

# Wasatch Emmaus Community

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June 2019

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Wasatch Front Walk to Emmaus



The Goal for this newsletter is to promote and encourage growth. Growth in our relationship with God, with others and as a community.

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders.

**Great Turn-out at our Grand Gathering!**

**Please Plug-In and join us at Grace Community Bible Church on July 20th!**

### Upcoming Events

**Board Meeting & Gathering**  
**July 20th, 2019**  
**Board Meeting 1–3 pm**  
**Gathering 3–5 pm**

### CALENDAR EVENTS

**July 20, 2019**

**Board Meeting**

**1 - 3 pm**

**Gathering**

**3 - 5 pm**

[Grace Community Bible Church \(GCBC\)](#)

[11592 South 1300 East Sandy, UT 84094](#)

1 Chronicles 16:11  
(NIV)

Look to the LORD  
and his strength;  
seek his face al-  
ways.

### **WHO BENEFITS FROM AN EMMAUS WEEKEND ?**

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who:



- Are members of a local church
- Have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives
- May have unanswered questions about their faith
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility
- Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner

### **WHO DO YOU KNOW?**

## Message For The Community

One of Jesus' most vivid and powerful illustrations for the believer's relationship with Him is the vine and branches. Just as branches can only bear fruit if they abide in the vine, so the only way believers can glorify the Father through fruitful lives is by abiding in Jesus. The teaching is found in [John 15](#), where Jesus prepares his disciples for his imminent death and departure, by instructing them about their calling and mission as his disciples, and emphasizing their absolute dependence on him. As Jesus says in [verse 5](#),

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

This picture is a rich metaphor that needs unpacking. The *vine* is Jesus, while we (believers, disciples) are the *branches*. The Father, Jesus says, is the *vinedresser* ([v. 1](#)) – that is the gardener who tends the branches. He prunes the fruitful branches so they will bear more fruit ([v. 2](#)), and takes away the unfruitful branches, throwing them into the fire ([v. 2, 6](#)). The *unfruitful branches* appear to be nominal disciples: people who outwardly follow Jesus for a time, but fail to bear fruit. Think, for example, of Judas Iscariot. The *fruit* we are called to bear probably includes both the fruit of transformed character (similar to “the fruit of the Spirit” in [Galatians 5:22-23](#)) and fruitfulness in evangelism as we bear witness to Jesus and his work.

[Read More Here](#)—Brian Hedges

### Unpacking the metaphor

## What does it mean to Abide in Christ?.

### PRAYER NEEDED...

Please let us know of anything you would like the community to pray for.

Please send Requests and Gratitude messages with the subject EMMAUS PRAYER to:

[wasatchemmaus@gmail.com](mailto:wasatchemmaus@gmail.com)

### Prayer & Gratitude

Pray for Susan Jelus and her family. Sue has recently lost her Mother..

Please Pray for you Leaders around our Nation and around the World.

### FOURTH DAY!

As part of our growth as disciples, we are encouraged by God's word to fellowship with other believers.

**1 Thessalonians 5:9-11** *“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”*



Remain Focused

**FOURTH DAY GROUPS:** (If one will not work, or your group is not listed, please contact Paul at [wasatchemmaus@gmail.com](mailto:wasatchemmaus@gmail.com).)

#### Men's:

**Tuesdays 8am**—Village Inn, 8921 S. Redwood Road- Phil 801-259-2660

**Wednesdays 7am**—Left Fork Grill (68 W 3900 S, Salt Lake) - Dennis 435-512-2186

**Friday 7am**—Dee's Restaurant (4700 S Redwood Rd) - Jerry—801-918-0982

**Saturdays (2nd&4th)** 9am—10am—Community UMC 163 W 4800 S Ogden 84405 - Gary 970-371-5129

#### Women's:

**Wednesday 7pm** - Homes (West Jordan, So Jordan, Riverton) - Nancy 801-915-4304

**Saturdays 8:30am**— High Point Coffee (7800 S. 1735 W. off Redwood Rd )

**Saturdays (1st&3rd)** 830am—930am—Community UMC 163 W 4800 S Ogden 84405 - Pam 801-540-3205



How we listen to instruction from God's Word is of utmost importance when it comes to our spiritual growth.

By Charles F. Stanley

"My, how you've grown!" That's a common remark when we see children of friends and family whom we haven't seen for several months. To us the physical changes in stature and development are clearly visible. However, spiritual growth may not be as obvious because it's not physically measurable. So how do we know whether we're growing spiritually?

Some people think it's measured by practices such as church attendance and prayer, but a better method of evaluation is to consider what the Bible says about this subject.

Growth requires nourishment of some kind, and in the spiritual realm, the nutrient is instruction from God's Word. It's an essential element for beginning the Christian life and also for every day thereafter. The only way to be saved is to hear the gospel or to read about it, either in the Bible or a doctrinally sound publication. First Peter 1:23 says, "For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God." Then Peter instructs believers to continue in the Word: "Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation" ([1 Pet. 2:2](#)).

Our need for instruction is demonstrated by Jesus, who continually taught large crowds, small groups, and even individuals. And often He would call out, "He who has ears, let him hear" ([Matt. 13:43](#)). Obviously, just receiving instruction doesn't guarantee the understanding and obedience that produce maturity.

#### OUR NEED FOR INSTRUCTION IS DEMONSTRATED BY JESUS

How we listen to instruction from God's Word is of utmost importance, and James points out several different kinds of listeners in his epistle. First, there is the deluded listener. James admonishes believers: "Prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves" ([James 1:22](#)).

