



AWAKEN

JANUARY 4-5, 2020

NORTHLAND
CHURCH

The Bigness of His Smallness

A message from Student Ministries Pastor Rob Hemphill

Read about Pastor Rob at northlandchurch.net/robhemphill.

Out of the smallness of this historically proclaimed King comes the bigness of this history-making, life-changing, unconditionally-loving God.

JOHN 7:25-36 (NASB)

²⁵ So some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, "Is this not the man whom they are seeking to kill?" ²⁶ Look, He is speaking publicly, and they are saying nothing to Him. The rulers do not really know that this is the Christ, do they? ²⁷ However, we know where this man is from; but whenever the Christ may come, no one knows where He is from." ²⁸ Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know Me and know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. ²⁹ I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me." ³⁰ So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come. ³¹ But many of the crowd believed in Him; and they were saying, "When the Christ comes, He will not perform more signs than those which this man has, will He?"

³² The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to seize Him. ³³ Therefore Jesus said, "For a little while longer I am with you, then I go to Him who sent Me. ³⁴ You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come." ³⁵ The Jews then said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He is not intending to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks, is He?" ³⁶ What is this statement that He said, "You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come?"

NOTES

Sleepwalking. It's what most of us do—not just at night but every day. Going through the motions, experiencing the routines, fulfilling the obligations, fighting the challenges... all the while pushing back a question gnawing at our core:

"What is life for?!"

Is life merely when cells are reproducing and a heart is beating? Every one of us has a persistent hunch there's more to the depth and dance of our existence than mere physical and scientific definitions. But where do we turn for a fuller, more accurate and credible understanding?

Two thousand years ago, a Galilean fisherman named Zebedee had two sons, James and John. The brothers were adventurous and opinionated and lived life in large fashion—in fact, they were given the nickname "Sons of Thunder" for their exuberance.

One day while they were working with their father repairing their fishing nets, a Rabbi named Jesus came to the lakeshore and called them both to be His disciples. Little did they know the dimensions and implications of that call or the true identity of the One who was calling them. But follow Him they did... and their understanding and experience of life were forever changed as a result.

The two brothers developed a close relationship with Jesus—especially John. Not only was he one of Jesus' disciples, but he became part of Christ's "inner circle" of companions, and of those, John was probably the closest to Jesus. It was John who sat next to Jesus, and actually leaned against Him, during the disciples' final supper together the night before He was crucified. And it was John to whom Jesus, as He was being crucified, entrusted the future care of Mary, His mother.

During those years of following Jesus—absorbing His teaching, watching Him live, listening to His laughter and wisdom, observing Him interacting with people, seeing Him die on the cross, witnessing His resurrection from the dead and ascension to the Father, receiving His Spirit and then devoting his life to serving Christ's Kingdom purposes—John was impacted at the core of his life story and eternity.

As the days turned into decades, John became a principal leader of the expanding community of Christ's followers hundreds of miles north in the large and influential region of Asia Minor. In the sunset years of his life, John, under the leadership and inspiration of Christ's Spirit, began to write down what he had seen and heard so people like us could enter into the same understanding and experience of life John had—a view of Life authored and enabled by Jesus.

Through John's firsthand observation and experience of Jesus... through his relationship with Him... and through the inspired words he wrote... we meet the Author of Life and the Redeemer of our stories. On the pages of this Gospel of John, Jesus beckons us with an invitation. With a call. With a summons.

"Believe and follow Me, and you'll taste Life as I intended for it to be lived."

In other words—**AWAKEN.**

UPCOMING SERVICES

» Jan 11-12 | Communion | AWAKEN | Rivers of Life | John 7:37-52 | Pastor Matt Heard

» Jan 18-19 | AWAKEN | The Flow of Forgiveness | John 8:1-11 | Pastor Matt Heard

What's Current

Find out more information at NorthlandChurch.net or ask a connections team member wearing an orange lanyard for assistance.

Belong & Grow

Discover how you can connect to what God is doing here at Northland.

SUNDAYS, JANUARY 12 TO FEBRUARY 2 | 11 A.M.-12:15 P.M. | THE HUB

For more info and to register, visit NorthlandChurch.net/Belong&Grow

Start Here!

Whether you are just starting your journey of faith or you need a refresher in the basics, you can start here!

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 29 TO MARCH 11 | 6:30-8 P.M. | ROOM 4218

For more info and to register, visit NorthlandChurch.net/StartHere

Connections Weekends

JANUARY 18-19 | JANUARY 25-26 | IN THE FOYER BEFORE AND AFTER WORSHIP

For more info, visit NorthlandChurch.net/ConnectionsWeekend

Download our new App

*Text **NORTHLANDCHURCHAPP** to 77977 to download our new App!*

For more info, visit NorthlandChurch.net/App

Tithes and Offerings

Thank you, Northland Family—for the way you prayed, served, and gave during 2019. We are so grateful for the opportunity to be participants alongside you in God's Kingdom work lived out here on earth.

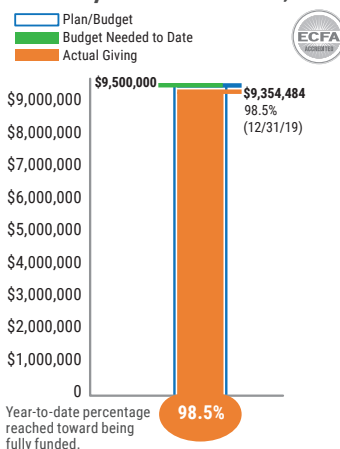
Our need to be fully funded in 2019 was significant going into Christmas...\$811,171. That's a big number! But, His generosity was evidenced through this amazing congregation.

Many of you gave for the very first time, while others made a sacrificial gift above and beyond what you regularly give. It is an awesome picture of this church family uniting together for the cause of the Gospel. Now, let's continue to move into 2020... responding to God, who alone is worthy of all our praise, as together we are **Engaging people to be fully alive in Jesus.**

"See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

—ISAIAH 43:19 (NIV)

January 1 - December 31, 2019



We ended 2019 short of our need by \$145,516. We typically receive 2019 postmarked gifts over the first few days so we will provide a final update on both the website and the Northland App.

Ways to Give

Give via mobile text. Text "northland" to 77977.



Download and use the PushPay App.



Give online at NorthlandChurch.net/Give or use the Northland App.



Give by cash or check and drop it in any of our tithe boxes.



Give at the iPad stations located throughout the foyer.

