

## Welcome To The Front Lines

### A Quick Look Back

Matthew 28:19-20/ Acts 1:8

### Our Passage

Acts 8:1-4

### The Truth About Frontline Ministry

1. Every Christian has a **FRONTLINE MINISTRY**.

1 Peter 2:9

2. You are here today on **ASSIGNMENT**, not by **ACCIDENT**.

3. Wherever we are, we have two powerful realms of **SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE**.

The **PHYSICAL** realm

1 Peter 2:12/ Colossians 3:17

The **UNSEEN** realm

✓ Protecting those we **LEAD**

Psalm 106:19-23

✓ Protecting our **COMMUNITY & NATION**

Genesis 18:23-32/ Ezekiel 22:23-33

✓ Protecting our **FAMILY**

Proverbs 14:26/ 1 Corinthians 7:14-16/ Genesis 19:29

### How To Stand In The Gap

1 Peter 3:12/ James 5:16

1. Live Righteously: Do the **RIGHT THING**.

2. Pray **PERSISTENTLY**.

## Food for Thought

For the week of June 7, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study & discussion)

**Discussion Questions Added** - *Food for Thought* is normally written as an aid for personal study during the periods when our Life Groups are not meeting. However, given the unique situation we currently find ourselves in with COVID-19, many Life Groups are continuing to meet in order to provide opportunities for connection. In light of that, we have adjusted the *Food for Thought* format so the questions can be used for group discussion as well as personal study and reflection.

### WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

In Acts 1:8, Larry reminded us that the disciples were commanded to wait on the Holy Spirit before they acted. Sometimes we may be tempted to jump the gun by acting or speaking instead of waiting and listening for the Holy Spirit. Can you think of a situation when you waited for the Holy Spirit and then acted? How did that turn out?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. One way Larry encouraged us to stand in the gap is by living righteously. James 1:22 commands us to "not merely listen to the word," but to "do what it says." Based on James 1:19-27, what importance do our actions have on our Christian faith?

#### **James 1:19-27 New International Version (NIV)**

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. 27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

As you reflect on this weekend's sermon and this passage, is there an area in your life where you feel you may be deceiving yourself?

2. This weekend we were encouraged to stand in the gap by praying persistently. Jesus stood in the ultimate gap for us by giving Himself up to death on a cross for our sins. Read His final prayer before His crucifixion in John 17:20-26. What can we learn about how to pray for others based on how Jesus prayed for us?

#### **John 17:20-26 New International Version (NIV)**

20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

25 "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 26 I have made you[a] known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

Is there area of your life where you feel compelled to pray more persistently?



# NORTH COAST SUMMER SERIES & CLASSES

Check out our website for updates as more details will be added in the weeks to come. [northcoastchurch.com/classes](http://northcoastchurch.com/classes)

## ***Summer Study Series***

We have three incredible virtual events lined up this summer by each of our teaching pastors!

- **An Open Conversation About RACE. Part 1** with Pastor Chris Brown, Friday, June 19 at 7pm
- **The Only Legacy That Really Matters: *Parenting for The Long-Haul*** with Dr. Larry Osborne, Friday, July 17 at 7pm
- **Is God Evil?** with Pastor Christopher Hilken, Friday, August 14 at 7pm

## ***Summer Classes***

We are putting together a great collection of virtual classes and webinars on a variety of topics that will be offered throughout the summer. Here are some of the classes we have planned:

- **Preparing for Marriage:** Mondays, June 29 – August 3
- **United in Marriage:** Sundays, June 28 - August 16 (1<sup>st</sup> Class Monday, June 22) OR Mondays, June 22 – August 16
- **Financial Peace University:** Mondays, June 22 – August 17
- **Never Read a Bible Verse:** Wednesday, June 24
- **S.H.A.P.E – Helping You Discover God’s Purpose For Your Life:** Wednesday, July 8
- **Parents of Young Kids Parenting through Pandemic:** Wednesday, July 22
- **Parents of Teens through Pandemic:** Thursday, July 23

*Check our website for many more classes to be scheduled soon.*

## ***Summer Connection Intro Life Groups***

New to North Coast or never been in a Life Group? Curious what being part of a Life Group is all about? Summer Connection Intro Life Groups will start **Thursday, July 9** and meet for three weeks. They are a great opportunity to find out what Life Groups are like with minimum commitment. Registration coming soon