

STATEWIDE SERMON SERIES 2023



FINDING YOUR WAY BACK TO GOD

Often our most deeply felt longings—for meaning, for love, for significance—can end up leading us away from, instead of toward God and the person he made us to be. Our universal longing for love, purpose, and meaning in life can be fulfilled inside a relationship with God; regardless of where you are on your journey, you can find your way back to God and awakened to living a life that matters! This series will help us be awakened to love, purpose, and meaning in life as we find our way back to God.

Series Goal: Bring together 100+ churches across North Carolina in a display of Gospel unity in order to see hundreds of lost sons and daughters find their way back to God!

Speaker Swap: We recommend swapping speakers with another church in your area who is also participating in the statewide series on weeks 2 or 3 (or both).

Coming Home Sunday: May 7th

May 7th (week 4) will be our "coming home Sunday" where everyone doing the series will give people the opportunity to follow Jesus in baptism. We are excited to celebrate hundreds of people across North Carolina coming home to the Father on the same Sunday!

Resources Available in Spanish

Interested in Spanish graphics and resources? Email info@carolinamovement.com

Date: 4/16/23

Sermon Title: Awakening to Longing

Sermon Overview: We all have a God-given longing to love and be loved in return. We long to find a purpose for our life that gives us reason to get up in the morning and look forward to the days ahead. We also have a longing to make sense out of life when life doesn't. These longings are from God and can draw us toward God or away from him depending on how we go about fulfilling these longings.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:11-13

Discipleship Next Step: 21 Days of Prayer

Date: 4/23/23

Sermon Title: Awakening to Regret

Sermon Big Idea: Many times our attempts to fulfill our longings take us further and further from our heavenly Father. We often find ourselves in a "Sorry Cycle" of longing and regret, longing and regret. We must come to our senses, and realize that with God, we can start over. Regret that leads to realization can help us find our way back to God.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:14-17

Discipleship Next Step: Confession

Date: 4/30/23

Sermon Title: Awakening to Help

Sermon Big Idea: As we awaken to our need for help it begins to lead us home. We admit we are powerless to fulfill our longings on our own. Our universal longing for love, purpose, and meaning in life can only be fulfilled inside a relationship with God. God is the helper we need to fulfill our deepest longings and break our cycle of regret. And we discover the help we need has a name, and his name is Jesus.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:17-20a

Discipleship Next Step: Follow Jesus

Date: 5/7/23 - Coming Home Sunday

Sermon Title: Awakening to Love

Sermon Big Idea: Our longing for meaning, love and pleasure all find ultimate fulfillment in the love of God. We offer an opportunity to embrace the love of God in a real way through uniting with him in baptism.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:20b-24 or Luke 15:20b-23 (if doing optional week 5)

Discipleship Next Step: Baptism

Date: 5/14/23 - OPTIONAL

Sermon Title: Awakening to Life

Sermon Big Idea: In Christ, we find life that is really living! Find your place in the community of God's sons and daughters as we celebrate, connect, and contribute together.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:24, John 10:10

Discipleship Next Step: Get Connected

Date: 5/21/23 - OPTIONAL

Sermon Title: Awakening to Grace

Sermon Big Idea: Often the people who struggle the most with grace are not prodigals but religious sons and daughters. We all need to be awakened not only to the need for grace for ourselves but also for the need to show grace to others.

Sermon Main Passage: Luke 15:25-32

Discipleship Next Step: Communion