

# Lost in a Comfort Zone?

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 25, 2022 – 11:00 AM

## AS WE GATHER

What's important to you in life? How important is it for you to be comfortable? What costs are you willing to pay for comfort? What does it mean to be comfortable? Can comfort get in the way of being a disciple of Jesus? Is it wrong to be comfortable? Are these questions getting uncomfortable?

Thank you for joining together God's people here today at Memorial!

## WE SING

**"Glory To God Forever"**

Steve Fee

## WE TRUST IN GOD'S PROVISION – a paraphrase of Proverbs 3:5-10

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

**C: Let us not be wise in our own eyes; let us fear the Lord and turn away from evil.**

P: This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

**C: Let us honor the Lord with all we own and with the firstfruits of all our labor;**

P: Then your lives will be filled with overflowing blessing.

**C: Let us trust in the Lord with all our heart.**

## WE SING

**"Better Is One Day"**

Matt Redman

## PRAYER

## FIRST READING

**Amos 6:1-7**

*Ignoring their spiritual health, God's people had sought comfort from their wealth.*

<sup>1</sup>Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come! <sup>2</sup>Go to Calneh and look at it; go from there to great Hamath, and then go down to Gath in Philistia. Are they better off than your two kingdoms? Is their land larger than yours? <sup>3</sup>You put off the evil day and bring near a reign of terror. <sup>4</sup>You lie on beds inlaid with ivory and lounge on your couches. You dine on choice lambs and fattened calves. <sup>5</sup>You strum away on your harps like David and improvise on musical instruments. <sup>6</sup>You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions, but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph. <sup>7</sup>Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile; your feasting and lounging will end.

## EPISTLE READING

**1 Timothy 6:6-19**

*God's words to us through Paul help us to evaluate our source of comfort.*

<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup>People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.

*(continued)*

<sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>11</sup>But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which God will bring about in his own time— God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup>In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 16:19-31**

*The rich man found his earthly comfort to fall far short of meeting his real need.*

<sup>19</sup>"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup>At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup>and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup>"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

<sup>25</sup>"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

<sup>27</sup>"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house, <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

<sup>29</sup>"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

<sup>30</sup>" 'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

<sup>31</sup>"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

## **PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO OUR THIRD GRADERS**

### **KIDS' TIME**

#### **MESSAGE**

***"A Little Too Comfy, Are We?"***  
*(Today's Readings)*

Pastor Aaron Asmus

