

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



August 23, 2026

I. A Call to Worship

Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness; let us exalt His name together.

Psalm 34:3 (NLT)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

Soul Care Principle #12

Freedom in Christ replaces legalism with a life of grace and Spirit-led obedience.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

III. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

Stewardship Principle #4

In addition to God's tithe,
we give offerings to spread Christ's gospel.

As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this.... And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from His glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:15, 19 (NLT)



IV.

BOUNDED SET VS. CENTERED SET

From Legalism to Relational Discipleship

John 4:1-42

Pastor Bethany Rivera

1. LEGALISM ASKS: “Where is the line?”

What can I do? & What can't I do?

Bounded Set Asks:
Who is in? Who is out?

Legalism creates lawyers & Bounded Set creates judges

2. CENTERED SET & DISCIPLESHIP ASKS:

“Which direction am I moving?”

Jesus is the center.

- Am I moving toward Jesus?
- Am I surrendering to the Holy Spirit?
- Am I becoming more like Jesus?

God didn't send another set of rules. God sent Jesus.

3. JESUS & THE WOMAN AT THE WELL — JOHN 4

Cultural Background

Jesus moved toward the samaritan woman who was an outcast

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

...Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

- **Before Jesus addressed her behavior, he offered her a gift: living water.**
- **Jesus knew the truth about her life and spoke truth to her in relationship.**
- **She asked about the correct place to worship. Jesus pointed her beyond the boundary:**

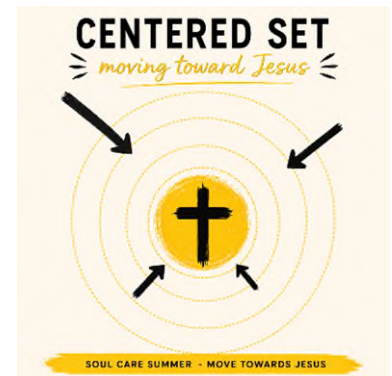
“True worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth.” — John 4:23

- **Jesus reveals to her that he is the messiah**
- **She encountered Jesus and then ran to her community:**

“Come, see a man...” — John 4:29

- **She didn't bring them a new rulebook.**
She brought them to Jesus.

Legalism creates lawyers. Bounded set creates judges.
Jesus creates worshipers. Jesus creates disciples.



4. FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES US

Freedom in Christ does not mean anything goes.

Jesus + Scripture + Holy Spirit + Christian community shape how we live.
Romans 14 & 1 Corinthians 8

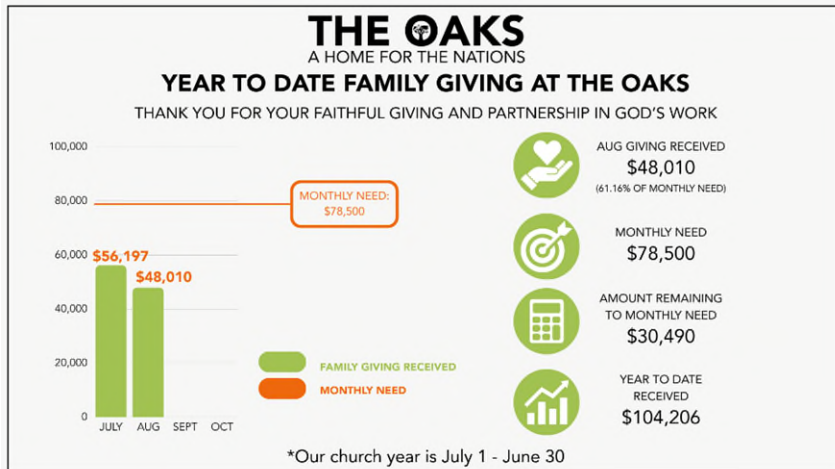
Rules are easy but being in relationship is hard work

THIS WEEK, ASK:

Where am I right now?

Which direction am I moving?

Jesus, what is my next step toward you?



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