

WATCH AND PRAY

April 5, 2020

We do everything we can to avoid painful realities. There are two techniques that have proven especially effective, however. These are hyperactivity and sedation. On one hand, we keep ourselves so busy that we stay ahead of the painful realities of our lives, and on the other, we sedate ourselves so we can sleep through the pain. We rush around all day until we finally crash, only to awaken to start the cycle all over again. Meanwhile, our souls are shriveling away. Join us for part 2 of Pause, where we learn the difference between pausing and sleeping and how God is inviting us into a deeper relationship with Him.

Passage (READ):

Matthew 26:36-46

Principles (KNOW):

We must **watch** and **pray**, or we will enter into temptation. Our spirits may be willing, but our flesh is weak. (based on Matthew 26:41)

The Problem: _____ is everywhere,
and we are _____

The Solution: Keep your _____ on _____

Practices (DO):

Take the "pause"

1. One hour every day
2. Identify and fast from your spiritual sedatives.
3. Don't do it alone.

SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR "PAUSE":

An Unhurried Life, Alan Fadling

40 Days to Lasting Change, Kyle Idleman

40 Days of Purpose, Rick Warren

A Call to Die, David Nasser

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, Peter Scazzero

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Day by Day, Peter Scazzero

Ninety Days with the Disciple Jesus Loves, Gary Lee Webber

My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers

Morning and Evening, Charles Spurgeon

Other sermons you may want to check out at ssbc.org

Awakening (2015)

Prayer Journey (2018)

One (2017)

The Disciple's Journey (2018)



TEXT

Text the word UPDATE to 904-441-8650 to stay up to date on what's going on at Southside.

GIVE

You can give online through ssbc.org, directly through your financial institution, through the mail, or by calling the church office.

WATCH US LIVE

Join us LIVE! on Sundays at

- 9:00 a.m. on Facebook
- 10:30 a.m. on ssbc.org

If you would like a CD of Sunday's message, please call the church office to request one.

CONTACT

 904-396-6633

 info@ssbc.org

 1435 Atlantic Blvd.,
Jacksonville, FL 32207

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (WEEK OF APRIL 5-11, 2020).

HANGOUT (Warming up to the topic)

1. Do you have any lingering questions or thoughts related to this week's teaching or daily readings?
2. What is God teaching you during this national "pause"? How have you responded to what He is saying? Are you spending more, less, or about the same amount of time in prayer as before?
3. How important is prayer during a national crisis? What good do you think it does?

HEAR (Listening to God through Scripture)

4. Read 2 Chronicles 7:11-14.
 - We usually pull verse 14 out of context. What does the setting for this verse teach us?
 - Who is responsible to humbly pray and repent? Who benefits when that happens?
 - Read Matthew 21:12-13 and John 2:18-22. What is the connection between the Temple and Jesus? Does this affect your understanding of this passage? If so, how?
5. Read Ezekiel 22:23-31.
 - What are some of the sins enumerated in this passage?
 - What was God seeking in verse 30? Read 2 Chronicles 16:9a. Do you believe one person's prayers of intercession can make a difference on a global level? Why or why not?
 - Read Romans 8:31-39. According to Paul, who finally "stood in the gap" on behalf of humanity?
6. Read John 17:9-21.
 - John 17 records the prayer Jesus prayed just before His arrest and crucifixion. What stands out to you in these verses?
 - Jesus specifically does **not** pray for His followers to be taken out of the world, but that He is sending them **into** the world. What is the significance of this prayer and how does it contradict some Christians' approach to life?
 - In verse 20, Jesus prays specifically for you and us. According to this prayer, what has Jesus commissioned us to do? How can we do it during this time of national crisis?

HUDDLE (Making it personal and praying together - in huddles)

7. Among other things, 2 Chronicles 7:14 calls believers to "turn from their wicked ways." Repentance is an ongoing process of turning away from sin. What in your life requires repentance? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.

DAILY READING: **Monday:** Matthew 21:1-17 **Tuesday:** Matthew 21:18-46 **Wednesday:** Matthew 26:1-16
Thursday: Matthew 26:20-75 **Friday:** Matthew 27:1-61 **Saturday:** SILENT SATURDAY **Sunday:** Matthew 28