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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship

1 August 2021
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

## We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Worship in Song Call to Worship from Psalm 78 Worship in Song

# We Listen to the Scriptures

Prayer

Sermon Series: Underdog Sermon: The Struggling Underdog

#### We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song
Prayer of Thanksgiving

# We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life Gossiping the Good Stuff Doxology

# **New Here? Need Prayer?**



Please fill out a connection card located in the seats in front of you or online:

tablelifechurch.org/ online-connection-card





# Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

#### **Our Common Practices**

#### We Gather

We gather for worship more often than not. We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.

We create hospitable space for one another.

#### We Grow

We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...). We nurture our faith.

We attend to relationships that promote growth. We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

#### We Give

We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world. We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

#### We Go

We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.

We help the vulnerable among us.

We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

# The Struggling Underdog Pastor Kris Beckert Philippians 1:12-24

What star athlete, artist, movie character, or everyday person stands out to you because of their powerful backstory?

Philippians 1:12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel

I. Struggles		
33		

Phil 1:13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.

<ul> <li>Revealed Christ both</li> </ul>	 _ &
•Paul's impact	

#### II. Struggles \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 1:14-18a And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear. <sup>15</sup> It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. <sup>16</sup> The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. <sup>17</sup> The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing

that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. <sup>18</sup> But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

The believers "dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear"

- Some out of \_\_\_\_\_
- Some out of \_\_\_\_\_

## III. Struggles \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 1:18b-24 Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. <sup>20</sup> I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

Big Idea: \_\_\_\_\_

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

- 1. Review your recent social media posts and conversations with others. When have you hidden the "real story" going on behind the carefully crafted words, photo, or story?
- 2. Have you ever been honest about the struggle you're facing—with a friend, with yourself, or with God? Where do you need courage to take a step?
- 3. How have you seen or experienced God's grace in the midst of struggle?
- 4. When has someone's struggle inspired you to do something? How might revealing your struggle inspire someone to follow God's call or encounter Christ?
- 5. How do you imagine seeing God's deliverance from your current struggle? How might God use the struggles in your backstory for your good and for His glory?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially with Pastor Kris about your relationship with God, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444 to set up an appointment.