

CHURCH AS HIS BRIDE

Ezekiel 16.4-22, 30-34 // April 21, 2024

THE GIFT OF A BRIDE

God did not have to create humanity, much less two genders. He could have created all men and them populate the earth in a non-sexual way, just in the same way that He created man. But He went above and beyond and created the most unique relationship. Something intimate, personal, and so vulnerable that it could only be described in one way: oneness. But tragically, we desecrate this oneness by spending it on ourselves. And all of this gives us a stark picture of what God has done for us, and how we have responded to Him.

Ezekiel 16.4-22, 30-34

Christ has rescued us from our filth; He has nurtured and loved us and called us by name, yet we are unfaithful to Him. We go after other, lesser things; idols and passions.

**The bottom line: We wish we had a better God.
We wish God was different.**

THE WASHED BRIDE

God was not lonely. He had no need to create humanity, but God chose to do something beyond the perfect fellowship He already had within Himself. He chooses to create a people that will be for Him to be one with.

**God chose a bride *knowing* she would turn from Him.
And He chose a plan to cleanse her from her sin.**

God the Father desired to give a gift to His Son: a perfect and spotless bride for Him to be one with for all eternity. But because this bride was found to be covered in her own filth of unfaithfulness, God also devised a plan to rescue her. And that plan was that the faithful Bridegroom would die in her place, cleansing her and making her perfect and cleansed, a beautiful bride to be wed.

LOVING THE BRIDE

**We must remember this:
The church is not *our* bride, she is *Christ's* bride.**

Just like in human marriages, we get ourselves in trouble when we wish we had a different spouse. It is easy to get bitter at this bride, as well. The church has faults and shortcomings, but she also has a Bridegroom that loves her deeply and is committed to her growth, change, and sanctification. The Spirit is determined that Jesus will have a beautiful bride, and He will finish the work that He started.

Revelation 21.1-4

NOTES:

This Week's Call to Worship Psalm:

Psalm 100

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

Jobey McGinty

Pastor, Preaching & Vision
jobey@lifemission.tv

Tyler Willis

Pastor, Student Ministries
tyler@lifemission.tv

Amber Willis

Kids on Mission
amber@lifemission.tv

Brian Galloway

Administration
brian@lifemission.tv

Shauntee Null

Connection Team
connect@lifemission.tv

Sherry Henry

Finances
sherry@lifemission.tv

CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart phone camera at the QR Code to access a virtual Connection Card

MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church
420 Twin Oaks Valley Rd., #908
San Marcos, CA 92079

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Open the evening reciting the **Memory Verse** together. Then open to the **Call to Worship Psalm** and have someone open the night by *praying* the Psalm.

Read **Ezekiel 16.8-14, 17-19, 30**. What stands out in here and from Sunday's sermon?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

The story in **Ezekiel** is devastating. But now read **Revelation 21.1-4**. How does the stark contrast of these two sections of Scripture give you a bigger perspective of you yourself, as well as Life Mission Church, and then also the global church throughout history?

Your Life Mission

The first focus and step we must have as a desire and goal when it comes to the mission and life that God has called us to on this earth is that we ought to seek to be faithful and true to our Savior. Not only individually, but as a church, we ought to seek purity and oneness with Christ and each other, so that we can be a faithful bride to our Savior. When this happens, the world around us will be blessed. What would you like prayer for as it pertains to what God is doing in and around you? Do you see ways you need to press in more to the body, or a pursuit of holiness as the bride that needs to be rekindled, or are there people in your life that need you to be the body of Christ to them?

THE LORD'S P.R.A.Y.er MODEL

- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself (Matthew 6.9, 10)**
- **Repent and Confess (Matthew 6.12)**
- **Ask for Provision (Matthew 6.11-13)**
- **Yield with Thanksgiving (Matthew 6.10)**

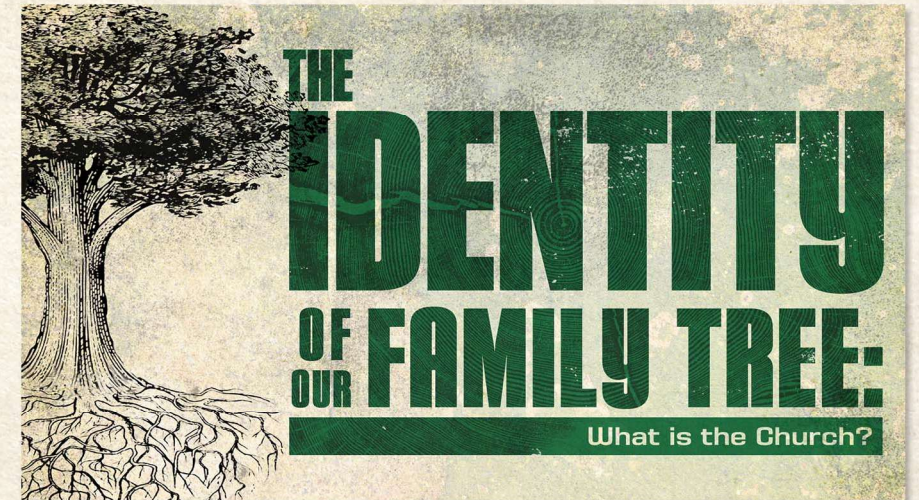
Father, be glorified in _____, let Your Kingdom and will be done, in and through _____ as it is in Heaven.

Give _____ daily bread, and thank You for Your forgiveness.
Help _____ to forgive _____,
because You are the One who has forgiven us.

Keep _____ eyes fixed on You and Your Word and promises so that _____ may not sin against You.
Thank You for and help me trust Your sovereign love.



MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



CHURCH AS HIS BRIDE

Ezekiel 16.4-22, 30-34 // April 21, 2024

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

