

Computer Generated Transcript - Welcome to our fifth Sunday family service we love to have the kids be a part of what's going on here I'm going to move this over because I'm going to invite the kids up here in a second and I'm just I just want things to be out of the way but we love to have not just the future of our church these kids aren't just the future of our church we absolutely believe they're a part of our church today and so you have to disinvite them and every once in a while I I love teaching them on their level but it's fun to have the whole family together so kids and you went up there fifth grade if you're in here this morning now's your time come on down we're going to have you sit on the floor right here and I'm going to be right here and we're just going to do a couple of minutes just a short teaching sound good all right I hope it sounds good they're coming so looks good. If there are any more I invite you come on down how you guys doing this morning good I have a question so we just we just well that was already a question I have another question we were just taking communion and I wonder how many of you guys get really hungry during church sometimes like you just know how fast your tastes and you just know that lunch is right around the corner and you just can't help it sometimes you start daydreaming about food if you're thinking about food about all of your favorite foods like like I know I know we're just talking about food too much I'm getting distracted I mean you started anyway I think I brought a snack that's back here you guys OK I'm going to come right back I brought a snack this morning that I wanted that I thought maybe we could share you see so it's it's fall time so I brought Apple and pumpkin there's some apple and pumpkin here and then I brought this one looked interesting this is mango Apple and obvious Kotto that sounded good and then we needed some protein but then when I got him in gravy. Does not sound good is something wrong with my snack was should I get some spoons it's a baby food oh no that's what it's all mashed up together you like baby food have you ever had a ham in gravy What was that I lost the spoons I didn't even bring the spoons we were just going to all drink from it but. Yeah that's so cool so that would be kind of silly if we ate these this morning right why is that what kind of foods to eat now what are some of your guises favorite foods I want you to shout out your very favorite food to me on the count of three can you guys do that one two three. All right all right I only heard a couple of things I heard chicken and I heard pizza and then I I don't know what else I heard but those are good things cake cookies grapes Oh I love grapes can I tell you guys my favorite foods. I have two favorite foods in the whole world that they're tied for first I just can't decide between the two I love spaghetti and I love spaghetti so much all the time sometimes I get it in the back of my hair when I eat it right mom sometimes I get eat spaghetti and I love sushi Those are my two favorite foods tied for first in the whole world. Most people think that's gross oh look. Sushi is raw fish with a little bit of a raw is sometimes seaweed I love it but we all like different things. We all like different things as you will do hands down guys with your questions a little later OK if you still have questions come talk to me afterwards so we all like different things our taste buds change but the point is we don't also you baby food right we have moved on from baby food do you still eat baby food sometimes sometimes applesauce is a little bit like baby food that kind of stuff the apples and mangoes one might not be so bad but the rest of it we have moved on from baby food and actually this baby food kind of reminds me of something it reminds me of when I first became a Christian when I first started following Jesus when I first decided that I'm going to follow him and I love him and I want to do it he says when we first become Christians we need to learn the basics we need to learn the basic things about our faith we need to learn about sayings like prayer reading our Bible coming to church those are basic things and those are such important things those are things that we all need to know no matter when we become Christians when we become Christians in the church we say that you were born again have any of you ever heard that phrase being born again yet so we say we're born again now does that literally mean that if you're born again as an adult you start eating baby food all over again no nasty we don't do that but you do have to start learning the basics you have to learn the base of the faith you have to learn things like prayer in reading your Bible and all that but then once you become a Christian once you've learned those things do you stay just talking about those things over and over again if you stay eating baby food forever no you have to grow you have to grow beyond baby food and you have to grow spiritually you have to become

more spiritually mature now I know I'm talking to a bunch of kids about being mature right that sounds a little bit crazy but you know I don't think it's crazy at all mature means it's what happens as. You grow up and you get older and you start to make different hopefully better decisions you become more mature in your face you learn about more grown up type things that kind of thing and I believe that as you guys if you have decided to follow Jesus now you can start working toward spiritual maturity even now and it might look different than some adults and it might not and that's OK It depends on where you start out but the Bible actually talks about this a little bit I brought my Bible up here this morning and I wanted to read you guys a couple of verses from the book of Hebrews is that OK. OK I'm going to read from the book of Hebrews Hebrews that's in the New Testament which means it's in the back of the Bible and I have it bookmarked otherwise I would have never found it that fast but it's in the back it's about this far and we're going to be reading from Hebrews Chapter five the very end