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### WELCOME – Bobby & Hannah Schuller

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning!

HS: And hello visitors and church family. We love you and today, may we breathe the clean, cool air of truth, of redemption knowing that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, and that through Him, through us He can do anything. You are so loved.

BS: Amen. We're so glad you're with us today. Let's begin with a word of prayer. Father, we love you so much and we're so grateful that you've called us into your house. We pray for everyone who's gathering with us, whether they're watching on TV or on their phones or they're here in the house with us, we're so grateful to be gathered as your spiritual family. And we thank you, it's in Jesus' name we pray, amen.

HS: Amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

### SCRIPTURE – Ephesians 1,3-14 – Hannah Schuller

We have got a great scripture today. It's going to get you fired up. Ephesians 1:3-14. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms (which includes the here and now) with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption into his family through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One Jesus he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he has lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession to the praise of his glory. Wow. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

### INTERVIEW – Lisa Osteen Comes (LOC) and Bobby Schuller (BS)

Lisa Osteen Comes is a pastor and author who serves at Lakewood Church in Texas with her brother, Joel. She encourages others to press on during challenging seasons, as she has dealt with her own trials throughout her life. Her new book, *It's On the Way: Don't Give Up on Your Dreams and Prayers*, looks at the seasons of waiting and how to press through discouragement yet remain hopeful in the Lord's timing and what He has in store for us.

BS: Lisa Osteen Comes, thank you so much for joining us this morning. That's so great to see you, my friend. Welcome.

## Hey You! You Are Chosen

LOC: You too, Pastor Bobby. Thank you so much for allowing me to be a part, and our whole family sends their love to you and Hannah and your family.

BS: Well, thank you. I just want to say thank you, too for your sermons. You are such a great teacher. You remind me so much of your dad, actually, just a great Bible teacher and I want to recommend too if you're at home and you're looking for a good podcast or you want some good sermons, check out Lisa. I watch on YouTube, but I'm sure there are lots of ways to check you out. But thank you, Lisa.

LOC: Thank you so much. I appreciate that.

BS: Course. Well, we're excited to talk about your book *It's on the Way: Don't give up on your dreams and prayers*. But before we get to that, tell us a little bit about your story and your faith journey.

LOC: I'd love to. You know, Bobby, God did such a great miracle for me when I was first born because I was born with a crippling disease and the doctors told my parents that I wouldn't walk or talk, and I'd be in a wheelchair. And they didn't know a lot about healing, although they knew the Lord. And they just began to search the Bible for themselves and realized that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever, and that He does do miracles, He does heal people. He's the Lord God our healer. And so, they prayed for me in their newfound faith and God, it didn't happen overnight, but eventually I got better and better. By the time I was one year old, I was perfectly normal. And I remember going to back to the pediatrician every year and she would greet me by saying "there's the miracle girl." And so, I had just such a miraculous beginning.

And then you mentioned earlier, and I'll just mention it too that in 1990, someone sent a mail bomb or a pipe bomb to our church, and I was opening the mail, and I had no idea what I was going to open, but the pipe bomb exploded on my lap, and I was wounded in my leg and my abdomen. I had to have surgery. But again, it was such a miracle because when God says that He gives His angels charge over you, He really does. And I could have died, but for the grace and the mercy of God, I'm here and I thank God for that. So it's been an adventure, and I've just learned that God is faithful, and He watches over His children.

BS: Amen. Well, I've heard both of those stories, and they are such tremendous testimonies to God's faithfulness and power. And it doesn't always make sense why we don't always get answers to our prayers when we want them. Sometimes we have to work through it, but it is no denying that Jesus, one of the main functions of His earthly ministry was just going around healing. I mean the whole gospels are just full of it. And I love that you guys continue to preach that message and have faith in that. You've written a number of books over the years, and your newest book just came out, it's called *It's on the Way*, and this is a terrific book. What was the inspiration behind your book?

LOC: Well, my subtitle is *Don't give up on your dreams and prayers*. And so, as I mentioned, I've been through some things, and there were times I waited on God and the answer to my prayer, waited on healing, restoration, just different things in my life. And there's always a temptation to give up, to think that God is not working on your behalf. And I think after I've been through some of these things, I just wanted to turn around and encourage other people not to give up. And instead of giving into hopelessness and defeat, let's give in to hope. Let's give in to trusting Jesus. And so that's my main purpose. When I went through those things, I needed encouragement. This book is a book of encouragement to show you and equip you how to keep going in your faith walk and never give up.

