



An Invitation



Dearest Friend, Welcome!

Whether you are a visitor, member, or somewhere in-between, I invite you today to ask yourself some questions that could change your life. Understand that these questions are not for me – they're for *you*. They are meant to help you get in touch with your deepest longings, hopes, and needs – things that too often get lost in the crazy busy-ness of our daily lives. Some of these questions may resonate more than others, and that's ok. But I encourage you to take just a moment and consider...

Do you long for something more in your life? Do you feel something important is missing?

What makes you feel most alive and full of joy?

When do you feel closest to God? When does God feel most far way?

How open are you to letting God do "something new" in your life?

Each one of us, whether we realize it or not, has a God-shaped void that nothing else in this world can fill. Not money. Not success. Not fame. Not security. Not the perfect spouse, child, parent... Nothing can fill that gap but God Himself.

And when we go through difficult times (not "if," mind you, but "when"), when our world feels like it's been turned upside down, God is always there waiting with open arms. Waiting to calm our spirits, comfort us, strengthen us, provide for us, and get us on track where we need to be. In fact, we only have to be *willing* for things to start happening. As the Scriptures say,

"...the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves... That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good."

(Romans 8:26-28, Peterson's The Message)

Wherever you are in your life's journey, I invite you as a fellow traveler, as "one beggar telling another where to find bread," to join me in going further; digging deeper; opening wider.

Have you had an honest talk with God recently, and told Him how you really feel about your life?

What if you stopped "playing it safe," sticking to your comfort zone, and let God do more with your life – just to see what would happen? C'mon – aren't you just a little curious what He has in mind?

The spiritual journey is different for everyone, and what works for me may not work for you. But it's easiest when we travel it together, so we can encourage and help each other. So, in the coming weeks we are going to look at new ways to get connected to God, and to get "spiritually fit."

- ❖ If you have already committed your life to Christ, there will be an opportunity to re-commit to Him and be strengthened in your faith in our Sunday Service on April 11th.
- ❖ If you have never made that commitment, why not consider making it now? What's to lose?
- ❖ Do you have questions, or want to talk more? Feel free to get in touch! (Contact info is at www.oxford2nd.org)

We can do this together. You have everything to gain, and not a thing of value to lose!

With Love in Christ,

Joicy