

Rooted In Faith Red Letter Series

February 12th

Message from the Pastor

Week 4 Recap of Our Red Letter Sermon Series! The Revival of Faith in Sports

- **Emerging Trend:** There is a revival in the sports world where players and coaches are openly sharing their faith.
- **Changing Attitudes:** For years, athletes who expressed their faith faced criticism and censorship, especially on television. However, in the past two years, this trend has shifted positively.
- **Sharing Jesus:** Players and coaches are now sharing their faith one conversation at a time, creating a significant impact in their communities.
- **National Championship Impact:** The national championship game showcased both Ohio State and Notre Dame openly expressing their faith, marking a major victory beyond the game's outcome.
- **Large Audience:** Events like Ohio State football games attract over 100,000 attendees, with an additional 200,000 outside the stadium and millions watching on TV. The potential for players to influence and share their faith is immense, starting with individual conversations.
- **Student Engagement:** An event organized by Ohio State players in August drew over 2,000 students, where each participant received a Bible, and over 50 students were baptized.
- **Inspiring Stories:** There are many inspirational stories about how these initiatives came together, highlighting God's goodness and the impact of faith in sports.



This revival in faith among athletes serves as a powerful reminder of the positive influence they can have in the lives of many.

After Boise State's loss to Penn State in the CFB quarterfinal, head coach Spencer Danielson shared an inspiring message about giving glory to Jesus, regardless of the outcome. Defensive end Ahmed Hassanein expressed how Coach Danielson transformed his life by leading him to Jesus, stating, "We know who our leader is, and that's God and Jesus Christ." Similarly, following a tough loss to Ohio State, Texas Longhorns CB Jahdae Barron used the postgame press conference to share his faith and emphasize that Jesus deserves glory—win, lose, or draw.

Notre Dame Quarterback's Faith in Jesus

Notre Dame quarterback Riley Leonard frequently discusses his faith in Jesus, especially after games. He emphasizes that his relationship with Jesus outweighs the importance of winning:

- He has expressed happiness in praising Jesus during difficult times.
- He trusts that God will treat him the same, regardless of circumstances.
- He feels greater gratitude from attending church or witnessing a loved one's baptism than from winning a game.
- He wears a wristband with a cross and applies eye black shaped like a cross during games.
- He carries a wristband inscribed with Matthew 23:12, reminding him of humility.

After significant games, Leonard has shared:

- After the College Football National Championship loss to Ohio State, he stated, "I'm happy to praise Jesus in the lowest of lows."
- Following the Orange Bowl win, he said, "I just trusted in the Lord. I looked up and said, 'Jesus, whatever your will is for my life, I trust it 100 percent.'"

The Role of Believers as Salt and Light

Jesus used the concepts of salt and light to describe the role of His followers. In Matthew 5:13, it is written, "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men."

In the first-century Middle East, salt served two purposes:

1. **Preservation:** Salt was crucial for preserving food, especially meat, in a time without refrigeration. Believers are to act as preservatives in a world corrupted by sin.
2. **Flavor Enhancement:** Just as salt enhances food, followers of Christ are to enhance life by living under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, promoting peace, healing, and love in a fractured world.

The analogy of light is also significant. Matthew 5:14-16 states, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden..." Christians are called to let their good works shine before others, bringing glory to God.

Challenges to Being Salt and Light

To fulfill their roles effectively, Christians must maintain their distinctiveness from the world. Any choice that blurs this distinction, whether for comfort or convenience, can hinder their witness.

- Lack of peace among believers can lead to the loss of saltiness.
- Failure to follow Christ wholeheartedly can prevent Christians from shining brightly in a dark world.

Ultimately, the identity of Christians as salt and light stems from their humble obedience to Christ's commandments. By focusing on Him and adhering to His teachings, believers can positively influence the world around them.

See you Sunday as we continue with our Red Letter sermon series. Jesus came to fulfill the law!

New Website Launch!



HOME | Mckendree

About McKendree Methodist Rooted In Faith- Deep Roots in KW!
McKendree Church has a rich history in King William, and as of Fall 2024, we proudly celebrated our transition from the United Methodist Church to an Independent Church that is Rooted In Faith . We are eager to focus our missions on serving our local community!

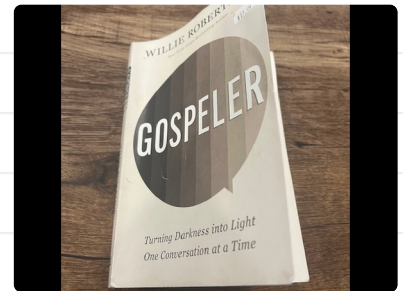
mckendreemethodist.com

Thursday Night Bible Study

Gospelers in training! Thursday nights at 6:30 PM!

Weekly Update for our Bible/Book Study!

Here are some **key takeaways** to consider while reading **Chapter 3**:



- **What is your "Gospel" Story?**
- **Are you ready to share your story"**
- **Where do we go when we break down?** Willie used the analogy of a boat breaking its propeller on a log hidden underwater. Often, we don't see the dangers, and we are caught off guard. Knowing and being in God's Word is the key to not staying that way!
- **Scripture for this chapter:** Luke 5, John 21:15-17, Matthew 4:18-19, Matthew 16: 17-18, and Micah 7:8-9.

Remember, anyone can come any week. It is designed for people to be able to come and go! See you on Thursday!

Red Letter Sermon Series! Listen to our King!

Red Letter Sermon Series (Matthew)
Listen to our King!

Schedule:

- **Feb. 16th - Top 10 Sermon on the Mount- Count Down to Easter!**
 - Worship at **9:30 AM**
 - **Sermon Topic:** "Jesus Came to Fulfill the Law" - Super Bowl Sunday.
 - Fellowship to follow the service.



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The image shows a woman in a white t-shirt with the church logo, holding a tote bag. To her right are two mugs and a candle, all with the church logo. In the foreground, a man is wearing a white bucket hat with the church logo. The background is a painting of the church building.



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