



**The Church Next Door**  
Moving People Closer to God

**September 15 & 16, 2018**

## **Accelerate 2: Soul Strength**

### **I. Announcements & Prayer**

- 1) **Simply for Women** - New schedule coming soon.
- 2) **Deeper Life** - begins Sunday Sept. 9
- 3) **Next Steps Class** - Saturday, October 27 at 5:00pm
- 4) **Baptism** - Sunday, November 11, during 11 am service

### **II. Ice Breaker Questions**

- 1) Last weekend Pastor Doyle spoke about going to Niagara Falls. Is there a place in nature that you have seen or you want to see that is a testimony of God's creation?
- 2) What voice in your life encourages you the most? Might it be your best friend giving you a call on the phone, the memory of something that a parent or grandparent said to you, or a song from the past?

### **III. Discussion Questions**

#### **1) Read Psalm 42**

1 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? 3 My tears have been my food day and night while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" 4 These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One[d] with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. 5 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. 6 My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar. 7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me. 8 By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life. 9 I say to God my Rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?" 10 My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me saying to me all day long, "Where is your God?" 11 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

- 2) When was the last time you felt down? What happened to make you feel down? How did you get out of this funk?

3) Read the following verses:

**Matthew 10:28** (NIV) <sup>28</sup>**Do not be afraid** of those who kill the body but cannot kill the **soul**. Rather, **be afraid of** the One who can destroy both **soul** and body in hell.

**Matthew 11:29** (NIV) <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and **learn from me**, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find **rest for your souls**.

**Matthew 16:26** (NIV) <sup>26</sup>What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their **soul**? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their **soul**?

**Psalms 23:3** (NIV) <sup>3</sup>He (God) restores my soul...

What do these verses teach us about our soul? How does that encourage you?

4) Pastor Doyle taught us to guard what has access to our mind and our soul.

**2 Corinthians 10:5** "... take captive every thought, to make it obedient to Christ."

He listed 4 Kinds of Material:

Poison

Stuff

Healthy

Bible

What percentage of your time do you give to each area?

5) Pastor Doyle talked about Elijah and his war against Jezebel and the God's of Baal. It left him with fear, resentment, low self-esteem, anger, loneliness, and worry. Share when you have felt like this. How does knowing that God restores souls encourage you in the midst of this?

6) Pastor Doyle gave us 4 Fellowships that will strengthen our soul:  
God, Bible, Believers, and Creation.

How much time each week do you spend in these fellowships? Do you feel that is enough?

7) Psalm 42:4

These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.

How does being in this group and coming to worship together encourage you? How has it helped your soul? What does it do for your soul when you see your friends at church worshipping the Lord?