



Shalom

Community *Lutheran Church*

JUNE 2019 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Effortless Change

By Andrew Wommack

Kneeling beside my bed one day in 1968, I began to pray, "Lord, what do I have to do to get from where I am to where You want me to be?" I opened my eyes, and as I saw my Bible laying on the bed in front of me, I heard the Lord say, "**Just put My Word in your heart, and it will do the rest.**"

Although the Lord spoke that to me in prayer, it was important for me to see it in the Word. He revealed and confirmed it to me through a parable in Mark 4:26-29. It says,

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; [27] And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. [28] For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. [29] But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

In this parable, Jesus compared the Word of God to a seed (Mark 4:14). Today, since so few of us are farmers, it might take a little explanation for us to fully grasp these truths.

First, He taught that **God's Word has to be planted like a seed in our hearts.** Just as a seed doesn't release its life until it is planted into the ground, God's Word will not set us free until we get it in our hearts. Having the Bible on our tables, in our hands, or in our heads is not sufficient; we have to let God's Word penetrate our hearts.

Second, the man who sowed the seed slept and rose day after day. **It takes time for a seed to germinate.** You can't plant a seed one day and expect to see it growing the next day. Just because there's nothing visible above ground doesn't mean the seed isn't growing. If you dig it up every day to see if anything is happening, it will die.

Church Events

Sunday's

9am Fellowship

9:30am Worship

Tuesday's

9:30am Text Study

Wednesday's

6pm Prayer

June Birthdays

06/01 Rolinda Sanders

06/01 Gerhard Meier

06/18 Marlene Kennedy

June Anniversaries

06/01 Jerry & Roz Johnson

06/12 Jack & Karen Tharaldson

06/18 Brady & Grace Danielson

06/20 Lowell & Jayne Hacker

06/22 Mike & Jill Troen

Father's Day

June 16th

A farmer has to leave his seed in the ground and believe that it's growing even though he can't see it. Likewise, you have to have faith that the seed of God's Word will do what it was designed by God to do: produce its fruit in its time. Many people dig up the Word by speaking directly against what it says. They'll let natural circumstances override what God says.

But when we meditate in God's Word, we are undergoing effortless change! We may not see ourselves growing, but we are—just like that planted seed is growing under the ground even though the farmer can't see it!

I know that effortless change sounds impossible to most people. The vast majority of people view change as one of the most traumatic experiences in life. But there is a way to change effortlessly. That is to take the seed of God's Word and sow it in our hearts. Then the Word will produce all the change we need.

You've never seen an apple tree travail to produce an apple. It takes time, but it comes effortlessly. Likewise, it is the nature of all true born-again believers to be like Jesus. But it can't happen without planting the seed of God's Word in your heart.

Growth means change. Have you ever seen a plant that's green and growing and not in a constant state of change? For the plant, it's effortless; it just grows, and the change is evident to everyone. Your life should be just like that—green, growing, changing, and evident to the world. The plant never resolved to do anything. It just grows and produces fruit because of what it is. The Word of God is the same. When planted, it just produces—effortlessly.

If you're **like a lot of Christians, you have probably tried to change many times but find it hard and frustrating.** That's because you aren't going about it God's way. You substitute prayer, fasting, and your own effort for the seed of God's Word. Don't get me wrong: Prayer and fasting are like water and fertilizer to a seed. A seed needs those things. But it is the seed that has the miracle of life in it.

The only effort on your part is to put God's Word in your heart and protect and nurture it. Then God's Word will produce the change.

My whole life and ministry are the product of meditating on God's Word. Any good thing in my life or ministry can be traced back to how God's Word has changed me. I believe it's the same for you. In the natural world, everything revolves around seed, time, and harvest. It's the same in the spiritual world. God's Word is the seed that, given time, produces a harvest.

I want to help make this the most fruitful time of change and harvest you've ever had. **In the natural, we recognize that we can't have a harvest without planting seeds. But in the spiritual realm, Christians try it all the time.** Instead of going to the Word and meditating in the Scriptures themselves, they run to someone who has spent time in the Word and ask *them* for help. It's an attempt to shortcut the process of seed, time, and harvest.

Then, if they don't see results, they get confused and offended. God can meet needs through the faith of others, but it's temporary and His secondary way of touching us. **God's best is to take the seed of His Word and plant it in our hearts where it will naturally and effortlessly produce the changes we desire.**

When the Lord directed me to focus on His Word, everything changed. That is overly simple to some, but that word from God all those years ago has been my prime directive for forty-six years and has produced miraculous results. And the change this has produced has been nearly effortless. All I had to do was stay committed to God's Word.

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Quotable Quote

“The Bible is the story of two gardens: Eden and Gethsemane. In the first, Adam took a fall. In the second, Jesus took a stand. In the first, God sought Adam. In the second, Jesus sought God. In Eden, Adam hid from God. In Gethsemane, Jesus emerged from the tomb. In Eden, Satan led Adam to a tree that led to his death. From Gethsemane, Jesus went to a tree that led to our life.”

Max Lucado



Shalom to Host a Lifetree Café at the Ministry Center

What is Lifetree Café?

Lifetree Café is a weekly, hour-long interactive experience that features real people's real stories on film, guided conversation, biblical insights, and time to build relationships.

Lifetree Café tackles the topics that most people deal with—topics about the big (and little) stuff that shapes our lives. Family. Friends. Fears. Busyness. Balance. Money. Materialism. Health. Heaven. Peace. Purpose.

Lifetree Café is a place where rich conversation is served up every week. At Lifetree Café you're encouraged to share your own stories and listen to others. But if you don't feel like talking, that's okay, too. You're welcome just as you are.

