



# On the Same Page

“They would not accept my counsel, They spurned all my reproof. “So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way And be satiated with their own devices.” (Proverbs 1:30-31 NAS95)

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## A Developing Direction

### Forever-Family Fellowship

**We will teach and practice truth-and-love relationships with brothers-sisters in Christ that must survive/thrive in the present because we believe that these relationships will last forever**

### All-Week-Long Worship

As the local body of believers gathers each Sunday for worship, **we will inspire a worship experience for all age groups that will travel with you all week long.** What we do on Sunday will assist you in your singing, in your praying, in your devotion, and in your witness.

Conversely, it is as you worship all-week-long that you will be prepared to enter into gathered worship on Sunday.

### Day-to-Day Discipleship

As followers of Christ, we are disciples every single day. Respect for and commitment to Scripture is essential. **We will show you how to interact with and respond to God's Word, both as individuals, and in groups.**

### Moment-by-Moment Mission

God, the Architect of the world and of our lives arranges appointments and interruptions. Each of us is called to represent His Son for the glory of His Name. **We will cultivate a mind-set for moment-by-moment mission, whether close to home, or far away.**

## Mean what You Say

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Traveling home from Togo, I was sitting and waiting at JFK for the plane that would bring me home to Detroit. I watched a young couple speaking a language I did not understand instruct and warn a young boy, 3 or 4 years old, to behave. It seemed as though the boy did not understand the language either, because whatever they said, he paid no mind in the least.

The mother was so tender with him. She would instruct; he would ignore. A sad look would come on her face, but there would be no consequence. He kept throwing his toy to the floor, over and over, into that paths of hurrying people. No matter. Just repeated words, spoken, and ignored.

The mother was not so tender when the husband/father sought to get involved. He was going to take the toy away. The boy squealed. The mother came to his aid, and started reprimanding the father for being so demanding. Then she would again instruct the boy, and he would do what he always did, looking at the father with glee that he had the upper hand, and the father glowering with resentment, both toward the boy and the woman.

If as parents we do not mean what we say, then why speak at all? And if our children are not taught to respond properly to our words, with consequences attached and enacted when those words are ignored, do we really think they will respond to our words when they are age 8, or 18? But the point which is even more important is this: if we do not teach our children to obey our words because they know that we do not mean what we say, then we are also teaching them to ignore God's Word, thinking that He also does not mean what He says. But, He does. And our children will not be prepared to be obedient and submissive to Him, and will suffer the consequences. And you will have contributed to the situation. Your pretended tenderness is a sham. Let's do our job.

I realize that this applies not only to parents, but to pastors. And I have been challenged to make sure I mean what I say, and to follow through.

One more thought: To mean what you say does not mean that you have to be mean. I condemned fake tenderness above, but to cross over to that which is malicious and mean is not the better part. Rather, “Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.” (Colossians 4:6 NAS95)

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## Martin Luther, commenting on 1 Peter 1:25:

**To be sure, (the Word) is quickly spoken and heard; but when it enters the heart, it cannot die or pass away. Nor does it let you die. It holds you as long as you cling to it. Thus when I hear that Jesus Christ died, took away my sin, gained heaven for me, and gave me all that He has, I am hearing the Gospel. The Word is soon gone when it is preached; but when it falls into the heart and is grasped by faith, it can never slip away. No creature can invalidate this truth. The depths of hell can do nothing against it;**

Martin Luther's Works, The Catholic Epistles. Concordia, 1967, p. 45

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## News and Notes

**Prayer Time:** Sundays, 9 a.m., in the sanctuary

Pastor Steve will use **the next 2 or 3 Sunday School combined sessions to present lessons and challenges from the recent missions trip to Togo, W. Africa** with CWE, sharing the Gospel with Togolese people before and after their medical appointments. Plan to join us each week at 9:45 a.m.

**Ladies Bible Study**, studying 1 Peter, meets each Tuesday, 10 a.m.

**Awana clubs** meet on Wednesdays, 6-7:39 p.m. for children ages 3 through 5th grade.

**American House service today at 3 p.m.; W. Hickory service Tuesday at 10:15 a.m.**

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Saying 'No' to the misuse of words (Luke 4:1-4)  
Sunday, March 5 @ 11

Saying 'No' to the misuse of worship (Luke 4:5-8)  
Sunday, March 12 @ 11

Saying 'No' to the misuse of willfulness (Luke 4:9-13)  
Sunday, March 19 @ 11

Learning Obedience  
Jesus' Temptations in Luke 4

First Baptist, Milford  
milfordbaptist.org  
133 Detroit, at the corner of N. Main

## **Weekly Worship @ 11:00 a.m.**

**Last Sunday, February 26**, we resumed our sermon series in Luke's Gospel (3:15-38), and thought about how Jesus is introduced to us for the first time in his public ministry as Son of God. He is not less than expected, but far more. [Listen to the message here.](#)

**This Sunday, March 5**, we will gather for **Lord's Table** and begin a 3-week mini-series on **the temptations of Jesus**, found in Luke 4:1-13, called "Learning Obedience."

This Sunday we examine **Jesus' response to**

**the first temptation** to (mis)use his powerful words not for the mission of God, but for his own personal comfort.

**Sunday School classes will combine on Sunday mornings for the next 2 or 3 weeks to hear Pastor Steve's Togo report. Join us at 9:45 a.m.**

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