

MVCF

July 2025 Newsletter

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

Pastor's Pen

A Model Disciple...Not Yet

“Go,’ said Jesus, ‘your faith has healed you.’ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.” -Mark 10:52

The past few weeks on Sunday mornings we have been working through Mark chapter 10 in our series going through the entire gospel of Mark. Mark 10 has been described by many scholars as Mark’s “discipleship manual;” it is his summary of what it means to be a healthy follower of Jesus. Most of the examples of discipleship in Mark 10 however are not healthy; they are examples of what NOT to do: people asking questions not because they want to honor God but to see what they could get away with, Jesus’ disciples trying to keep little children from Jesus, a rich man whose money stood as a barrier between him and Jesus, and James and John asking for seats of honor in glory.

It is not until we come to Mark 10:46-52 that we see a model disciple...and interestingly, it is not one of Jesus’ 12 disciples. It is a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, who ironically sees who Jesus is more clearly than anyone else, and once he is healed faithfully leaves everything behind to follow Jesus on the road to Jerusalem. That really is what discipleship to Jesus is: believing in who Jesus is (not who we want him to be), and following Jesus wherever he leads us, even if the road Jesus is on leads to suffering and hardship.

Continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1
Pastor's Pen Cont.	2
Calendar	3
July Celebrations	4
Youth Ministry	4
Youth Ministry Cont.	5
Council Members	6
Contact Information	6



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**

Continued from page 1

Small Groups:

Monday

1:00 p.m. Afternoon

Bible Study at MVCF

7:00 p.m. Women's

Bible Study at MVCF

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Bible Study at
MVCF

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
Online

Wednesday

5:00 p.m. Picnic

7:00 p.m. Youth Group 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 had to sting for Jesus' 12 disciples is that they had been following Jesus for three and a half years by this point, and yet it is this blind beggar who is affirmed as a positive example of what it means to follow Jesus. So what are we to make of this unlikely candidate for a model disciple? I think this passage offers us both a challenge and an encouragement.

The challenge is this: Even if we have been with Jesus for a long time, there is still room to grow. Jesus' 12 disciples, even though they had been with him a long time, still had plenty of maturing to do. And as Jesus' followers today, we have a lot of maturing to do as well. The Christian life should never reach a plateau where we stop growing in our discipleship to Jesus. Even if you have been following Jesus for decades, there is always more that the Lord wants to do in your heart. So as you look at your discipleship to Jesus right now, where do you need to grow?

Now it can be discouraging to look in our hearts and see how much room there is to grow closer to Jesus. But there is also a wonderful encouragement here that we might not see at first glance, and that is that despite how much we need to grow, Jesus still invites us to join him on the road of discipleship and participate with him in his ministry. Think about some of the characters in Jesus' closest group of disciples: there is Peter, who can be described as eager but having foot in mouth disease...he always says the wrong thing. James and John, in addition to their self-centered request of Jesus in Mark 10, are described by Mark as Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17). Sons of thunder is a polite way of saying James and John were a couple of hot heads. Then you have a government sellout in the tax collector Matthew, a political revolutionary in Simon, and then Judas, who betrayed Jesus for cash.

If we are honest about ourselves, we can easily find ourselves in the shortcomings of Jesus' disciples. We are insensitive and say the wrong thing at the wrong time, we get angered easily, we let our politics shape our faith (instead of the other way around!), or we just care more about money than we do about Jesus. I'm sure a careful self-examination of your heart could reveal an even longer list of shortcomings than what is mentioned here.

And yet...despite these shortcomings, Jesus still called these disciples. And despite our shortcomings, Jesus still calls us. He invites us to join him on the road of discipleship and to participate with him in his ministry. Jesus does not wait until we are perfect (that would be a very long wait!), he calls us now. But at the same time he calls us, he says I want all of you. I want your heart. I want to change your heart.

So as we go through the summer here at Mission Village Christian Fellowship, ask the Lord how you might best serve him in ministry here at the church. Don't wait until you get over some issue you are dealing with. But at the same time, ask the Lord how he wants to work in your heart to shape and form you so that you become more like Jesus (Romans 8:29). Because the more our heart is formed to be like Jesus, the better we will be able to serve like Jesus.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	2 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 5:00pm Picnic 7:00pm Youth Group	3	4	5
6 9:30am Worship Service	7	8 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting 6-8:30pm VBS	9 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 7:00pm Youth Group 6-8:30pm VBS	10 6-8:30pm VBS	11 6-8:30pm VBS	12
13 9:30am Worship Service	14	15 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	16 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 5:00pm Picnic 7:00pm Youth Group	17	18	19
20 9:30am Worship Service	21	22 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	23 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 5:00pm Picnic 7:00pm Youth Group	24	25	26 8:30am All Church Work Party
27 9:30am Worship Service	28	29 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	30 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 5:00pm Picnic 7:00pm Youth Group	31		

Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.

Proverbs 16:3

July Celebrations



Bruce & Gayle Kraft 07/17



Aender Harris	07/04
Selassie Adjibolosoo	07/08
Matt Davis	07/20

Youth Ministry Future Quest 2025



Photos courtesy of
Pastor Steve



Therefore, 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

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Council Members

Pastor	Steve de Vos
Moderator	Ronda Adams
Clerk	Joanna de Vos
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	June McCollough
Children's Ministry	Open
Youth Ministry	Terri Carver
Adult Ministry	Open
Stewardship	Frank Romeo
Fellowship	Jenny Fiori
Service	Open
Missions / Evangelism	Matt & Ellen Davis
Finance Ministry	Open
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 ElderTony DaVee

Elder..... Carl Jensen

Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Judy Jacob

Nursery Attendant.....Hannah French