BS: I know there's a lot of people who are watching now, maybe they're saying things like well Pastor Lisa, I believed in my dreams, or I've had this thing that God put on my heart, or I've been praying for healing and its only getting worse, and what's the problem. And I remember in your book, you talk about pushing through challenges to allow God to work through you. Can you talk a little bit about that? I thought that was really powerful.

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LOC: Yes, because as you said, Pastor Bobby, it's not always overnight. And I think that's what I'm trying to get across in this book that it's through faith and patience that we inherit the promises of God, and many times He's doing a work within us during this time. But let me give you an example. My husband Kevin and I, we've been married 31 years, but we tried for eight years to have children. We went through all the infertility treatments, I had two surgeries, and yet they said they couldn't help me. And so, it was a very discouraging time and yet I never forget how Kevin said immediately when we walked out of the doctor's office, hey Lisa, our hope has never been in man, it's in God. And so, we dove into the scriptures, that says that God gives children to His people. He blesses His people with children. He rewards His people with children. And so that's what we would begin to declare. Even around the house, I'd walk around saying God blesses the barren woman with children. And do you know what we just stood on that word, and we waited, and we waited, and we waited. And one day, just out of the blue, of course we know it wasn't out of the blue, God was working all along, a lady called us who had a home for unwed mothers, and said 'Lisa, do you have children?' I said 'no, not yet.' And she said 'there are twin girls that are about to born. Are you interested? I just sensed God had me to call you.' And of course we were interested, and we had talked about adoption, but I look back, we hadn't even gotten there yet to even apply, and God was way ahead of us, and in like four months, we took twin girls' home, they were four days old, Katherine and Caroline, that was 23 years ago, and three years later, we adopted Christopher, who's 20 today. And I'll just say God gave me the desire of my heart. Did I have the children myself? No, I didn't, in fact when I think about it, I'm sort of glad that I didn't have to go through nine months of pregnancy, labor and delivery. I got my children and I got to keep my shape, too, so I kid about that. But what I'm saying is that God had another way, but He gave me the desire of my heart. And when we don't give up on God, and the promises He's given us, we see Him bring it to pass in His timing. Let's not get weary in doing good for in due season you will reap a harvest.

BS: And I love that you literally stood on scripture, too. So many Christians have forgotten that. They use round about scriptures, but you're picking real scriptures that say I give you children. Actually Hannah, you know we're praying for our son and for his healing, and your mom encouraged.. something she said to Hannah, we have scriptures handwritten on giant posterboard all around the house. It's a little weird sometimes; a babysitter comes over and they're not a Christian, they don't know what's going on, but it's because of what your mom, Dottie, said something to Hannah, and we just stand on the scriptures, not on man's knowledge, and that's been so fruitful for us.

LOC: God's word is God's will, and we got to take it as ours, and really believe and put our faith in it.

BS: God's word is God's will. I love it. Well thank you so much, Lisa. This book is such a gift. It's really, really good. I want to recommend you get it. The book is called It's on the Way: Don't give up on your dreams and prayers by Lisa Osteen Comes. Lisa, thank you so much, we appreciate you and we're so grateful for your ministry.

LOC: Hey thank you for having me. God bless you all. We love you.

BS: Love you, too, take care.

### DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

Hold your hands out like this as a way of receiving from the spirit. Let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. Its who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with the world. Thanks, you can be seated.

