



FUSION

CHURCH OF MADISON

Sermon Guide for Tribes
December 3, 2023

Sermon Title: Jesus in Hanukkah

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you know about Hanukkah prior to last Sunday? How did Hanukkah compare to your expectations, and how did it contrast? How did last Sunday change how you view the holiday?
2. Hanukkah celebrates the reclaiming of Jerusalem and the rededication of the Second Temple by the Maccabees as they stood firm against Greek influences to abandon their faith. How does this story of God's faithfulness to His people encourage us as Christians today? How does it challenge us to confront secular influences in our own culture?
3. As Murray walked us through the lighting of the hanukkah, he described how, during each night of the 8-day celebration, the first candle that is lighted is the "shamash" (servant), which is then used to light all other candles. As a Christian, who does this Shamash candle remind us of, and what does the symbolism of lighting all the other candles mean in our faith?

Begin your time of discussion today by praying earnestly over the Sunday morning service!

You Turn Ministries

- Soccer league outreach
- Pray for nine pastor training schools, and over 200 students
- Pray for the over 80 orphans that You Turn currently supports

Church Plants!

- Hispanic Church Plant

- Be in prayer for Pastor Roberto and his family and for God to open doors amongst the Hispanic community in Morgan County.
- Pray for consistency from new families visiting the Bible study.

- Walton County Church Plant

Church of Good Hope - Partnerships (Update from Craig Story - ChurchOfGoodHopeGA@gmail.com)

PRAYER PARTNERS (one-year commitment)

- Col 1:9 - For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you...
- Prayer is our most important partnership. If we could have a hundred churches partner with us in prayer, we would still seek even more.
- Each month, you will receive the Top 3 Prayer Requests from the Church of Good Hope. They will be as specific as we can make them.
- We would simply ask that your staff and leadership pray for those requests AND pass those requests along to your congregation.

CONNECTION PARTNERS (one-year commitment)

- Luke 10:6 - "If a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on him"... Acts 16:15 - After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house."

- Good Hope is a small community and the Gospel will spread faster through existing connections.
- Twice a month, community groups will meet at houses in the Good Hope area.
- We would ask that you identify families from your church that live in Good Hope to open their home as community group hosts for their neighbors and people connected to the Church of Good Hope.

LAUNCH PARTNERS (6-month commitment)

- 1 Thes 2:8 - We cared so much for you that we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become so dear to us.
- There are many details that go into launching a church from scratch (like providing safe child care by trained workers with background checks).
- We will have preview services at 6:00pm on July 30, Aug 13, Aug 27, and Sep 10. Our Public Launch Service is on Sep 17, and then we'll meet weekly.
- We would ask that you provide childcare (and possibly other logistical needs) for our Sunday evening services until we can establish our own ministry teams by the end of January.

FINANCIAL PARTNERS (6-mo. commitment + 6-mo.)

- 1 Cor 16:2 - On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he is prospering...
- The Church of Good Hope will join God in his plan to transform lives with the Gospel. We will do this by developing disciples who are equipped to share the Good News of Jesus and demonstrate the life He calls us to live in our homes, communities, and throughout the world.
- As we develop disciples, we will teach stewardship.
- However, until they are developed, you can partner with us at \$500/month starting in July 2023.

Life Community Church, Weymouth, MA

- Visit the link below for a ministry partner update from Noah Madden and Life Community!

<https://youtu.be/8Gah-cMg-z8>

- A permanent church building to own.
 - “Dots on the Map” for future plants
 - Continued relationship with Seach Elementary School in Weymouth, MA - Next steps for families who connected with LCC at the Fall Fun Fest
 - Office Space for staff
- Follow the link below for the most recent LLC newsletter!

<https://youtu.be/8Gah-cMg-z8>

FCA



2023 YEAR-END REPORT

LAKE OCONEE AREA



Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of 2023, it's a great time to celebrate what God has done and to anticipate what He will do in 2024. Psalms 145:6-7 says "Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, And I will declare Your greatness. They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, And shall sing of Your righteousness."

This past year, we have seen God do "awesome acts" in our Lake Oconee Area. From 83 on-campus huddles, to 20 Greene County football players accepting Christ at FCA

Football Camp at Reinhardt University, to 40 plus middle schoolers in Jasper County asking Jesus into their hearts at a huddle - we have been able to witness God's greatness!! The awesome thing is that we get to share and celebrate these God-sized moments with each of you. We need your help to continue to take the gospel to coaches and athletes in Greene, Morgan, Putnam, Jasper, and Taliaferro Counties. By giving to our year-end campaign, your money will go to FCA Camp Scholarships and our Ministry Resource Fund. In other words, with your financial gift, you help us purchase coaches bibles for a small group of coaches in Greene County. You make it possible to send whole football teams and coaching staffs to camps where they learn their sport but more importantly learn about Jesus. You empower student athletes to go to a regional FCA Leadership Camp in St. Simons Island and come back so on fire for the Lord that they start and lead their own teams in bible study. You help us purchase "Kingdom Men Rising" bible study books so local basketball players can learn what biblical manhood looks like. You invest in coaches' marriages by sending them to FCA marriage retreats so that they are able to win at home! Whether it's a chicken biscuit or a slice of pizza, one of the 1000 bibles we will hand out, or The FOUR bracelet at Fields of Faith, your generosity breaks down walls and opens doors for the gospel to be clearly proclaimed. I know you have a myriad of great opportunities but your gift will resonant for all of eternity when you give to FCA!

Your Teammate in Christ,

Jason McBay

"It was a great opportunity and blessing to attend FCA Team Camp this year. Our team was challenged to grow in football knowledge and skills through competition. We were challenged to grow in our faith and as a team family through devotional challenges and nightly team sessions. FCA Team camp helped us grow as young men and a football family. Go Tigers!"

**CHRIS WILLIAMS |
GREENE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ASSISTANT COACH**



"He must increase, but I must decrease." JOHN 3:30



"Being able to spend time with other believers my age at camp and through Bible studies has really helped me with my faith. It's so great to be able to relate to other athletes who can hold me accountable to be a better leader at school and on my teams."

**RYLEIGH HILSMAN |
MORGAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

"FCA Marriage Retreat was such a great experience. It was awesome to get to fellowship with other christian couples. We learned so much from the speakers, as well as the other couples we had a chance to get to speak and spend time with. Thank you for the opportunity to go!"

**KADEN MILLER |
JASPER COUNTY WRESTLING COACH**



READ MORE ABOUT THE 2023 CAMP SEASON HERE

Timothy Initiative

Update on Turkana region in Kenya:

“This is the situation in Turkana region Kenya. Have your family and the church pray, remember Turkana church. People are facing a tough time because of drought which has existed for a long period. People are lacking food and clean water. Diseases like malaria, typhoid, and tuberculosis are affecting people. We lost eight people because they lack food to eat.” – from Pastor Eloilo

- The East African team has been praying fervently for their field leaders and their families; many of them are experiencing significant health issues and are in need of prayer for both healing and financial provision.
- Pray specifically for Pastor Simon Eloilo, a key leader in the Turkana mission work. Pastor Simon’s wife and daughters have been battling health problems for over 3 months now. His wife, Oriba Kemunto, is currently in need of a third eye surgery, but the family lacks funds and is praying for God to provide a way for them.
- For both the staff and field leaders, prayer has been requested for grace and motivation to continue in service.
- Pray for these pastors as they minister in often desolate, impoverished places with limited resources and cultural opposition.
- The cost of planting a church through TTI is \$400; consider how your tribe may impact believers across the globe by planting a church through TTI!