Deceived listeners assume that simply hearing the truths of God's Word is sufficient for growth. They sit in church every Sunday being taught from Scripture, but because they don't carefully consider what they hear, it doesn't have any impact on their thinking, attitudes, or practices.

[Read More Here](#)

#### SPONSORSHIP

##### HOW DO WE SPONSOR?

1. Pray for the person's openness to God's call to discipleship, not for how to get him or her to go on a walk.
2. Make an appointment with the person or couple for the person of discussing participating in Emmaus.
3. Extend an invitation; invite the prospective pilgrim to attend for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ, not just an event to go to. Share your faith; explain the basic elements of the Walk, its' purpose, and follow-up dimensions that help us live in grace for the rest of our lives. Take the attitude that you are giving the person a wonderful gift rather than that he or she needs to go.
4. Ask the person to make a commitment by filling out the registration form. If the person is married, speak with both partners and encourage equal commitment by both.

Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the pilgrims, for the Emmaus community, and for the church. It demonstrates agape love, making us instruments of prevenient grace.



## BOARD CONTACTS

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Our Website is  
[www.utwte.org](http://www.utwte.org)  
 PLEASE VISIT THE SITE AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO:  
[wasatchemmaus@gmail.com](mailto:wasatchemmaus@gmail.com)

### Millennial Non-Christians Show Greater Spiritual Curiosity than Older Adults

Though Christianity remains a powerful force today, its waning influence in American life means that younger generations are coming of age in a country more secular than ever. And with these shifts come challenges to talking about or sharing faith. In fact, Millennials—even those who are practicing Christians—tend to oppose evangelism altogether. But despite the growing indifference, other Barna data suggests an openness to different forms of faith-sharing among the less religious, and a spiritual curiosity among Millennials in particular.

Barna's recent report *Reviving Evangelism*, produced in partnership with Alpha USA, shows that Millennials report many more faith conversations or even evangelistic encounters than older non-Christians. Though this could be partly due to the greater diversity that exists for young people among their family and friends, this isn't the whole story. For at least some young adults, there appears to be deeper interest in spirituality in general, and in Christianity specifically.

[READ MORE](#)

## GRACE AROUND THE WORLD!

### Five Sworn Gang Enemies Are Baptized Together in Texas Maximum-Security Prison



Five sworn gang enemies have risked their lives to get baptized together at a Texas prison.

Members of the rival factions housed at Coffield Prison made public declarations of faith just six months after Dallas megachurch Gateway opened up a campus within the walls of the penitentiary.

"Yesterday at our Coffield campus, we were able to do something that no church has ever been able to do in the history of this prison," said Niles Holsinger, Gateway Coffield Prison campus pastor, in a [Facebook video](#). "And that is water baptize men from what's called administrative segregation, a section of the prison that has the most violent felons, violent inmates of the whole prison."

Over 4,000 extremely dangerous inmates are housed at Coffield, with a proportion of them spending 23 hours a day confined to their cells. "These guys cannot be around other people, Holsinger explained. "They cannot be around friends, they cannot be around family."

But on Sunday, it was a very different atmosphere to usual. Instead of violence and hate, there was joy and freedom at Coffield, as a group of these hardened criminals came to be baptized.

[READ MORE](#)

## FROM THE BOARD

### Board Goals for 2017—2018

1. Include more Clergy from outside our present community to attend and participate in future Walks to Emmaus.
2. The community should provide a schedule for monthly meetings which should provide six months in advance of future Walks to Emmaus.
3. Investigate the possibility of using a Conference Center to house and feed future Walks to Emmaus.
4. Receive and listen to objections of past participants of the last walk.
5. Communicate better within the Walk to Emmaus community, pilgrims, Clergy, and volunteers.
6. Reach out to get broader participation from non-denominational and other mainline Christian Churches.



These goals were discussed and it was agreed the Communications and Planning actions must start right away for the Walk to Emmaus for 2018.

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**Mark January 19th on your calendar. At Grace Bible Church in Sandy**

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR



Greetings,  
I hope you are all enjoying your summer along the Wasatch. Partly because I don't ski, but summer is my favorite time of year here. I hope if you're around that you will make our next community gathering on July 20<sup>th</sup> part of your plans. We'll be meeting at Grace Community Bible Church, at 11592 S 1300 East in Sandy from 3 to roughly 5 p.m. We had a very nice turnout for our grand gathering in May, with about 50 in attendance. Our usual format is to have some gathering/fellowship time, followed by some singing, a devotional and communion. We'll have some announcements and sometimes there will be a brief program. And, of course, we have to have food. Watch for announcements closer to the date.

Our prayer partners in South Africa are holding Chrysalis flights this month from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A

Chrysalis flight is like an Emmaus walk, but it is geared toward high-school aged kids. The talks are given by a combination of clergy, adult lay people, and youth. You should have all received an email about this, and I hope we have several people who are able to fill spots on their prayer vigil.

We are already starting to put teams together for next year's walks. If you know now that you want to serve in some capacity, please send me a text or email. We also have a few board positions that need to be filled, like the gathering coordinator, the music coordinator (you don't have to play or sing to do this), and our database coordinator. If you have any interest in these, or want to know more about them, let me know. My cell phone is 801-918-0982, and my email is [selboj@yahoo.com](mailto:selboj@yahoo.com).

De Colores!  
Jerry Selbo  
Community Lay Leader