Setting the Table for Deep Conversations

Lifetree Café was created to help people of all walks of faith, those churched and unchurched, grow in a deeper relationship with Jesus, while also growing closer to each other. Each program is intentionally built with time-tested elements that will lead your group into deep conversations while experiencing God in a fresh, new way. Delivered to you one episode for each week of the year for optimal relationship growth

Each Lifetree Café program features:

Real Stories - Actual people's true-life stories shared on film, in their own words

Relationship Building - Befriending questions designed to prime the pump for conversation

Spiritual Growth - Deep discussion questions to wrestle with as a small or large group

God's Truth - Scripture, prayer, and Biblical insight designed to reveal God's heart

Lifetree Café gives everyone in the congregation an opportunity to use their gifting to reach out to the community.

Come on Shalom, become part of the conversation.

Vacation Bible School

June 2nd - June 6th Children ages K-6th grade

Shalom Community Lutheran Church and Minnewaska Lutheran Church

Present

"Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World"

Kids will lift off for an intergalactic adventure exploring God's miraculous mission and learn about His plan of salvation from creation to the cross! A light meal is provided at 5:30 and classes' from 6pm - 8pm.

Pre-registration forms available at the Shalom office.

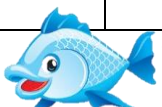
Happy Father's Day

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 9am Fellowship 9:30am Worship	3	4 9:30am Text Study	5 6pm Prayer	6	7	8
Joint Vacation Bible School at Minnewaska Lutheran Church June 2nd-June 6th 5:30PM-8PM						
9 9am Fellowship 9:30am Worship	10 7pm Training for Lifetree Cafe	11 9:30am Text Study	12 7pm Board of Deacon	13 6:30pm Lifetree Cafe	14	16
16 9am Fellowship 9:30am Worship SON Distribution	17	18 9:30am Text Study	19 6pm Prayer	20 6:30pm Lifetree Cafe	21	22
23 9am Fellowship 9:30am Worship 10:45 Education Children's Movie	24	25 9:30am Text Study 7pm Women's Group	26 6pm Prayer	27 6:30pm Lifetree Cafe	28	29
30 9am Fellowship 9:30am Worship						

Date	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistants & Servers	Coffee Server
06/02	Krisi Davis Linda Meulebroeck	Carrie Jepma	*Joyce Bowen Josh Troen Mike Troen +Ron Bowen +Jill Troen	Beth Moore
06/09	Mike Troen Jill Troen	Dorothy Carlson	Bill Goldenstein Carolyn Holte *Gene Hacker +Tim Carlson +Kay Hacker	Marlene Kennedy Carrie Jepma
06/16	Tom Cory Judy Cory	Carolyn Holte	Jack Tharaldson Tim Carlson *Marlene Kennedy +Karen Tharaldson +Dianne Halvorson	Linda Meulebroeck
06/23	Gene Hacker Kay Hacker	Eric Danielson	Nancy Bakewell Dalen Gosseling Roger Anderson *+Carolyn Holte +Linda Meulebroeck	Linda Meulebroeck Michele Greiner
06/30	Marlene Kennedy Jack Tharaldson	Todd Worner	Gene Hacker Kay Hacker Faith Anderson +Josh Troen *+Cindy Owen	Jill Troen

+Communion Assistants - Please collect empty cups, *Please clean-up Communion Utensils



Thrivent Financial Members

Remember you can direct your THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS to Shalom Community Lutheran Church. These dollars add up and really help our congregation. To direct your CHOICE DOLLARS go to Thrivent's website at www.thrivent.com. You will find Thrivent Choice listed under the Making a Difference tab on their homepage. If you have any questions, contact Monica or your Thrivent agent

ONLINE GIVING

ONLINE GIVING – Did you know that Shalom CLC gives you the option to make your contributions online? For those of you who would like to utilize this option, go to Shalom's website at www.shalomcommunitylc.com. Click on the GIVING tab on the homepage and you will be directed to either select a one-time donation or you may elect to setup an automatic recurring donations. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please contact Monica.

Giving is a part of our worship to God. Nearly everything about a person is revealed by the way they spend their money as Jesus says, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Whether you are tithing according Malachi 3:10 or contributing over and above your tithe as an act of sacrificial generosity, your money will help us minister God's hope and healing in our community and beyond. Tithing has been a turning point for many people in learning to trust God more fully – we hope you experience that blessing too! We give out of our love for God and to be a blessing to His world. We're blessed to be a blessing.

Praise Notes

Praise Team – Have you been gifted in the area of music? Is He speaking a calling to you to serve in this area? Whether He has gifted you in singing or in playing an instrument and you wish to find out what all is involved in Shalom's Praise Team, please give me a call. I would be happy to visit with you. My phone numbers are (h) 320-239-4411 or (c) 320-894- 5360. My email is: mkg57@hcinet.net

PowerPoint Assistant: Are you comfortable and efficient with computers and wish to learn more about this area of service? If so, please give me a call.

Monica Gosseling

The Shalom Leadership

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Joke

A mother was concerned about her kindergarten son, Timmy, walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence, but yet know that he was safe.

Her neighbor learned about the mother's dilemma and offered to follow the young boy to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

"I'm up early with my toddler anyway; it will be a good way for us to get some exercise as well," said the neighbor. The relieved mother agreed.

The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally, he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her"?

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is."

The friend said, "Well, who is she"?

"That's just Shirley Goodnest," Timmy replied. "And her daughter Marcy."

"Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us"?

"Well," Timmy explained. "Every night, my mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, because she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life,' so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!"