## Hey You! You Are Chosen

### MESSAGE – Bobby Schuller "Hey You! You Are Chosen"

In that vein of being reformed, today I want to begin with that very hopeful message that God has chosen you. God has chosen you. Not just for salvation, but for a purpose and for a time and a place. And one of my greatest beliefs is that if we live in the chosen-ness and trusting in God's will, life will be so much richer and better. There's something about being human that we all deeply desire to be chosen. I don't know if you remember or if you played sports a lot when you were a kid, when I was a kid, I think they still do this today. When you want to play like a thing of ad-hock basketball or something in your elementary school, we'd do this thing called team captains, and usually the two best guys, two tallest guys, they go out and they take turns picking like it's the NFL draft or something, and they're picking kids from the group to be on their team. And these are going to be the two teams that are going to play each other. And when you're there and the group of kids begins to thin out, and you still haven't gotten picked, they're like please God, please God don't let me be the last. I'll be second to last, don't let me be the last one picked. When I was a kid, I was a very spindly little guy, so I was good at basketball, but I sure didn't look it. And very often, I got picked last or second to last. And can I tell you, and all joking aside, it was a humiliating feeling. Probably good for me to grow into manliness, or whatever, to have some of that, but it's an embarrassing feeling because it's like, especially if its people who've played with you before! Then it's an appraisal of how bad you are. The worst is if a kid gets argued about 'you take him. No, you take him. You take him' which can happen sometimes. There's something about not being picked for a team, or not being wanted. Perhaps you were on Instagram recently and you were flipping through, and you saw that a number of your close friends all went out, and you thought well I wasn't invited. And you rationally say to yourself, well I've been with them and didn't invite them, but maybe there was this thing in your heart that goes well why wasn't I invited. And you know in your head it doesn't mean anything, but in your heart, you're just wondering. There's this looming fear. Or maybe after work, all your colleagues went out for drinks and last time they invited you, but maybe this time they didn't. And maybe it's because you don't drink, but you think well I didn't drink last time. Or maybe they ate some food. I mean I could eat pizza like the rest of us. Or maybe it's because you drink too much; you drank them all under the table and you made somebody else pay the bill, I don't know. But for a lot of us, you don't get invited and it's just that feeling. Why didn't they want me to go? Or maybe you're being told on the news how easy it is to get a job and boy is it ever. There's a shortage of employees. And you go and apply for a job, and you think this is perfect, this is my dream job! I'm going to fit so well here. And the interview goes super well and they're smiling, they're shaking your hands. They call you in for a second interview, it goes well, you think you've got this, you're asking your grandma to pray for you, you think you've locked it in, and then you either don't get a call back, or when you do, its sorry, you're not a right fit. We wish you the best. What is that? It's not just about the money when that happens. It's not that I'm missing out on money, it's that there's something about me that they don't want me. They almost want me, but they don't. This is in relationships, this is in friendships, this happens all over, and God knows that about you, my friend. And you want to know something interesting? I just want you to hear this. I mean if you box out the rest of this and you're on TikTok the rest of the service, I understand, but hear this from me: God's chosen you. There are billions of people right now that are not listening to this sermon. There are just a few people of that group that are hearing this sermon, and you're one of them, and I think there's a reason. The reason is that God wants you to know He's chosen you. He has chosen you! And you know what? When God chooses people, He's not choosing them to play a round of basketball, or to have a round of drinks, He's choosing soldiers! He's choosing someone who has something inside of them that can endure for something that really matters. Not just points on a board, or a few jokes with friends, but something that matters. My grandpa Schuller, he was kind of an out of shape, overweight guy, and was bullied a lot when he was a kid. I don't think he ever talked about that.

