

Saved By Grace

Listen to *Blessed Self-Forgetfulness* by Tim Keller: Each of us is in desperate need of the grace of God, and we can find rest in that grace when we realize that the verdict is in on our lives because of the finished work of Jesus for us. This sermon was later transcribed into the book, *The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness*, which we also highly recommend.

Watch *The Cross*: This 30-minute video features evangelist Billy Graham, rapper Lecrae, and singer Lacey Sturm on the life-changing power of Christ in their lives. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Read *Basic Christianity* by John Stott: Fully understanding who Jesus is and what He did for you will leave you in awe of his grace and spur you on toward a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Him. Basic Christianity is one of those rare books that comes along once in a generation which both informs and forms your relationship with the Lord by unpacking the claims of Christianity and showing you just how amazing God's grace is.

Read *What's So Amazing About Grace* by Philip Yancey: This book takes a deeper look into the amazing grace that God has given us. Not only for salvation, but also for transformation in our daily lives. It will challenge you and encourage you to grow deeper in your understanding of and appreciation for grace.

Read *Mere Christianity* by C.S Lewis: This classic of the faith has had a profound impact on generations of Christians around the world. Written by the brilliant author and theologian, C.S. Lewis (the same one who wrote *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*), this book both explains and defends the beliefs all Christians hold.

Work Through *The Grace of God and Flaws of Men Study*: This online study on the transformational grace of God in our lives will help you learn from the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that no matter how close or flawed our walk with God, His grace is there to transform us for His mission. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Biblically Rooted

Watch *How to Read the Bible*: The Bible is a library of 66 books with many different authors, genres, and literary styles, which was written over about 1500 years. The series "How to read the Bible" by Tim Mackie is a great way to learn how to approach this unique library. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Read *Proverbs In A Month*: Building good habits is a phenomenal way to take incremental steps that add up to incredible growth over time. After watching this overview, start building healthy biblical habits by reading one chapter of the book of 'Proverbs' in the Bible daily. There are 31 short chapters - so you'll be able to finish it in one month! When you read, meditate on the wisdom that God has given in each chapter. Pay particular attention to the bits of wisdom that make you squirm. The harder the truth, the more we need it. [If you don't have a Bible, you can download the YouVersion Bible App from your phone's app store, or stop by our welcome desk on the weekend and we'll give you a Bible for free.]

Watch *The Bible Project's Read Scripture Series*: This excellent series gives an engaging and helpful overview of every single book of the biblical library. These incredibly well-done and artistic short videos will help you learn the main ideas and literary design of each book while showing you how it fits into the entire biblical story. You can watch one a week or even one a day to get a great understanding of the Bible. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Read *How to Read the Bible For All Its Worth*: This excellent resource written by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart is a must-have for anyone wanting to grow in their understanding of the Bible. It will guide you through key principles which clear up common misconceptions about the Bible and help you to understand its meaning and application for your life.

Read *Knowing God* by J.I. Packer: In this Christian classic, Packer walks through the Scriptures to help us understand what it says about the Lord and then helps us move from knowing *about* God to knowing Him. This is a must-read for believers.

Take a class on BiblicalTraining.org: This site offers free, seminary-level classes, taught by well-regarded instructors. You can study a book of the Bible, a survey of the Scriptures, biblical interpretation, theological topics, and more. Another helpful resource is ThirdMill.org.

Connected in Community

Make a New Friend with Somebody at Church: Whether you attend church in-person or online, you're surrounded by people who would be great to connect with! Invite somebody you regularly see to grab some coffee or have lunch after church. Prefer to connect digitally? Maybe you could schedule a zoom call. However you choose to do it – start building some friendships with other Christians.

Contact our Connections Team: Often times the hardest part of getting connected is that first step. Shared experience is one of the best ways to connect with and build a relationship with other people. Find a cause or an area that you're passionate about and that you can serve in. Meet people there to build relationships or even invite somebody from church to do it with you! You can get started by finding some great ways to serve at Fellowship by clicking the above link.

Join A Community Group: Community groups are one of the best places to build deep and life-changing community. They're small groups of usually 8-10 people that meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to live, serve, and grow together. Fill out the form at the above link and our team will reach out to you directly to help you connect with a community that's a great fit for you.

Help Others Get Connected: Take the initiative to help someone else get connected in community. This could be as easy as inviting somebody you sit near in church out for coffee or lunch and encouraging them in their faith. Or it could be something more in-depth like inviting them to join a group or Serving Team you participate in. Attend online and not in person? No problem. Connect instead with somebody you frequently see online.

Consider Leading a Community Group: As you become more connected to community, one of the best ways to continue to grow is by helping others get connected to the same kind of community you've discovered. Not only will it help you grow, but you'll be furthering the kind of community that God desires for His church. While it might seem intimidating at first, we have a great team who'd love to start the conversation with you and explain what it could look like. To find out more, email our Community Group's team at clekan@fbctopeka.com.

