

CREEKSIDE CENTENNIAL – PART 2 CHANGE, ADJUSTMENTS & GROWTH (1935-1950)

REVIEW OF LAST WEEK - HOW CREEKSIDE GOT STARTED (1924-1935)

→ Contributions of	
• First Baptist Church of Lodi • Rose Lippert Frey • 52 Original Charter Members	
FACT #1: Life in a fallen world will not be or (John 16:33)	
FACT #2: The righteousness will live by (2 Corinthians 5:7; Romans 1:17)	
FACT #3: The only things certain in life are, faith	
& God's	
THE MISSION OF EVERY CHURCH & EVERY BELIEVER IN CHRIST (Matthew 28:18-20)	
PRINCIPLE #1: Etch your in stone, but write your	
in pencil. (1 Corinthians 9:24)	

CHANGE, ADJUSTMENTS & GROWTH (1935-1950)

- → External Challenges of our Church
 - Rise of Adolf Hitler & WWII
 - Soldiers drafted to fight
 - Franklin area flooding
 - Shrinking railroad traffic
- → Internal Challenge of our Church
 - Running out of room

→	Remember only God makes things grow in the realm of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)
0	() Change (1 Thessalonians 5:22 KJV)
0	Change (Matthew 16:24-25)
€	Change
4	(Luke 12:3)
ı	PRINCIPLE #2: We are by faith, but we will be
	by God based on what we
	earth for the Kingdom of God.
6	New Ministries
0	Outreach

Don't forget to come to Creekside's 100^{th} birthday party on February 25 in our Atrium... and bring a gift!



CREEKSIDE CENTENNIAL—WEEK 2 LifeGroup Discussion Questions / Week of Feb 11-17, 2024

Prayer

Today you will be discussing an uncomfortable topic... change. Have someone pray that you will all be truly teachable as you address this topic together.

My Story

Share a story about an older family member whose sacrifice in the past set your family up for success in the present. What did that sacrifice cost the person making it?

Digging Deep

- 1) Thinking back on Sunday's message, what strategic change or adjustment of our church (between 1935 and 1950) made the strongest impression on you? Explain your answer.
- 2) Read Matthew 28:18-20. These are the words of the risen Lord Jesus given to His followers. They represent our heavenly mandate, mission or purpose for existence! What part of these words are we allowed to change or adjust? (Hopefully your answer is absolutely nothing!) BUT... even though Jesus told us WHAT we are to do, why do you think He didn't tell us HOW (strategy or methods) to accomplish our task? Discuss your responses.
- 3) Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23. The apostle Paul clearly embraced a great willingness to adapt ministry methods to his audience. What does it mean to "become all things to all people" for the sake of the gospel? Give some examples of how Paul demonstrated this principle in his ministry.

Digging Deeper

4) How does the apostle Paul's approach to ministry challenge your own perspectives on evangelism and outreach? In what ways can you apply the principle of being adaptable to different cultural contexts in your own life and ministry? What are potential challenges that Creekside faces today that could impact the future of our church and our community?

- 5) Read John 1:1,14. These verses speak of the incarnation... divinity fusing with humanity when Jesus Christ became a human being to live among us. Why did God choose this method or strategy to reach the human race with His love and redemption? What does the incarnation of Christ teach us about entering into the "world" or "heart language" of people we are trying to reach with the gospel?
- 6) Reread 1 Corinthians 9:22. What do you think it means for the apostle Paul to "become weak" to win the weak? How does this principle inform the way we might approach "broken" people?
- 7) Isn't it dangerous to "become" like the lost people we are seeking to reach with the gospel? How can we practice Paul's methodological flexibility without compromising our own beliefs or integrity while still being culturally sensitive?
- 8) Read Matthew 16:24-25. These verses speak of a strange paradox. Dying in order to live? Losing in order to gain? What does it mean to "take up your cross?" How does a person practically "lose their life" in order to follow Jesus Christ?

Taking it Home

9) How does the concept of discipleship as portrayed in Matthew 16:24-25 challenge contemporary notions of success and self-fulfillment? How can we support and encourage one another in living out the principles laid out in this passage? Name a way in which you can be more flexible in sharing your faith with someone in your life who you have never shared with before?

Praying Together

As you close in prayer today, remember to thank God for the faith sacrifices of others who have helped you in your walk with the Lord Jesus Christ. And pray for one another's needs.