

# THE PARADOX

*Seeing the Unseen*  
2 Corinthians 4: 16-18

## Why does this even matter?

Isaiah 40 (31) ...but those who trust in the LORD will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint. (HCSB)

Ephesians 3 (10) God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. (NLT)

## How can this be done?

Romans 1 (20) For ever since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through His workmanship [all His creation, the wonderful things that He has made], so that they [who fail to believe and trust in Him] are without excuse and without defense. (AMP)

Hebrews 11 (1) Faith is the assurance of things you have hoped for, the absolute conviction that there are realities you've never seen. (2) It was by faith that our forebears were approved. (3) Through faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God; everything we now see was fashioned from that which is invisible. (VOICE)

Colossians 3 (1) Therefore if you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, sharing in His resurrection from the dead], keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (2) Set your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value]. (AMP)

# MEETING GOD IN HIS WORD

## God's Purpose in the Pause

Do you ever look at the drive-thru line and decide not to stop because you don't want to wait? Or put your three items back at the grocery store because you just can't wait for the checkout line? Even though we may have grown more patient with people and circumstances over the years, one arena of waiting that still holds a struggle for many is waiting on God — whether it's waiting on God for needs to be met or answers to prayer. So, let's spend some time looking for God's purpose in the pause as we lean in to listen more and request less.

Monday: **Isaiah 30: 15-26**

Tuesday: **Psalm 27: 1-14**

Wednesday: **Romans 8: 18-39**

Thursday: **James 1: 12-18**

Friday: **Psalm 25: 1-22**

**MEDITATION:** concentrated, prayerful thinking

As you read this week, keep a **JOURNAL**.

In the form of a letter to God, write down what you sense He is wanting you to learn each day about His purpose in the pause.

# SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

*for ordinary people like us!*

## *The Practice of* **FASTING**

To let go of an appetite in order to seek God on matters of deep concern for another, for ourselves, or for the world.

“Fasting is not a magical way to manipulate God into doing our will. Fasting clears us out and opens us up to intentionally seeking God's will and grace in a way that goes beyond normal habits for worship and prayer.”

- Adele Ahlberg Calhoun in  
*Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*

Try fasting one meal this week. Just skipping a meal is not the same as “fasting” a meal. Spend that particular mealtime in prayer for a person or concern that you have.

Or you could choose one particular food or drink item to “fast” for the week (coffee, soda, chocolate, etc). Each time you feel a desire for that particular food or drink, turn your want and desire into prayer to God, again, focusing on a particular prayer need that you have.

(NOTE: We do not recommend this particular spiritual discipline if you struggle with an eating disorder or have a medical condition that is impacted by your diet.)

# FCF CLUBS

*A fun and easy way to meet people and make friends!*

## Family Summer Fun

We want to help you create meaningful and fun memories and connections with your immediate and church family over the summer months. All families and kids are welcome!

## Pickle Ball

A fun and easy-to-learn game that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. We are creating courts on the FCF parking lot for our events.

## Disc Golf

For anyone who likes to be outdoors! Disc golf is played much like traditional golf, except with flying discs! It's a game for all skills and ages.

## Walking

Join us for a walk (and, of course, some talk!) around our beautiful FCF campus on Thursday evening. Meet at the pavilion at 6:30 PM.

## Knitting & Crocheting

We will meet the second Saturday of the month starting in June from 1:30-4:30 pm. to knit/crochet and share with each other. You can come for the whole time or drop in for as long as you wish.

## A2

Where people between the ages of 25 and 35ish can connect, grow, and have fun together! We meet for family dinners once a month, and we also do quarterly social events. We can't wait to meet you!

## PrimeTimers

A group for those in the prime of life having the time of their life! This group meets regularly for social activities.

## Single Moms

A way to connect with other single moms for some fun and encouragement.

## Chapter 2

A group of widows and widowers that are beginning the next chapter in our lives. We gather for social outings and are here to support each other and serve together.

## Book Club

For people who love to read, this group meets about once every 6 weeks to discuss a spiritual book that they have selected to read.

## Graduation Dedication

On **Sunday, June 5**, we are honoring those graduating from high school or other education.



**REGISTER** to participate at [FCFchurch.com/EVENTS](https://www.fcfchurch.com/EVENTS)

## Photography Team!

Help us capture great moments on Sundays and at FCF events! Whether you are **an expert or an amateur** photographer, we'd love to have you on the team. Let us know you're interested on the Connect Card.



**Chiclayo, Peru**  
Sept. 30 – Oct. 7



Over the years, FCF has partnered with Pastor David Hansen to help with the construction of a church building and a Christ-centered school connected to the local church in Chiclayo, Peru. We are now making plans for another mission trip to Chiclayo this fall. **If you would like more information on being part of this mission, let us know on the Connect Card.**

## DISCOVER FCF

*Are you new to FCF?* Join us for our next Discover FCF on **Tuesday, June 14**, to learn all about FCF's mission, vision, and values, as well as how you connect here! The class is a little over an hour and childcare is provided. Register at [FCFchurch.com/EVENTS](https://www.fcfchurch.com/EVENTS).