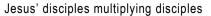
I can't always say that about myself. I fear rejection. Rejection can love the God, in Jesus have me shrinking back has for that person. into my own shell. Thank God Jesus continues to breathe his amazing relationship life giving spirit into us daily. The Holy Spirit. filling us with life and vitality that we too might not be ruled by knockbacks but in Jesus passion, go forth and share this wonderful relationship, inviting people to take Jesus at his word and discover the fullness of life that he has created.

or sister, or letting someone know for the first time the amazing Inviting them into that destination. that God Father and Son enjoy and have extended to us to live in with them, discovering all that they have dreamed possible. becoming all that they've given their lives for us to be.

This week let's all be praying that Jesus leads us by the Spirit that we can make him known personally to another person; be that encouraging a brother

Christ Church Lutheran Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am

Pastor: Tim 0427326553





13 August 2017 WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

Romans 10:5-15

Have vou ever been ask a local where the church was regularly getting lost

lost? I remember

drive him to a

with my Father. I'd

preaching engagement,

but we'd never take a

map. Finding the town

could be another story.

We'd drive around and

being over here' 'I'm

road'. Sometimes I

the circle way of

sure it's just down this

thought we were using

around and around and

around a small town in

reducing circles you'll eventually find what

you're looking for.

Guess what we never

When you're lost what is the one thing that

tell you the way. How

much easier it would

have been to stop and

did? Ask someone!

navigating; if you go

was always easy but

finding the church

Have you ever been lost?

I used to get lost in Sydney all the time. I'd life? Eat, drink and be think I knew a short cut, so I'd go for it, but you die. Is that the guess what, they never worked. And in Sydney meaningless rush of around and around, and vou can't use the ever he's say; 'I remember it diminishing circle technique. I know, I've tried it, and I just got more and more confused. Eventually I'd have to break out the map, only to find I was nowhere near where I wanted to be.

> Without a map I'd still be driving around Sydney, because like my Dad I wouldn't ask anyone for directions!

thing I wanted was a vou're after? Someone saviour; a sign to show to save you; someone to me the way so that I could get to where I was going.

Of course in life things are a lot more complicated; I reckon most people don't know where they are meant to be going. What is the purpose of merry for tomorrow purpose of life? Just a experiences before you're no more!

Is the meaning of life to be found in family and friends? That's the most common response I seem to hear. Life is about family and friends, spending time with them, enjoying their company, loving one another.

Sounds good, but there is one minor hiccup. Just this week I went to When I was lost the one the funeral of my oldest cousin. While he was alive I had the opportunity to show love to him; though I didn't take it. Now he's dead, what sort of

relationship is open to us?

What is the meaning of life? Where are we going?

I've noticed that lost people can't find themselves, they stay lost. They need a saviour; a sign or a person to ask.

Does being lost make you a bad person?

Of course that begs the question; how do vou determine bad or good?

Paul points to his fellow Israelites who used the Law of Moses to determine if you were bad or good? If vou did what it said. everyone agreed on how to interpret the law. Was it work if you What a mind blowing walked a kilometre carrying a 25 kilo load on the Sabbath. or was it Ok to walk 900 meters carrying a 25 kilo load, because that wasn't work.

And in the end who was ticking the score

card so that you could pass and be labelled good? The Pharisees labelled Jesus bad, so bad they had to execute him to save their nation and their temple!

Where are you going? What is the purpose of vour life?

This week in the SOAP readings we've been

Have you ever been lost? What's the meaning of life?

looking at the Gospel of child. Yes, you are John, where I ran across these words of Jesus: "I have loved vou even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love." (John you were good. Just not 15:9) Wow, now that's the place I want to be.

> statement; the love that God the Father, has for God the Son is extended to us, to me, to you. That's where I want to be, embraced in that love, knowing Father and Son, living with them, letting their loving character find

living expression in my life.

And I know what their loving character looks like: I don't have to make it up, for Jesus has come, born our brother. lived our life. died to save us. returned that we might share this life now. today and never ever be abandoned. Jesus extends the love of God the Father that he lives in. that shapes his very

identity. Jesus extends that to you. Yes, you are Father's precious

Father's joy. Yes, Father delights in sharing his life with vou. Father delights in seeing his loved child; that's you in Jesus. grow, mature, discover life lived to the full in him.

And Father hates seeing his precious, loved children, who he has the greatest affection for, losing this life as they're seduced by a lie.

But if nobody says anything, and all you

hear is the lie, what is the only option open to vou? If all I hear is the lie: that I can do whatever I want, that I know what is best for me, that I won't suffer consequences because it doesn't apply to me – I know better. If all I hear is the lie, what will the way we live and happen?

Jesus says the thief comes to steal and kill and destroy. (John 10:10)

Today Jesus invites us to speak out his life giving presence. Today I'm reminded of the wonderful privilege of knowing him personally, but now being able to introduce they too get to know him personally, in that wonderful intimate, affectionate, bond of love that he has

Today Jesus invites me to share with people so that they know the destination and how to get there. Jesus doesn't cold. want anyone lost. Jesus' passion is that all

people know the destination – to be loved as Father and Son way I live with him, my love each other. Jesus' passion is that we tell people the way: using words if we have to. As motivation flows from we live, walk and talk with Jesus, letting him shape our identity and respond to life as we are speaking to others about Jesus. We are

Jesus: I have loved you even as the Father has loved me!!!

inviting them to join Jesus in his celebration knowing Jesus. Not just of life and love that he lives together with Father.

him to other people that Jesus does tell us that not everyone welcomes them. Jesus isn't ruled the Good News. For me by knockbacks, his that is important. because I can be sucked comes from deep in by the devil's lie that within him, it is his extended to each of us. I need to be successful. Before vou know it my motive becomes how many people are responding, and I've left Jesus out in the

I think Jesus is reminding me that the destination in him. isn't dependent on how many respond. My Jesus, from the loving relationship he has brought me into, to live in everyday. To grow in. to mature in. to shape my very identity.

It is sad that not evervone will welcome Jesus. It breaks his heart more that I'll probably ever know. But it doesn't stop him putting himself out there everyday that all people might come to know him: to know him personally. To know his intimate, personal, affectionate. love for motive, his passion very nature to reach out that more and more people might discover the destination of his Father's love. That they hear him and follow him to that destination. Rejection doesn't shape Jesus.