Find Somebody You Can Be Accountable With: We all have areas of struggle and pain in our lives. It's important that you don't wrestle through those alone. Connect with another Christian of the same gender you can trust and be vulnerable with. Work on being open and vulnerable with each other about your struggles. Encourage and hold each other accountable in your walk with Jesus Christ.

Serving Others

Contact our Connections Team: Often times the hardest part of serving is getting started. There are lots of great ways to do this, but an easy first step is to reach out to our connections team to start a conversation about where you are currently and discover where you could connect for life-giving ministry.

Find a Need/Fill a Need: There are needs all around you that you can help fill. Spend some time walking around your neighborhood, meeting your neighbors, or even getting on your community's page on social media. Discover a need that you can help with and serve your neighbors. Maybe it's mowing somebody's lawn. Maybe it's helping to clean up garbage. Or maybe it's watching your neighbor's kids so they can have a date night. Whatever it is - love your neighbors well out of a reflection of the love Jesus has shown for you.

Join a Serving Team: Consistent service for something greater than ourselves and with others is a huge part of growing in our walk with Jesus. We have incredible opportunities for you to do just that both inside and outside of the walls of Fellowship. Click the link to find out what opportunities we have and how you can get involved. Not sure which one to connect with? No problem. Pick one to try and if it's not a good fit, try another until you find something you're passionate about.

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Consider Serving in One of our Weekly Serving Teams or Even Leadership of a Serving Team: Having a weekly rhythm of service is a great way to grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus Christ. That could mean serving weekly through our Guest Services Team, pouring into the lives of the Next Generation, or serving a local elementary school (to name a few). There are lots of ways to serve on an ongoing and weekly basis. Find out more and sign up to start a conversation with one of the Team Leaders at the above link. Or maybe you're ready to lead a Serving Team and help others discover the same joy in serving you've found. If that's you, connect with the staff leader of the area you serve in to let them know you'd like to talk about taking on more responsibility. Not sure who that is? No problem. Email Liam at lweingartner@fbctopeka.com to get that conversation started!

Sign up for a Transformational Trip: One of the greatest ways you can grow in your appreciation for the love of God for the people around us is being a part of a transformational trip as part of our Outreach Go Team. You'll grow in your global understanding of Christ's work, get to serve others, and have a focused time of leaning into the love of God for all people - all while learning more about yourself.

Faithful at Home

Watch *How to Pray the Lord's Prayer*: Learning how to pray can be intimidating. Luckily Jesus taught His disciples how to pray through a simple and powerful model we can still follow 2,000 years later. Whether you are brand new to prayer or want to improve, this series walks you through each verse giving insight and guidance on praying like Jesus. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Start Fellowship's Reading Plan or Daily Devotional: Join together with your church family in daily engaging with God's Word, the Bible. The Word of God is God's revelation to us, and we need it in order to know Him and walk faithfully with Him. If you don't have a Bible, we have some available for free near the worship center entrances. Please pick one up and spend time in God's Word daily!

Join re|engage: Whether your marriage needs to be reignited or completely resurrected, re|engage is a safe place for couples to reconnect. This ministry offers hope to marriages by helping couples move toward oneness through stories of grace, teaching, and small groups. re|engage is a marriage enrichment program that helps all couples, whether they are struggling to get along, have broken relationships, or simply want to grow closer together. Marriages in any condition will benefit from this incredible program.

Read *The Life You've Always Wanted* by John Ortberg: This excellent book is both encouraging and challenging. It will teach you spiritual disciplines that will serve you well in growing your living relationship with Jesus Christ. Through it, you'll discover the road to transformation and spiritual vigor is one anybody can take.

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Watch *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* by John Mark Comer: This five-part series walks us through the biggest threat to our spiritual lives – hurry. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Read *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster: This phenomenal book both encourages and informs your spiritual practices as you grow closer to God through consistent daily habits. It will guide you through multiple different disciplines that have been used by Christians through the millennia to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. As you read, pick one or two that resonate with you and implement them in your personal practice.

Generous With Resources

Watch *Living Generously*: This short series on RightNow Media explores what a life of generosity looks like. You'll be inspired and encouraged as you follow the Donovan family on their journey towards the fullness of life found in giving. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Start Giving Consistently or Increase Your Generosity: God is a generous God, and being made in His image means you're designed to reflect that generosity. Taking a few small steps can help you live into that design: First, pray and ask God to help you to be joyfully generous. Next, write out how much you currently give as a percentage of your income and set a goal of what you want to increase that to over the next 6 months. Then, go online to the link above and set up a regular, recurring gift to the Lord through your church family. You will be surprised at the joy and freedom that comes as you learn to give back to God and trust Him with what He has blessed you with.

