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**Thank You Notes #2: Find Me Somebody to Love**  
**Philippians 1:12–26**

**May 28, 2023**

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**DAILY DEVOTION**

Find a rhythm in God’s word this week! Follow this 5-day plan on your own or with your group!

<https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/29941>

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**INSPIRATION**

At the end of the day, I take home my hard-earned pay  
All on my own.  
I get down on my knees and I start to pray  
“Praise the Lord”  
‘Til the Tears run down from my eyes, Lord.

—Freddie Mercury

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**ICE BREAKER**

1. (For married couples or those that have been together for a while): Where did you meet? In five words or less, what was your initial attraction?
2. (For singles and those looking): What do you imagine the encounter will be like when you meet that special someone? What part do you think God or the Holy Spirit would play in that encounter?
3. (For any committed to celibacy or just not looking): There’s no shame in celibacy; it takes a great deal of faith to live that lifestyle. You may feel “under pressure” (see what I did there?) from the world to “find somebody to love,” but how do you find or define fulfillment despite that pressure?

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**DEEP DIVE**

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:



And so, we search – to belong – to be accepted – to be loved. SO much of what we are seeing today in our world today – is the desire to belong and to be accepted. It drives our lives. Find someone who will love us.

**Read Ecclesiastes 1:2–8 and then answer the following questions:**

4. Mathematically speaking, the net sum of all *your* comings and goings (“vectors”) is a straight line from where you were born to where you are laid to rest. How does that compare to what you’re actually doing in all your comings and goings?
5. Of course, most of us don’t live in a vacuum or a void. We have interactions with others almost daily. How are your “vectors” interacting with others? Are they changing the trajectory of others’ lives for better or worse?
6. Solomon refers to the water cycle in this passage. Water helps transport nutrients to plants and keeps plants and our own bodies from dehydrating and drying up. When you “pour yourself out” for your job or loved ones or an important cause, what happens to that “water”? How do you get refilled?

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“What we are facing today in North America is a tremendous amount of hostility towards the gospel – now is the time for us to be brave – to stand up for what we believe – it will take courage – these are going to be our best days – for the church.”

**Read Philippians 1:12–26 and then answer the following questions:**

7. How has verse 12 been true in your life, either advancing your own understanding of the gospel or helping someone else understand it?
8. Many of us sense that fear of rejection when we want to share the good news of Jesus. As bad as things are getting in our culture, though, what is your “breaking point” that would lead you to face that fear and speak forth God’s truth? What help do you need from the rest of us to do that?
9. Who or what are your sources of courage (1:20)? Like the child who’s scared in a thunderstorm, they may know they can trust God, but sometimes it helps to have somebody who has skin on as well. How can we pray for you to have courage to face your challenges in life?

**Additional Study**

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Romans 1:16–17
- 2 Corinthians 10:1–6
- Ephesians 6:10–20 (note that the “armor of God” is the armor God himself “wears” in the Old Testament)



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## **NEXT STEPS**

10. How are you going to apply the lessons learned in the message this week?
11. What can you do to encourage someone in your group to take their next step?

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## **PRAYER**

1. After sharing prayer requests, pray for the person on your right. Pray for that person throughout the week.
2. Is there someone in your group that could use a prayerful reminder that God is present in their lives?

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## **SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- **BENSON** - Local Mission Partner is ABIDE. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- **MILLARD** - Local Mission Partner is Heartland Hope. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- **FREMONT** - Local Mission Partner is LifeHouse. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- **OMAHA** - Local Mission Partner is Open Door Mission. Contact Lyndsey Deyoe for more information.
- Or get to know your community! Seek out service opportunities in your area.