of it and to the beginning of six one now that's a little bit that's maybe a paragraph or two so I need you guys to have you're really good at listening ears on can you guys show me your really good listening ears I see some of them good job you guys ready to listen all right Firouz five verse twelve you have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others instead you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word you are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food for someone who lives on milk is still an infant or a baby and doesn't know how to do what is right solid food is for those who are mature who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong and now we're in chapter six so let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again let us go on instead and become a church in our understanding surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God OK that was a lot how we get to stop there it talks about that for a little while there's a few verses beforehand and if you after that still talk about that but that's probably enough for this morning right I think we're good you guys can read it on your own later if you think it's not you can absolutely keep reading So God wants us to keep growing and he keep taking steps towards maturity even while you're young he doesn't want you to put it off just because you're a kid and he doesn't want you to stop just because you're an adult he wants you to always keep growing in your face and keep taking steps to become more spiritually mature and that's going to look different for everyone so now Real quick I have a video that I wanted to show you guys this morning of a little boy who well he's not so little but he decided to take the next step in his face do you guys think you could watch that OK now the baptismal and this is in the way so I need everyone to make sure that they can see the screen are actually just bring this up here if you can't then you need to get up and move quick so that you can see it you can. You can tie your shoes together first you want to come over here but so you can see the screen it's way up there probably point out where it is all right you can go ahead with that. I've been going to church for a while now and acts of press they're. New on You Tube. And I want to show the world that are. So I talk to my friends and my family this kind of like. That just made me feel like a new person and I'm going to change. Our next step. Or chores. Are you guys can go ahead and look at me again wherever you are it's OK to speak she can see me so calling is a boy he's from another church I don't actually know Carlon but that church gave us permission to use the video so I thought I'd show you guys that So Khan was talking about now I'm going to run into the microphone promise talking about taking the next step in his faith and for him that looked like baptism and I thought that would be a great thing that talk about today because we have some people getting baptized a little bit later in the service but maybe you've already been baptized maybe you're not quite ready to be baptized everybody is in a different place and that's OK but I want you boys and girls to be thinking about what is the next step that you can take in your face if you have just decided to follow Jesus what's the next step you can do when are you going to be baptized if you have already been baptized What is the next thing that you can do after that they gave some ideas at the end of that video they talked about that tism joining a small group serving in your church inviting a friend to church and sharing your face there are steps that you can always be taking to be continuing to grow in your face and become more spiritually mature even as a kid even where you guys are right now do you guys

think you can do that you think you can think about what the next step you can take in your faces. Yeah I got a couple that can do it DOES ANYONE ELSE thing OK All right I'm going to pray with you guys quick before we head back is that OK All right let's pray Heavenly Father I thank you so much for all of the kids and adults that are here that we are on some steps of this journey with you whether there are people who haven't chosen you yet or people who have been following you for decades God we are all at some spot in this journey and I thank you for pursuing us and wanting this relationship with us I pray for these kids that they would be able to ask themselves what is the next step what does that look like what is it look like to take a step towards you and to become more mature and to keep growing spiritually God even though they're young even though some of us aren't so young god we can all continue to grow and become more like you we love you and you praise you and we thank you for this morning in Jesus' name we pray Amen thank you wising girls you guys can head back to you see it's the eggs guys we just. I don't know how this trend started but apparently it was time to tie all of our shoelaces to get here I'm going to move this a little bit in we're done with the kids portion but you guys aren't done with me yet so I'm pretty excited about that I'm going to just grab my phone down here but we are going to play a game next to me I have that thank you very much we're going to play a game next and last time that we did a family service we were talking and Pastor John had his wife Lynn come up and do it and we thought that was kind of fun doing some banter back and forth Well I don't have a husband so I asked Rebecca she would come up and play a game with me so that's all you guys are going to get. You for that thing you. Oh so actually the truth of the matter is I said I think willing to do that please please please trust me with a microphone. A lot of the scene but they finally said yes and then I said What do you do I don't really think I can do this but that is that it is actually a pretty accurate retelling of the story so we're going to play a game and I'm going to call it get up and move because they hated the other names that I had for it so it made sense but if we're going to call it get