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He told me. I wish he would have. His older brother used to pick on him, said 'the only thing good Bob is good at.. the only thing Bob is good at is talking.' And of course, he became a preacher. Little did he know, he was really good at that. See, so often the things that the world rejects us for – talking – are the things that God has called us to utilize. So often, the things that we think are a curse, or things that make us feel like outsiders, very often gives us the thing we need to do what we're called to do. It's not that our vices are a good thing, but when you work through your vices, you learn something. All this to say, my friend, lift up your chin, drop your shoulders and smile because God's chosen you. He has chosen you. One of my favorite people of all time was Billy Graham, who by the way, came up with the name Hour of Power. He had a show called Hour of Decision, Oral Roberts had a show called Hour of Healing, and he looked at my grandpa at a crusade at the Angel Stadium and said, 'you should create a show called the Hour of Power.' One of the things I loved about Billy Graham, I think a lot of people don't notice unless you're maybe a musician or you pay attention to these types of things, is the tone of his voice was so alluring. He was like 'the Bible says that in the book of Isaiah.' There's something about it, that like is so.. that's pretty good, wasn't it? I'm just hearing it myself, I'm like that's pretty good. He was asked, there was a time in his life that Billy Graham was so popular with every group of people, there was a study done that basically showed he had an open door to be President of the United States. He could have easily run for President for either party and would have won hands down. When he was asked in an interview why wouldn't you run for President? Think of all the good you could do. This is not only the highest office in the land, this is the highest office in the world. Think of what you could accomplish. And his response was 'why would I take a demotion? I work for God.' Look, he's right. No doubt, if he had been President, half the country then and probably today would hate his guts. Whatever party he ran for, the other half would hate him. But today, he's still respected and loved, even in death. There was another guy, most of us haven't heard of but is immensely popular in Europe – Cliff Richard, who I don't really know if this is true, but I grew up listening to Cliff Richard, who's a British musician. My mom said he's like Elvis in England. If you're English and that's wrong, send me an email but also send me a Cliff Richard CD because the guy is good. And Cliff Richard came to faith, and he was mentored by Billy Graham, and he said, 'I'm going to leave music and I want to become a minister.' And Billy Graham talked him out of it. For Billy Graham, he wasn't serving God because he was a preacher, he was serving God because he was on the path God had laid for him. Everything you do as a believer, if you're on the right path, is ministry. But being the President of the United States was not Billy Graham's path. Nor was being a preacher Cliff Richards path. Every path that is laid out before us, of all of them, there's only one that is laid out by God. And that is the path we all need to find. That is the path we all must find right now. Some of you today, you're here and you're doing well in life. By all the world's measures, you're educated, maybe you're wealthy or successful financially. Maybe you've got your house paid for and your family loves you. Those are all great accomplishments, but inside, inside you know something's wrong. Something is wrong, I don't know what it is. It might be you had too much pizza last night, but it might be that you're not on the right path. See God's success and God's ways are not our ways. If you're on the right path, sometimes you will be wealthy, sometimes you will be successful, but not always. Look at Mother Teresa. Look at other heroes of faith, some who laid down their lives. But they lived the best life they could live because they were living in the thing God had chosen for them. We ought to wake up feeling lucky. Most people that have lived are not alive anymore. You are. You're alive! You're alive because God wants you alive! You are within God's will just being alive. And there is a reason He wants you to open your eyes and breathe and live the next moment. You are chosen. You're called! You're called. And though you may not have found that path yet, it is laid before you. In Ephesians chapter 1, Hannah already read the scripture.

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I worked through the scripture in the first service, but I want to be sensitive to time because I have a lot to say, but in this passage, it says.. well, I'll read just a little bit. In verse 4 it says, "he chose us in him before the creation of the world." You know what that means? That even before God created the vast universe, if the Bible is the word of God and its true, it means He was looking forward to the day you were born. Do you hear what I'm saying? Do you hear the kind of love that is for you? God doesn't love you because of your good. He loves you because you're you. God didn't start loving you when you got your behavior together, and He didn't stop when you fell apart that one day in the car, or that thing you said to your neighbor. God loves you just as you are, not as you should be. One of the greatest deceptions that the enemy wants to play on us is that we got to earn God's love. Like a firstborn child, who very often hurts their own life trying to please their parents through perfectionism. Maybe that's the trap you've fallen into. Let it go, my friend. We should be moral people and we should strive to be good but do your best and forget the rest. God loves you just as you are, not as you should be. It says here, "He chose us before all of creation, and before all of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight" which happens through the cross, right? This is what the whole thing is about. "In love, he predestined us for adoption." Have you ever heard of someone adopting a child because of their resume? Where they go oh, she's a gymnast, and a straight A student, we'll go with her. We don't do that; God doesn't do that. It says later that He chose us to reveal the mystery of His will, in verse 9: "According to his good pleasure to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ." You know what that means? God's chosen you to be a part of His plan for the world. You know what His plan for the world is? On earth as it is in heaven. If you've grown up a Christian, you've probably prayed that a million times. You know what's a better way to pray that? In Irvine as it is in heaven. In my family as it is in heaven. In my car, towards my neighbor, towards my colleagues at work as it is in heaven. In my body as it is in heaven. In my family as it is in heaven. Those are good things! Heaven, heaven. When you think of heaven, do you think of sick people, angry people, mean people, not belonging? Of course not. You think about the fullness of God's will and life. Now! Eternal life is not just living forever. Eternal life is the quality of God's life. It's not just law. It's the quality of life. It's the kind of life that even if I'm in prison, even if things aren't going right right now, oh I know there's someone big at play. Someone who breaks chains. Someone who opens jail cells. Someone who heals bodies. Someone who resurrects the dead. Someone who builds planets with words. This person knows me, loves me, looked forward to the day I'd be born, has a plan for my life, and even though things aren't right, oh Lord, I trust that person. I trust Him. I trust Him more than I would trust Superman. I trust Him. And He's very interested in you. He's chosen you. Isn't that good news? Don't you dare give me one 'but Bobby.' No but Bobby's. There is no buts. There's the word of God and that's what we stand on. He's chosen you. All you got to do is say yes. God chooses people. God chose a little family in the middle of nowhere, Abraham's family, to create the Jewish people to be the beginning of the saving of the world. Who had ever heard of this little family in the middle of nowhere in the Chaldeans? Right? And maybe you say but Bobby, I'm so old. Look, Abraham was almost 100. Almost 100! Sometimes it takes us awhile to find God's will. Sometimes it takes us awhile to figure it out. Sometimes it doesn't. I mean, Joshua, Joseph picked it out pretty quick, but some of us are slow learners. And the father of us all, the great father Abraham took a while. So what. Doesn't matter. Father Abraham. He was chosen. God chooses you, no matter how young or old you are. God chose Moses. Moses didn't even start that whole thing 'let my people go' until he was 80. And you know how old he was when he finished overlooking the Promised Land? 120 years old. See, sometimes it takes a while. Some of you are kids and you're like well, I don't want to wait until I'm 80 for God to choose me. You don't have to. God chose Joseph. You remember Joseph? Just a kid, gave him a dream, and one of the best parts of that dream is that his older brothers would bow down and would bow down to him.

