

“Do Something Great! Get Invested for Eternal Return!”

Listen! *Too many American Christians are in love with the second-best.*

- **What I believe:** At the core of our hearts we all want something more than...
- **Our problem is:** We get distracted from what we want at the core of our hearts.
- **Question:** What is it that we want at the core of our hearts?

#1 We want to be close to _____. (Ps 27:8; Ps 73:25-28; Mt 22:37, 38; Col 3:4)

- **App:** Faithfulness in worship. Come here. Come with a prepared heart. Jettison a critical heart. Faithfulness in the Book. Faithfulness in prayer. Recognizing. Relating. Responding.

#2 We want to change the _____. (Lk 19:10; Mt 4:19; Gal 6:10; 2 Cor 5:20; Mk 10:45; Acts 1:8; Mt 28:16-20)

- **App:** Giving grace on steroids to lost, broken, struggling people. Give this card to a friend. Loving Lamkin. Operation Refreshment. Beyond the Walls. Fall Fest. Feed a Friend. Short term trip. Going. Loving. Sharing.

#3 We want to be close to a few _____. (Mk 3:14; Heb 10:24, 25; Acts 2:46; Phil 4:1)

- **App:** Giving grace on steroids to each other. Faithfulness to a few people in a small group. Taste of Community Dinner. Engaging. Encouraging. Challenging.

Please Understand Something: At CBC it is in our hearts to motivate every one of us toward—being close to God, changing our world, and being close to a few believers.

Abraham Lincoln, “Dr. Gurley forgot the most important ingredient. He forgot to ask us to _____.”

Please let me be real clear about the future of CBC—here is exactly what we in the leadership of CBC are planning to do—no surprises and no substitutions:

- **We are planning to serve:**
 - ...*God* by celebrating Him with our whole lives.
 - ...*lost, broken, struggling people* by building bridges to them.
 - ...*each other* by connecting in life-shaping relationships.
- **We are planning to pursue our core strength:**
 - ...we are *invested people*.
- **We are planning to measure our key metric:**
 - ...*the percentage of CBCer's invested in the work*.

Resolve today, come what may, that: ...you will get in the arena. ...you will stop trading what you want now for what you want most. ...you will get invested with us in what God has hard-wired into your heart.

Walking Papers

“Practical helps for walking the Christian walk this week.”

Core Truth: At CBC it is in our hearts to motivate every one of us toward these three things—being close to God, changing our world, and being close to a few believers.

- **Today.** What will you do today to “get into the arena?”
- **Monday.** Where do you stand today on “*I want to be close to God?*” Please Read: Ps 27:8; Ps 73:25-28; Mt 22:37, 38; Col 3:4.
- **Tuesday.** Where do you stand today on “*I want to change the world?*” Please read: Lk 19:10; Mt 4:19; Gal 6:10; 2 Cor 5:20; Mk 10:45; Acts 1:8; Mt 28:16-20.
- **Wednesday.** Where do you stand today on “*I want to be close to a few people?*” Please read: Mk 3:14; Heb 10:24, 25; Acts 2:46; Phil 4:1
- **Thursday.** Are there ways in which you have been *pursuing the second-best?*
- **Friday.** What could you do to motivate others to join you “in the arena?”
- **Saturday.** To be ready for tomorrow please read and reflect on Phil 4:4.



HANDOUT for Message:

“Do Something Great! Get Invested for Eternal Return!”

Listen! *Too many American Christians are in love with the second-best.*

“The chief cause of failure and unhappiness is trading what you want most for what you want now.” Zig Ziglar

Big Idea: At CBC it is in our hearts to motivate every one of us toward these three things—being close to God, changing our world, and being close to a few believers.

- As a leadership team we do not hammer on “Celebrate God, Build Bridges, and Connect Together” so that you will be faithful to CBC, but so that we will be faithful to you, and what you are both commanded to do and hard-wired to love.
- **Resolve today, come what may, that:** ...you will get in the arena. ...you will stop trading what you want now for what you want most. ...you will get invested with us in what God has hard-wired into your heart.

In the Arena

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.” Teddy Roosevelt