

OUR heritage



authentic
love



radical
generosity



hopeful
partnership



intense
spirituality



faithful
risk



passionate
mission

Jesus saves & **MODELS**.

James 5:16a [NLT]
*The earnest prayer
of a righteous person
has great power
and produces
wonderful results.*

John 17:20-21 [NLT]

²⁰ "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

Authentic Love **POSITIONS** us.

Intense Spirituality **EMPOWERS** us.

John 17:22-24 [NLT]

²² "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. ²⁴ Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began!

John 15:9-10 [NIV]

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

1 John 14:16 [NIV]
And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

We can't **LEAD** people
where we haven't **BEEN**.

Exodus 33:11 [NLT]

Inside the Tent of Meeting, the Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Afterward Moses would return to the camp, but the young man who assisted him, Joshua son of Nun, would remain behind in the Tent of Meeting.

Intensity comes from **PROXIMITY**.

So What?

Evidences of **Authentic Love**:

- Speak the truth in love.
- Consistently seek more FOR others than FROM them.
- Live in a posture of genuine empathy.

Evidences of **Intense Spirituality**:

- Seek God and His priorities first.
- Live lives marked by the character & love of Christ.
- Consistently invest/sacrifice for others.

Where is Jesus inviting you to **REMAIN** next?

Notes:

"There is no limit to what God can do through us if we are a yielded and purified people." - A. W. Tozer

Prayer of the People

Throughout "Our Heritage," we are inviting the entire Heritage family to participate in what some traditions have called "Prayers of the People." These prayers provide an opportunity to connect with God in one heart and voice even as we disperse through the week.

This week, we invite you to pray this ancient Hebrew recitation of gratitude whenever you encounter a blessing:

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, King of the Universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion. Lord, hear our prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.



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How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) Admitting that you, like everyone, are in need of rescue.
- 2) Asking God to forgive your sins.
- 3) Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

For Further Reflection:

:: As you look at the 6 values we'll explore in this series, which one captures your attention the most? Least?

"You are as close to God as you choose to be."
~ Rick Warren

:: Share a time you experienced Authentic Love. What happened? How did you feel?

:: In your spiritual journey, when have you encountered Intense Spirituality? What happened? How did you feel?

:: Reread Jesus' prayer for us. [ref. John 17:20-24]

- Share how you feel reading those prayerful words of Jesus.
- What stands out to you most in how/what Jesus prayed? Why?
- Why is prayer an essential part of living in Authentic Love and Intense Spirituality?

:: Pastor Shawn said, "Intensity comes from proximity."

- What are some implications of that reality?
- How have you seen that in your life?
- What happens when we don't have proximity with God?
- What can we learn about this from Joshua's life and example?

:: Share how you answered the "So What" question with someone you trust.

:: Invite them to pray with you and for you as you seek to "remain" this week.

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New Living Translation [NLT].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – October 5 & 6, 2019

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