up and move and what we're going to do is we're going to go with off something and if you I didn't I didn't think of an example QUESTION Well this was the first one as an example so the first one is get up and move if you like guacamole So this is a game for everybody you don't even like it here. So for everybody everybody's going to play Sorry about that but I'm not that sorry I think it's going to be fun I'm going to play to you because I'm just too excited about this so for example if I were sitting here I like i'm only so I would get up and you have to move at least one row you can't just move to the next see it you've got to move either one roll back one row over However it would be so does everyone kind of get the premise of the game. Yeah kids are you guys ready to play I hear some kids adults are you guys ready to play all right good OK so we use the first one so Rebecca what's going to sit I'm going to sit. This innocent and example so if you have ever cried during a movie absolutely I'm going to come over here. I'm going to sit right here. All right all right I like it I like the honesty Now this next one is one I am super excited about I need my people to stand up with me get up and move if you cheer for the Green Bay Packers Bloom. These are my people these are my people. Love it love it I don't even know where Rebecca went now Rebecca are you here hey there OK So if you don't it for breakfast this morning please can you wait a donut for breakfast. This is the first one I can't move for. All right all right. Get up and move if you haven't eaten out five at least five times in the past week in the past seven days there you go there you go we gotta come out if we bastard John. Fester John and I love it get up and if you have a lie about this that on your driver's license. Did that. Hey guys. I know. I'm not proud of it but I did it. I did it twice I can't lie about lying about it that is here all the time. OK OK so some of them are kind of real that leads us into a good one actually. Get up and move if you have not showered yet this weekend. Guys I knew this question was coming and I still did. It already I like my honest people I like it I like it dry shampoo is a thing people I'm clean. Rebecca are you everyone who enjoys hunting. I agree I'm not moving. Are it I figured that would get a lot of people everyone wearing the color brown today anywhere like I got a little brown so I'm going to move brown boots I like it if you're wearing brown anywhere I've got brown hair I don't know if that counts but. Anywhere. I wear in my hair Yep you're wearing your hair. OK everyone who has sent a text message sent service started in remember you are in church and we should be on the up from.

Our L.A. kid I like Yes. I love it. But. I didn't send a text I've been checking my phone but alright everyone who wears corrective lenses so glasses contacts anything. Corrective lenses like cheaters yet readers. Yeah. You know. You go I don't even like you she's in the bank yeah that's OK everyone who has a credit card on them I don't have it on me. If it's not on you minds in my wallet in my office and here. You go OK Michelle it's your turn sorry she knows I'm going to like this one again we need honesty people get up and move I'll just get up so I can start that get up and move if you secretly enjoy picking your nose. I need honesty guys. We'll do it it's fine. It just feels good sometimes. We got a couple more a couple more. So Sue is here saying you can pick your pick your nose you can pick your friends pick your friends nose so they go through get up and move if you have ever fallen asleep during a church service yes. Yes. Oh my goodness. All right guys we've got one last one get up and move if you went to church this morning. That hahaha. Go back to you see it's Thanks everybody here. All right thank you Rebecca Where did she go there if you think sir that. Well that was a lot of fun I had to be honest and my kids had to be honest too because one of them was actually picking his nose while we were during the lesson and the other one I was kind of funny to leave and we were like hey look at the screen the whole time he was looking around for the screen never did see the screen he would look up at the speaker I don't know if he ever did see the screen but I don't hold your tying your shoes together well hey we like to have fun together because we think that it's it's important it's important as we have fun together we're breaking down some of those barriers it's good to laugh and I see it opens doors for us to be able to have conversations that matter later on in life and so we think it's a big deal and we're glad that we get to do that expression today with all of the kids in here as well so I want to share just a little bit today I actually want to tell make sure that people that are being baptized if you're being baptized if you're one of the four people you should be getting ready or already have got ready for that because that's what we're going to do and that's a big part of the rest of today is we're going to be doing some baptisms But I want to share a few thoughts with you before we do that. I want to just say God is on the move and I want to share some examples from from youth ministry and I know God's moving and kids ministry I know God's moving in the church but I just want to encourage you with the fact that there's a lot of special things there's a lot of neat things happening in student ministry and I wanted to be an encouragement I kind of want to celebrate it at the end with Baptists and we have a few students that are being that has a we also have a couple adults as well but I want to just celebrate the fact that God is on the move and God is working in our students' hearts and lives I want to share one thing and I probably surprise Lucas a little bit but one of the thing Lucas is a student over there and I asked him before the service if I could share this and so that was OK We've got students that are willing to stand up for their faith right now we've got students that are excited about their faith their they have had experiences in moments with God