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He made the fatal mistake of letting them know this dream, but even though he told them, God fulfilled His plan. If God gives you a dream, your dream might annoy some people. Did you know that? If God gives you a vision, and you tell them, a lot of people are going to say that's silly, or stupid, or they're going to scoff, or even worse, they're just going to ignore you and go oh that's nice. Pat your head. God chose Joseph to lead His people, to not be afraid. God's choosing you. Don't be afraid if He calls you to slay some giants. David did it, he was just a kid. God chose Mary to bear Jesus! Just imagine that a 16-year-old girl who has just gotten engaged to this really cute boy, Joseph, and all these plans and they got this house, and they're all excited, and then imagine what that conversation would have been like if an angel didn't show up to Joseph. It even said, obviously he planned on parting ways with her quietly. But to be told that you're going to be pregnant. 'I'm pregnant, but I'm a virgin.' But Mary, I love that story because she just trusts the Lord. She just.. whatever, its fine, whatever you want to do, God. I know that living in your will is the best place to be. I just surrender to you. I just know your goodness. I love you so much, Lord. And I just trust you. If this is your plan, it's okay. Being in your will is the safest place to be. So, the first thing we learn is that we're adopted and loved. That God, just like people, doesn't adopt people based on their resume. He just picked you. He just did. And second, to live from that place, that God has laid a path before us and that we are supposed to walk that path. You will not feel right if you are not on the right path. You won't feel right if you're on the wrong path. Many of you, you just feel like something's wrong. It might be worth asking that even if you're a huge success and everything's going right, and all your friends speak well of you, if you really are on the right path. It's pretty easy. Ask the Lord. Or if you've got one, ask your spouse. That's how you really know sometimes. They've been just waiting for you to ask them. It's weird how very often we don't know the right path because so often we always think about the ending of the journey, rather than the beginning of the journey. And so often God's calling someone on a journey with just simple service, by just doing something that might seem little or monotonous. You remember "The Karate Kid," don't you? One of the greatest films of all time. "Karate Kid." This kid Daniel Son. Daniel wants to become a.. he's being bullied and he wants to defend himself, and the local janitor, who's this karate martial arts expert becomes his mentor, Japanese man who's a hero in the war, and a karate master, wants to teach him. So he takes on Daniel and he has him do what Daniel thinks are all these monotonous chores for like weeks. So first he waxes all.. wax on, you remember this? Wax off. Wax on, wax off. Does all the cars. And his arms hurt and he's sore. And then he.. paint the fence, and he's like starting to paint the fence, he goes no. Paint the fence. Paint the fence up, paint the fence down. This thing, you remember. And he has to do that for weeks. And then sand the floor. Sand the floor. Sand the floor. And he blows up at Mr. Miyagi multiple times. You said you'd teach me karate! And just without even telling him, Daniel Son, sand the floor. Like this. And then he just thinks he's being used. And then finally, it comes to this moment where he like kicks him and he's like do sand the floor, and he blocks the kick, he goes do wax the car, and he blocks that. And you see him doing this stuff. And all he was doing is Miyagi was having him build the muscles he needed to practice karate. Does that preach, friends? If there was ever a movie that preached, man, that is one of them because I can tell you as a pastor, you watch people's stories and that is a very popular one. That is so typical of God. His ways, they're not our ways. His ways are not our ways. So many sermons will be preached this morning in so many churches, and they ought to be about God's destiny for you and God's calling for you. But when you study the words of Jesus in the scripture, so much is about serving people. So much is about the last shall be first. So much is about just employing God's ways, to not the whole world, but to my neighbor. You know what that means? That means your near dweller; the person within the 15 feet of space around you. To live life at a slow enough pace that you can see people who need help, who are suffering, and to see an opportunity where you might not help the whole world, but you might just help one person. That's what Mother Teresa said.

