

GOOD NEWS

FOR A CHANGE

WELCOME TO VALLEY

FEBRUARY 1 & 2

We are so glad you could celebrate with us today. If you are new to Valley, visit the atrium for a **Meet and Greet**. We'd love to meet you and give you a gift.

Night to Shine (Friday, February 7, from 3-9 pm)
Night to Shine is THIS FRIDAY, but it's not too late to get involved! We still need item donations, as well as volunteers. Please visit our atrium display or online at valley.church/nighttoshine for more information.

Journey - God's Heart for the Nations
(Sundays, February 9-March 8 from 4-6 pm)
There is a huge world that Jesus loves and came to earth to redeem. This class will show you God's heart for the nations. Go to journeycourse.com to register.

Family Dinner (Sunday, February 9, from 12:15-1:30 pm at the Valley Community Center)
Bring your whole family and connect with other families from Valley Church! This is specifically designed for parents who are looking to join a Life Group. Families will be able to eat lunch with other families, and then the kids can go play in the gym, while the adults connect and explore what it's like to be in a Life Group.

MOBILIZING EVERYONE'S GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL TO DEEPLY LOVE CHRIST AND THEIR NEIGHBORS.
515-226-9973 • VALLEY.CHURCH

GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE
NOT YOUR AVERAGE PEP TALK

JOHN 15:17-25



SIX TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY...

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

SHARE

1. What's your favorite Super Bowl (or party) snack?
2. Share about a time when someone gave you a great pep talk.

STUDY

3. Read John 15:18-20 in your Bible and put it into your own words.
4. Continue reading John 15:21-25. Which takeaway from the message stood out to you the most? Why
5. Discuss in your group how you feel about the persecution of Christians around the world. How have you or anyone close to you been impacted by disapproval or rejection because of your faith?
6. Have you recently experienced opposition because of your faith? Explain. If you rarely experience opposition, remember Jesus says persecution is inevitable for his followers, what do you think is keeping you from being opposed?

DIGGING DEEPER

7. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. How might opposition make believers more like Jesus (v. 13-14)?

8. John 15:21 and 1 Peter 4:14 talk about being persecuted for the name of Jesus. What's the difference between being afflicted because of the name of Jesus and being mistreated because of our own choices? How can you tell the difference?
9. What is your typical response when you hear about or experience persecution? What are steps we can take to trust God (v. 19) when persecution comes instead of respond in our own strength?
10. How might being persecuted give someone an opportunity to witness for Christ and respond with courageous compassion (v. 17-18)?
11. Where can you see the possibility of persecution in connection with your bold faith commitments? Explain.

SUPPORT

12. Spend some time praying for fellow brothers and sisters in Christ around the world experiencing persecution. Take a look at Voice of the Martyrs or Open Doors USA to find some specific prayer needs.

SERVE

If you'd like more information about these opportunities, email serve@valley.church.

- Host a game night for neighbors - winter
- Night to Shine – February 7
- Try a first serve opportunity with Guest Experience
- Chapel Ridge Food Pantry - Ongoing

COMMUNITY BRIDGES

Third Friday (Friday, February 21)

Check out the Valley Community Center the third Friday of each month. We're celebrating our neighbors by inviting them to special FREE activities and classes. Volunteer to help or invite a neighbor, coworker, or friend to come check it out with you!

Community Bridges Luncheon

(Sunday, February 9, at 11 am in Northpoint)

Do you have a passion you want to use to meet new people? Come to our luncheon to:

- Learn steps to grow your spiritual influence
- Get ideas on how you can make connections with neighbors and coworkers
- Share a meal with other people who have a heart for those who don't yet know God

You'll come away with an action plan and simple ways you can become a better bridge builder.

Valley Community Center Volunteers

Connect with guests and meet new friends at the Valley Community Center! We're looking for volunteers to help us in many different ways:

- **Spring Break week volunteers (March 16-20):** There are a lot of new visitors at the VCC during spring break week! We will need extra help that entire week to greet visitors, run programming, and maintain our building.
- **Daily activity volunteers**
- **Marketing efforts**
- **Ongoing building operations, maintenance, and cleaning**

These are just a few volunteer needs we have at the VCC. There are so many more! If you're interested, sign up on the Community Card or email Lisa at lisal@valleycommunitycenterdm.com.