that that's changing their hearts is changing lives and there's something like I said special is taking place on Wednesday nights up there and I want you to know that not that things before weren't happening but right now there's there's a large group of students that are catching the heartbeat of God and saying you know what can we do. How can we how can we serve you how can we live our lives for you more more than we did before and as we've as we've gone in the fall we've been challenging students to be willing to profess faith in Christ to be willing to take a step. In their in their school with their family with their friends just being willing to share what it is that they actually believe in the cool thing is there's a lot of students right now that are are willing to say God I'm ready I want to share with my friends I want to share with my family I want to share with my my peers what I believe and they're talking about their faith in Jesus and they're excited about it and it's an encouragement that's what I want to share this morning because it's encouraging when you hear about what God's doing in other people's lives got is at work God is alive he's stirring and heart stirring in lives and so I want to share Lucas was actually nominated and also crowned the fall homecoming king Congratulations Lucas. But more important more important than that is his his love for the Lord and I was so proud of him Lynn got a report from one of her coworkers that said she was really happy for him that he had won and just thinks he's a quality person and one of the things that stood out to her was the fact that he had

professed faith in God publicly at a school assembly in front of his confidences I want I want to live my life for the Lord and that was one of his life goals was that he wanted to be intentional to live his life for Jesus and I think that is powerful know that is that's worthy of a hand cloud because God is working in his heart in his life and he believes so passionately about it that he's willing to step out and to share with people what he believes and honestly like I said that's exciting to me as more and more students are doing this. I'm excited about what's going to happen I'm excited about the fact that they're inviting friends of people are showing up on Wednesday nights. So we've been talking it was just see you at the pool which is a national day of prayer where students are encouraged to go into prayer around their flagpoles at their schools and we had I announced that hey this is coming up if people are interested in doing this come and talk to me and you know I want to help you I want to courage in that process and we actually had students from the middle school and students from the high school who are like we want to do this we want to we want to lead this we want to see this happen our schools because because again they want to be intentional about sharing their faith professing their faith to their peers and so they took the initiative you know as well as things as a pastor sometimes you're like you know I don't want to I don't want to FORCE I don't want to push people to do things that they don't want to do but you really want to encourage them there's a fine line sometimes and it's exciting when you don't have to be the one that's like goal go go where they're just like they're like we're we want to do this and so they went had conversations with their principals both at the high school middle school say hey can we do this and they said yeah you can they organize they invited friends and it was funny on a Wednesday night I was like I was like yeah guys this is this is great you know I dare you to do this and then afterward tell me about it and I was like yeah I would be excited if there was yeah if we had like ten that would be that would be great and I remember one of them is like. One of the students Jaden back there she was like well we were hoping for more like fifty and I just love when their dreams start to surpass your dreams and your expectations of what God can do and they did these they stepped out in huge within fighting friends. They were intentional to share their faith and that is think about it being willing to get up early. For me that's a struggle I don't know about you guys and I know for a lot of teenagers that's not usually a super easy thing to do to but to get up early in the morning before school to go stand in front of your flagpole at your school in pray for your peers to pray for your teachers to pray for your schools and they did it and I just want to show I just want to show a couple of pictures again hopefully you know I'm not bragging about these guys because they're doing awesome things hopefully it's not I'm not trying to say like well what I'm doing this amazing thing but I really believe these students are catching the heartbeat of what God wants for their lives this was at the high school Alexis college she said that at one point Alexis is here too. She said there was thirty seven students that showed up at the high school flagpole to pray and that is incredible as you are flip over the next picture here's over at the middle school and Hannah Hostetter Kyra Giffin and Kate and Ella Downing they were all they were all the ones that went in and said we want to do this at our school they said they had thirty plus students that eventually showed up throughout the morning and I again middle school students. Those school students I mean I just I think about that I'm impressed by their just their willingness to say God what do you what do you want me to do how can I serve you how can I step out and profess faith in Christ boldly and create just sleep and I tell you when I'm encouraged I know Lynn she posted my wife Lynn over there she posted something on Facebook about just being brought to tears with with that fact when she heard the stories coming in about what students were doing that morning and just being emotional about it think it can wow God is working in students hearts and lives and it is such an encouragement that's why I share this with you this morning is an encouragement and also it's an inspiration it's so inspiring when you hear about what God's doing in other people's lives in it it wants it makes me want to do something with my face it makes me want to be more into one of them is like I dare you to share with with some students on the cross country team and just to be intentional I was like well yeah you're right and I think that's something that all of us could really do a better job with is being intentional sheriff it being willing to step out and to profess faith in Christ I just think it's so cool and I just wanted to I want to take that time this

