

## Going Back To School/How To Shift Culture WRITTEN BY: PASTOR ZACH



Every year when I ask students how they feel about going back to school I always get this answer, "NERVOUS!" For students who are going from elementary to middle school or from middle school to high school this is especially true. When I ask them why they are nervous it always comes down to being concerned about whether or not they will be liked. Therefore, many students conform to their presumed idea of what people would like them to be in order to be accepted. They yield to the culture of their peers and conform from who they actually are which often leads to compromise, guilt and depression. The other week I was sharing with our students that this is a vital season for them to know who Precious Jesus is and who they are in Him. If they understand their identity in the Lord nobody can take that away from them. These students who know the Lord and know who they are will have a confidence and security about them that will attract other students to Jesus. First step to knowing who they are is to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Any revelation you receive about Jesus is ultimately a revelation about you because you are made in His image. It is impossible to really know who you are without knowing your Creator. About a month ago, while teaching our middle school students along with an exceptional number of visitors, I preached on what Jesus and His ministry is like as found in Isaiah 61. While I was teaching Isaiah 61, I asked the students if they could identify themselves with any of the people groups found in this chapter: poor, broken-hearted, captive or mourning. Students raised their hands to identify with the different people groups mentioned and then I had them look again at Isaiah 61 to see what Jesus wants them to do in response. To the poor, Jesus wants to proclaim to you Good News! To the brokenhearted, He wants to heal you.

To the captive, He wants to set you free. To the mourning, He wants to comfort you, give you the oil of gladness and a garment of praise. When you experience Jesus and what He is like, you will become an oak of righteousness; rooted to stand firm against any storm and bring restoration to your city. After the message ministry broke out. We had one student who identified as broken hearted and captive. The student admitted to me that they were dealing with depression and thoughts of suicide. During prayer, Jesus met her and started setting her free and healing her broken heart. Tears were streaming down her face and after the amen the student looked at her arms and said "The scares are gone!" Not knowing that the student also struggled with cutting! The Lord cleared all the scars from her arms! We followed up with the student and she said since that day she has never struggled with depression or suicide and is completely set free! That same day another student received deliverance from temptations of homosexuality because they had been struggling with finding their true identity. We also followed up with that student and found that this student is completely set free and is confident in their identity in Jesus! Hallelujah! If you find yourself weak, plant yourself by the streams of The Living Water (who is Jesus) and He will nurture you to become like a mighty oak that a leaf will never whither and yield fruit in every season! Amen. (See Psalms 1 and Isaiah 61)









## **REMINDERS**

1. Open Prayer: Every Wednesday at 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

2. Sunday Service:

10:30 am

LIVESTREAMED via Facebook too!

3. Need Prayer?
Leave a prayer request on our website!

## CHURCH INFORMATION

Address: 2105 W Cumberland St. Dunn NC 28334

**Email:** 

contact@gtchurch.net

**Phone Number:** 

910-892-4011

## CONNECT?

Visit our Social Media
Accounts for
more Information!
FaceBook: https://www.face
book.com/GospelTab/

**WANT TO** 

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NEED PRAYER?

We would love to agree
with you in prayer, if you
have any prayer requests,
email
prayer@gtchurch.net.