

MVCF

August 2024 Newsletter

2650 Melbourne Drive | San Diego CA 92123 | Phone: 858.278.2633 | www.missionvillage.church

Pastor's Pen

Actions and Words

“Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.”
-James 3:13

Most of us have heard the saying “actions speak louder than words.” It is certainly true. How someone lives leaves a much bigger impact than what they say. And the truth of what someone says is fairly easily seen by the actions that back up those words. For example, if someone promises to be on time to an event, and they have always arrived late to every other event that you have attended with them, then there is good reason to doubt their words. And on a more serious note, many people are turned off to Christianity not because of Jesus, but because someone speaking as a follower of Jesus acted in a way that was not consistent with the life and teachings of Jesus. Actions often do speak louder than words.

We currently find ourselves in a season of words. In an election year, politicians use words to make promises, attack their opponent, and defend themselves. Sadly, the actions of most (all?) politicians do not match their words. And social media is a pool of words that far more often reflects an insect infested puddle than a vibrant healthy lake. We are surrounded by words.

And words are important. Think of how much your life would be impaired if you could not use words. The apostle Paul reminds us that words are necessary for people to hear the good news about Jesus (Romans 10:14-15). But the actions behind our words are equally important, especially when we are surrounded by so many words that do not match the actions of the ones who speak them.

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Worship Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Children's Bible Adventure

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Grief Support Group meetings are held on call, if you desire to meet MVCF would like to offer support. If you are interested, please contact Russ Armstead

Small Groups:

Monday

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study at MVCF

6:30pm Women's Bible Study at MVCF

Tuesday

9:30 am Bible Study at MVCF

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting Online

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Youth Group at MVCF

1st Thursday

5:30 p.m.
de Vos Home Fellowship at MVCF

Church Work Party

**Every Fourth
Saturday
of the month**

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
refreshment will be provided.

**For more contact Frank
Romeo**

What is the answer? Let your actions match your words. James asks, "Who is wise and understanding among you?" And his answer is this: "Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom." If you are wise and understanding, don't just say it, show it. Live it, demonstrate it. Let your actions match your words. Don't just talk the talk, walk the walk.

Of course, once we accept the idea that actions are critically important in the Christian life, a problem emerges quite quickly. How do I live a good life? Do I try really hard to clean up the parts of my life that I know don't honor God? And what happens when I fail to live the way I know I should? Do I have to keep my mouth shut and not say anything until I get my life to a sufficiently good place? If that's the case, I might have to be silent for a very long time! If living the good life is entirely dependent on us, then we definitely have a problem!

But notice what James says. He says, "show it by your good life, by deeds *done in the humility that comes from wisdom.*" *The good life comes not from our own self-effort, but from humility; it comes from a heart that has been changed by God's grace. As the Holy Spirit works in our lives and makes us more like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18, Romans 8:29), he changes our heart, and replaces our pride with humility. He slowly drains our heart of self-centeredness and fills it with love and compassion for others. And it is from that heart that is becoming more like Jesus that we can live a good life. Notice how James describes this heart changed by God: "pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (James 3:17).* So it is really only with a changed heart that our actions can match our words, and even speak louder than our words.

We live in a time where Christians do need to offer a different and better message from the divisive and hateful language of our culture. The good news of Jesus Christ is desperately needed in our country and in our world today. But for that message to ring true to people around us, we need lives that match the beauty of the message. And that can only come from a heart that is being changed by God's grace. Therefore, the question I would encourage all of us to ask ourselves is not "how can I live better for Jesus?" but rather, "how does my heart need to be changed by Jesus?" The more we open our hearts to Jesus and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, the more our hearts will be shaped to be like Jesus, which will enable us to live the good life that magnifies Jesus.

"Change my heart O God, make it ever true. Change my heart O God, may I be like you."

Grace and Love,
Pastor Steve

AUGUST 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:30pm de Vos Home Fellowship at MVCF	2	3
4 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship	5	6 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	7 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn	8	9	10
11 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship	12	13 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	14 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn	15	16	17
18 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	19	20 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	21 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn	22	23	24 8:30am All Church Work Party
25 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	26	27 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	28 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn	29	30	31

John 15:1-18:40

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for **apart from me you can do nothing.**”

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS



Andy & Terri Carver 08/01



Happy Birthday

Andy Carver	08/14
Sabina Adjibolosoo	08/15
Jean Fortanas	08/16
Samuel Davis	08/16
Becky DeLaCruz	08/23

Service Ministry

Service is the action of providing assistance to others in our church who desire and need provision for living in the Master's Will. The Great Commission asks us to tell others about Jesus as a means of assisting them to meet that command. The attached is from Ray Vander Lann's new book: Living in the Masters Plan.

Become a Standing Stone.

1

Standing Stones

A long time ago, the people of ancient Israel set up "standing stones" in certain places that were special to them. They would take large stones, some more than twenty feet tall, and work together to stand them up in holes they had dug in the ground. Why would they make the time to do that?

Well, when something important happened, such as a battle, a treaty, or a miracle, the Israelites would stand the stones in the ground to be a symbol to other people around them that God had done something amazing for His people. People would see the stones and say, "Wow, your God must be something else."

Did you know you are a "standing stone" for God? He has done amazing things in your life, and He wants you to tell others what He's done. When you tell your story, you are influencing people around you for the Lord.