(ORIGINAL) **Start Giving Consistently Or Increase Your Generosity:** God is a generous God, and being made in His image means you're designed to reflect that generosity. Taking a few small steps can help you live into that design: First, pray and ask God to help you to be joyfully generous. Second, find a church or Christian ministry that you're excited to support. Third, write out how much you currently give as a percentage of your income and set a goal of what you want to increase that to over the next 6 months. You will be surprised at the joy and freedom that comes as you learn to give back to God and trust Him with what He has blessed you with. (If you'd like to give to Good Shepherd Church you can do that at the above link. If you're not ready to give to Good Shepherd Church yet, no problem. There are some great ministries doing awesome things for those in need like the [Children's Attention Home](#). Wherever it is - live into God's design by moving toward joyous & sacrificial generosity.)

Watch *MoneyLife Personal Finance Study by Crown Financial Ministries*: Being wise stewards of our finances gives us the freedom to be generous. This course is designed to help you overcome financial challenges, eliminate debt, save and invest in the future, and grow in your generosity. Using biblical principles and sound practical advice you will be able to change not only your finances but also your life. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Watch *The Treasure Principle*: Jesus told a story about a hidden treasure that, once discovered, brought life-changing joy. In this video series based on the best-selling book, *The Treasure Principle*, Randy Alcorn unearths a simple yet profound principle that will radically change your concept of stewardship. Short on guilt, Alcorn illuminates the liberating joy of giving and its impact, not only for today but for eternity as well. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

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Find Joy in Generosity Through Above and Beyond Giving: One of the great joys of giving is seeing a need and surprising people by taking care of it. Perhaps it's buying a meal for a family in need, maybe it's helping your church with a specific budget goal for a project, or even purchasing a piece of equipment that a ministry you support is in need of. Whatever it is, go above and beyond your normal giving by finding a need in a cause you care about and filling that need. Celebrate being able to support the Kingdom of God through that generosity!

Emotionally Healthy

Watch *A Healing Body* by Henry Cloud: In this great series by Dr. Henry Cloud you'll learn biblical solutions to help you achieve emotional health both within yourself and in your relationship with others. This five-part series will help you navigate items such as anxiety, loneliness, depression, relational struggles, professional disappointments, and identity issues. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Read *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*: It's impossible to be both spiritually healthy and emotionally unhealthy. However, we often ignore our emotions or struggle to walk through the difficult journey of emotional well-being. In this book, Peter Scazzero provides great biblical and practical strategies to increase your emotional health. This will have a profound impact on your own personal life as well as your relationships with others and God.

Don't Do It Alone: Emotional recovery and health is best accomplished in a safe and trusted community. We have multiple options depending on your specific circumstance, including: Grief Share, Divorce Care, community groups, pastoral care, counseling, and marriage ministry offerings. Visit the above link to learn about the available options and register; or connect with [Frank Eschmann](#) for LifeCare or [Bob Fulmer](#) for Marriage Ministry to get specific counsel and direction.

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Work Through *The Changes that Heal* Study by Henry Cloud: Christians often suffer from a whole range of emotional problems: anxiety, loneliness, grief over broken relationships, resentment, addiction, etc. These rarely go away with a quick prayer and encouraging word. Instead of taking us around them, God often walks with us through them. In this study, Dr. Cloud helps us to do just that. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

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Sharing the Gospel

Watch *Quick Answers*: Many times we don't feel comfortable talking about our faith with others because we still have many questions ourselves and don't know how to answer them. Start your journey to confidence by watching this series of short videos called Quick Answers with Sean McDowell to help answer many common faith questions that we all have. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Watch *Crash Course On Evangelism*: Sharing your faith can be intimidating. Many of us don't know what to say, when to say it, and are often paralyzed by fear. This series by Bobby Conway will help you get a better understanding of why sharing your faith is important, equip you for those conversations, and help you see it's not as intimidating as you might think. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Utilize *The You & Two Resources on our Assessment Resources page*: As a church, one of our values is the idea of "You & Two" – two people in your life who need the gospel, whom you will love, pray for, and share the good news of Jesus with. On this page, you'll learn more about this value and some ideas of how you can pray for and reach your "two."

Read *Out of the Saltshaker & Into the World* by Rebecca Pippert: This is an excellent resource for navigating gospel conversations and evangelism with the people in your life with truth and grace.

Watch *The Reason For God*: This six-session study by Tim Keller shows unscripted conversations on faith and life. This series is a fantastic example of how to have hard conversations that will spark an honest, enriching, and humbling dialogue with those around you. [If you don't have a 'rightnow MEDIA' account, Fellowship provides you free access with registration. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and then follow the above link.]

Host an *Alpha Group*: Open your home for *Alpha*, which is a course designed to help you share the gospel with your neighbors and friends through a dinner, video lesson, and judgment-free discussion time. The course typically goes for 10 weeks + a weekend retreat. Each session is an hour and a half long. You will receive the training you'll need to lead Alpha successfully. Materials and food will be provided for you by the church. Jesus commands us to love our neighbors and to make disciples, so why not invite them to dinner and share the gospel with them in an approachable, non-threatening way? Connect with [Brody](#) for more information.

Parent Resources

<https://fbctopeka.com/parents/>