

WELCOME 11TH FEBRUARY 2024 – TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY '24 B

1 John 2:15-29 & Mark 9:2-8

Welcome! It's great to be together again today! Along with your worship order you have **Growing Praise** inserts & **Bible Study Qs** that are able to lead you deeper into God's word/work in your life & help you share that w/ someone else. We also use them for our **Zoom Bible Study Catch-ups on Friday @ 1p.m.**

As we move into this week... **Victor** Gruen...Austrian-born architect best known as pioneer in the design of shopping malls If you've walked through a Westfield's in one of our major cities or even our local malls...you've been treated to Gruen's design. What's called the Gruen **effect** was ingenious from a marketing standpoint. Malls are built to incorporate into their design **an** intentionally confusing/distracting layout so shoppers **lose** track of their original purpose & become more susceptible to making **impulse** purchases...spending more \$\$\$\$\$ than they intended. **Yes...it's a thing.**

Getting distracted isn't limited to the shopping mall experience. Individuals, families & even churches are vulnerable...distractions happen, original purposes & intentions are forgotten, & the vibrant community of life & joy...the deep relationships that pulse to the beat of Jesus' heart...the vibrant discipleship that bears God's hope to the world in word & deed is left wanting...the light of the good news of Jesus ends up under a basket.

As a church we **say**...

God has called Living Water Fellowship to be a vibrant Christian community that glorifies God by inviting all people to become disciples of Jesus who grow in his grace and go in his power to show his love to the world.

John said...**So** you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son & with the Father. In this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us. IOW "Don't get distracted/lose focus!"

Today...our special guest: April Miller...a Compassion International Communicator will help us remember how crucial our gifts are in shining the light of Christ into the darkest corners of our world & how the gifts we offer back to God through Compassion International actually bless those who receive them.

We'll explore, experience, & live that together today...

Let's pray...

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, heavenly Father, you know that we are set in the midst of so many challenges & seemingly great dangers. We become fearful & anxious & seek shelter instead of perseverance. We duck & cover instead of holding our heads high. Grant us your strength & your protection. Defend us from fear in danger & fatigue in our daily work. Equip us to stand triumphant over all temptations. At every step let our feet move in time to your stride & walk confidently in your way; according to the life you give through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord alive in us...Amen.

Let's hear God's word...