## Hey You! You Are Chosen

If you can't help the whole world, just help one person. So my friend first, if you're not on the right path, it's never too late to get on the right path. But if you're looking for that path, maybe things in your life are going terribly, or they're going good, but either way, you just say I don't know what my path is, but I know I'm on the wrong one. How do I find it? I can't really answer that question for you. I do know if you look for it, you will find it. But here are a couple of clues. Number one, is the path narrow? I mean is it almost unique. If it is, it's probably the right path. Remember what Jesus says. There are two paths. How many are there? There's two. There's one wide, easy way that everybody takes. That's what the scripture said. Almost everybody takes it. And then there's a narrow gate with a very difficult path, only a few people take that one. How many is a few people, by the way? Like if you're going to put a number on it. Three? Five? I don't think it means that literally, but think about if you're on the right path, more than likely the world will not quite understand it because they're looking at the wide, easy path, do you see what I'm saying? Okay, so if it's a narrow path, that's a good clue, it's the right path. Not always, but it might be. And then the second is, is this path making you less like Jesus. Is it making you stressed out and hurried? Are you an angrier person? Are you less loving and kind? Are you not able to sleep at night? It's probably not where God wants you to be. It may be that God will want to work something in you on that path, but usually I find that the path the Lord has us on is drawing us more into Christ's likeness. But I do know that there's a promise in the Bible – anyone who seeks the Lord will find Him. If you just have a hunger and a devotion in your heart to find the path God wants you on, you'll find it. And also, I would say, don't worry too much about it. Don't be obsessive about it. Just have it in your heart and ask the Lord and begin to have spiritual eyes and spiritual ears and the opportunity will come before you. I pray that it'll come today or in the coming weeks or months that it'll come soon. And then just release your faith. Start doing stuff. When I was a kid and they would release a video game, they would always have a booklet inside the game when you open on how to play the game. You know how many kids read that book? The number is somewhere less than zero. Nobody did. You just start playing. And if you get stuck, you go back to the book. My friend, just start. You think maybe you know what it is, just start messing around with it. Just start tinkering. Start. There's an old saying, every journey begins with a single step. And you never know the right questions to ask of the book until you start doing the thing you're called to do. Remember it's not our successes that make us better, it's our failures. Did you catch what I just said? It's okay to fail and have had many people learn that it's okay to fail and fail and fail. No matter where you are, we love you and we're for you and trust that God can turn around whatever it is you're going through, and help you find the path you're called to walk. Stand with us, Jesus, we pray. Some of us in our hearts would say Jesus wouldn't stand with the person like me. My friend, Jesus stands with people just like you because He loves you. In a sea of people, He sees you and chooses you. So Father, we just embrace that truth in our hearts. You love us and that you've called us. And we pray that you'd teach us what it means to live and believe in that with all our heart. It's in the name of Jesus we pray, amen.

### BENEDICTION:

Thank you so much for being with us today. I trust that you're going to have a great day. Remember, Sunday traditionally, if you can, is a day to rest. I want to encourage you to have good food today. Take a nap. Jesus loved naps. Did you know that? Don't check your email. Avoid phone calls from annoying people. It's a YOU day. You and God. Be with the people you love and keep your cellphone away. Put it on airplane mode. If they get up and go to the bathroom, just don't look at your phone, just enjoy where you're at – the smells and the sights and everything. God wants you to live, so enjoy your life today. And now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you His peace in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, amen.