



Wednesdays @ 11am via Facebook Live

RESET, REFRESH, AND REFUEL!
Fall MBS Series

SEPTEMBER 6TH, 13TH & 20TH

All are invited to join us!

*Ministry of
Biblical Studies*

● LIVE



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

MINISTRY OF BIBLICAL STUDIES Handout

Wednesday, September 6th, 2023

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Welcome to the Metropolitan Community Church Fall Ministry of Biblical Study Classes

Learn and grow with us! Metropolitan Community Church offers a wide variety of Bible studies to help you grow in your knowledge of God's Word in ways that make a difference in your life. Whether you're a new believer, a long-time follower of Christ, or just curious to learn more, join us!

11am- 12noon - Facebook Live and In-Person

**September 6th RESET,
September 13th REFRESH,
September 20th REFUEL!**

RESET, REFRESH, AND REFUEL!

Let's look at some Scriptures below that will encourage you to continue to hold on to your faith and trust in God.

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. – Isaiah 55:11

In Isaiah 55:11, God makes it clear that when His Word goes out from His mouth, it will not return to Him empty. It will accomplish what He desires, and achieve the purpose for which He sent it. This gives us the assurance that God will always keep His Word. The promises He gives you and the words He speaks over your life will come to pass. God's promises will always bear fruit in your life all for His glory. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord! – Psalm 27:14

God promises to strengthen you as you wait for Him to fulfill His promises over your life. Psalm 27:14 instructs us to wait on the Lord with good courage because He will strengthen our hearts.

Many times we lose heart when waiting on the Lord to come through for us and He, therefore, gives us His strength to keep going. If you feel weary because of waiting on God for a breakthrough, call upon His strength to help you make it through each day.

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. – 2 Peter 3:9

Week 1: Soul Reset

To reset something is, literally, to set it back to its original purpose, its original design. When an electronic device is functioning in a less-than-optimal way, it can be reset so that whatever was stuck gets unstuck and all the connections can run smoothly again.

Similarly, when life is functioning in a less-than-optimal way, it can be reset, too. This happens first on the inside, where our deep-seated cravings for significance and satisfaction live.

Scripture Passage: Luke 3:21-23

Focus Statement:

Resetting your soul begins with remembering who you are. In baptism, God calls us beloved.

WE:

Sometimes we don't feel like ourselves, or others' perceptions of us just don't seem to fit. As we reset before the end of this year, overcoming the stress and busyness or loneliness of the holiday season, it's important that we remember our baptism and what God says about us.

You may want to note somewhere in the lesson that God sees all of us through the eyes of grace and love; you do not have to be baptized to do a "soul reset" in God's love.

GOD:

In this passage, God says to Jesus, "You are my Son." Verse 23 says it "was thought" that Jesus was the son of Joseph. Explore the ways in which Jesus is God's son and the ways in which Jesus is Joseph's son. Before Jesus was Joseph's son, Jesus was always God's son.

This is true for all of us – we belong to God first, before any of our earthly relationships or roles. Think about the different ways that this is “good news” for different people in your community.

This “belonging” to God is not possessive, it is an expression of God’s freely given love and grace. Jesus is God’s son “the Beloved.” Before Jesus has even begun his ministry, God calls Jesus “the Beloved, with [whom He is] well pleased.” (Note: in the NRSV, “Beloved” is capitalized like a name or title!). Likewise for us, God’s love does not need to be earned. It is who we are.

Why was Jesus baptized? Jesus was baptized to identify with us (verse 21 shows Jesus was baptized along with others). By faith, we identify with him.

In baptism, we are affirmed in God’s love for us and our adoption into God’s family, by grace, is proclaimed.

The principal actor is God. God offers grace, regardless of our past, our sins, and our actions.

There can be no doubt, you always belong and are beloved in the family of God.

YOU:

Does your perception of yourself fit the reality of how God sees you?

Do you see yourself the way God sees you?

The world puts conditions on our value. It tells us we are beloved or worthy if we do certain things or are certain things.

Describe some of the pressures faced by people in your communities or the roles, activities, characteristics that they might feel define them more than being loved by God.

However, before Jesus has done anything, God says he is beloved. God says we are beloved.

Give suggestions of ways individuals can remember their baptism and/or that God loves them no matter what.

How can we “reset” how we see ourselves as God sees us?

WE:

Once we reset how we look at ourselves, we will also be in a better place to look at others through God’s eyes.

How can we look at the world, not for what it says that it is, but through God’s eyes?

How does our baptism invite us to see others and the world?

Now is the perfect time for a reset!

This is the perfect season to reset and refresh your mind, heart, and world as we head into the final third of the year.

Renew your strength by refreshing your hope and clarifying your vision for what you want to see unfold in the next four potential - packed months.