** *Sometimes memories of your poor choices remain in your mind, and getting stuck in the past can really mess up how you look at the future.*

Pick several volunteers to stand facing the sign that says **Poor Choices**.

**Say:** *Your goal is to be the first to cross the room, but you have to walk backward, keeping your eyes on this sign. If you accidentally bump into anyone, fall down, or peek behind you, you'll have to sit down right where you are. Be careful!*

Allow a few minutes for them to try to cross the room.

**Ask:** *Tell about a time you made a mistake or a bad choice that changed how you behaved later.*

**Say:** *It's good to learn lessons from the things you've done wrong. When you hold on to that guilt, you forget that God has forgiven you.*

Read Philippians 3:13-14 aloud.

Turn around and face the sign that says **My Future** so you can watch where you're going. Encourage everyone to make it a lifelong goal to keep their eyes focused on Jesus.

**Read:** Philippians 3:13 *Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)*

“Brothers and sisters, I know that I still have a long way to go. But there is one thing I can do: I forget what is in the past and try as hard as I can to reach the goal before me.”

*Adapted from childrensministry.com*

# Contact Us

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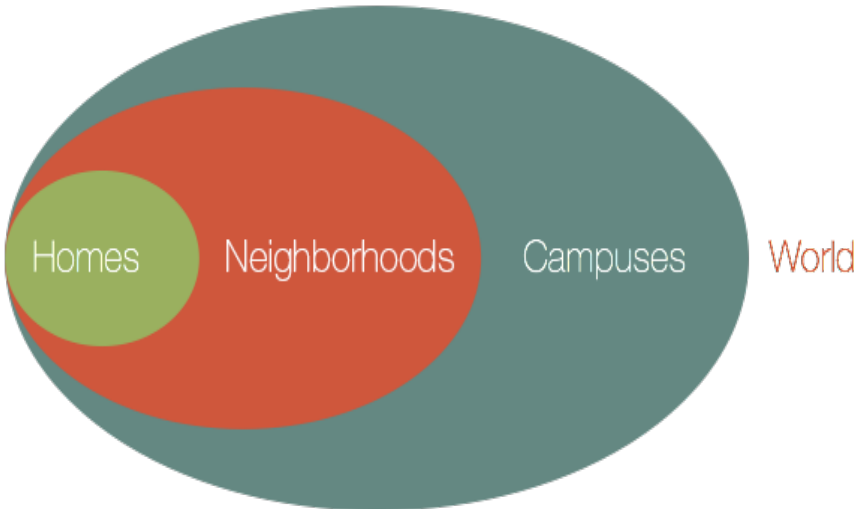
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# Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect intimately with God, intentionally with God's family, and influentially with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home — The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood — The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus — The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



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