Maybe He saved your life during an accident. Maybe He helped you keep your temper when you were really angry at someone. It doesn't matter if it is big or small. What matters is that God did something in your life, and we are told to share what He has done with the people around us.

So who can you tell? Do you have friends at school or even a teacher you can share your story with? What about your teammates on a sports team? How about your cousin? It doesn't matter how old you are, God wants to use you to tell others about what He's done in your life so He can do the same for them.

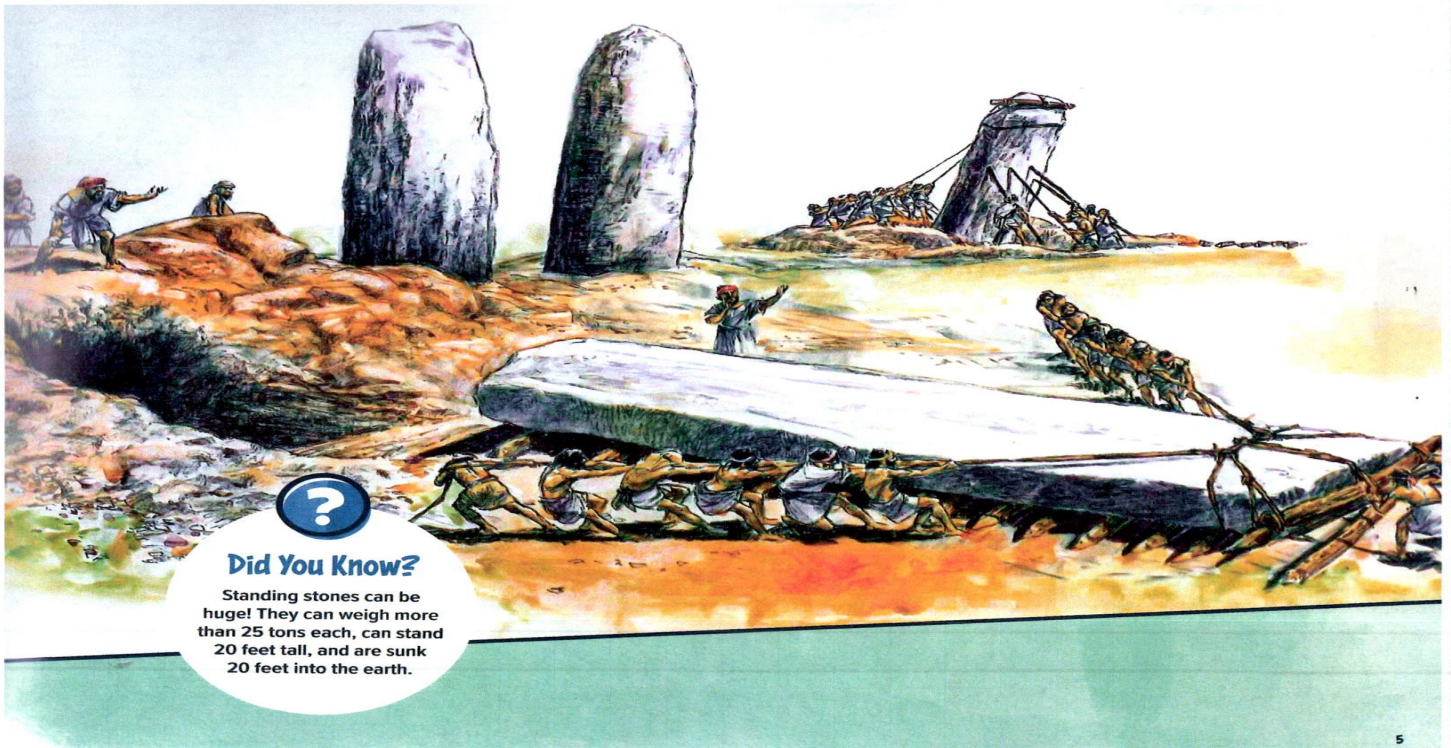
"On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws. And Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the Lord."

Joshua 24:25-26



Let's Talk About It

What are two things God has done in your life that you could tell others about?



Did You Know?

Standing stones can be huge! They can weigh more than 25 tons each, can stand 20 feet tall, and are sunk 20 feet into the earth.

as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Col. 3:12

Mission Village Christian Fellowship

2650 Melbourne Drive

San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: 858-278-2633

Email: missionvillage1@sbcglobal.net

We're on the web!

missionvillage.church

Council Members

Pastor	Steve de Vos
Moderator	Jennifer French
Clerk	Ronda Adams
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	June McCollough
Children's Ministry	Christopher French
Youth Ministry	Terri Carver
Adult Ministry	Joanna de Vos
Stewardship	Frank Romeo
Fellowship	Jenny Fiori
Service	Carl Demas
Missions / Evangelism	Matt & Ellen Davis
Finance Ministry	Ernie Garcia
Worship	Hannah French

Sunday Schedule

Worship & Children's Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

Nursery & Toddler Care is Available During Worship Service

Service will be live on [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#)

Elders

Pastor /Elder.....	Steve de Vos
Administrative Elder	Tony DaVee
Elders.....	Chris French
	Carl Jensen

Staff

Administrative Assistant.....	Judy Yacob
Nursery Attendant.....	Hannah French