morning to share that one of the other things to do is fellowship a Christian at the some you might have heard of it it's students student athletes who are intentional about leading huddles on their teams the idea is you're already spending a lot of time with your teammates and so we've had students multiple students from our our youth group that have said I want to lead a huddle this year I want to I want to try to be intentional to share my faith on on my team with my teammates and it's a cool thing I just again I want to encourage you with the fact that there are students that are that have encountered the presence of God over the last couple of years of just story after story of students that have come out of the presence of God It's changing their hearts and lives they're not perfect none of us are but they're more like Jesus like Richelle was saying earlier this maturity peace in Jesus meant talking about maturity there is maturity that's happening. Moving forward you know how does that work in people's lives and I want you to be encouraged by that but also I want you to be inspired by that as well because I know I have been and I'm sure you would be as well. So that leads us that leads us to this morning at least this morning and baptism really is just an a neat way to to do that again to publicly profess profess faith in Jesus and we've got two students that are going to doing that this morning but we also have two adults and that's awesome that are going to that are going to come up here and they're going to they're going to tell us why they want to be baptized but they're going to share and they're going to they're going to say I love Jesus I believe that's what they're going to. You know they are they're going to profess their faith in Christ and that's a big part of baptism baptism is is a symbol we do it's a symbolic thing that we do it's our way of identifying with Christ right in Christ's life in his death in his burial and in his resurrection we're saying identify with Christ in that I believe in that that's that's what's changed my heart that's what's changed my life is this relationship with Christ and so I want to Denis I with what Christ has done in my life through this symbolic ceremony of baptism and I think that's a powerful thing and I think it's it really does highlight what we're talking about and that's being bold and being willing to step up and say I want to end it and hopefully again the other the other part the other bonus of baptism is it is it's an encouraging meant to us as believers as we get to see them professing faith in Jesus and so we're going to we're going to do that we're going to we're going to baptize for people so I want to invite the worship team you can make your way up to the front you know passages and you want to say a few more things here as well and we're going to fight all of you that we're going to baptize you can make your way up to the front we're going to do that we're going to celebrate what God is doing in people's hearts and lives this morning. Thank you how many of you like your kids made up a word when they were a kid and it stuck and now it's like a normal part of the language in your home like my daughter always said dip for milk for ice cream and so that's what milk and ice cream is for us I didn't go to Slovakia I went to the summer. Now they've been saying baptisms So if that comes out of my mouth baptisms I'm not trying to make fun of anybody I'm just saying that's probably going to be what we call in our house for the all time now as baptisms So one of the things I want to say is again like just like with communion we have people from all kinds of faith backgrounds here and I want to make sure that you understand when we baptize this is a symbolic thing this is a public declaration of faith this in no way guarantees salvation for anybody OK we don't baptize for people to get saved we baptize so people can declare that they have been saved OK and it's a way for us to relate with the death burial and resurrection it's such a cool thing that we do in the other thing I just want to let you know as if you've been in baptism services before or is this really symbolic thing or not symbolic but this really like serious thing where everybody had to be all somber and couldn't couldn't like smile that's not this gay that's not how we do we believe baptism is a celebration so when people go down and come back up we want to cheer in and clap in and excited because this is one of the most exciting things that we get to do OK this is such a cool thing to be a part of and I want to encourage you to join us in that so we don't have an order picked out for you guys we're just going to say whoever wants to go first come on up and let's let's start baptize and. I just really. Think that it's. For. Your profession the. Name of The Father The Son. When you want to. Be. That ties I believe as well as my. Words. I just. Want to serve. Your. Spirit. Is working. Through and declare my love for Jesus. Your declaration of. You gets. So I think the really big reason I want to look like the

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next card. Looks is because he does appear this is no. Longer the song. Uses your good I thank you for this dick I thank you for those who were baptized this morning for their faith in God that they are taking that step God publicly declaring who you are Jesus in their lives and I just pray that you continue to grow and grow in the rest of us we thank you Jesus for who you are and for all you've done and you know I pray Amen.