

Starting the Fall with the Right Things in the Right Places

The Bible teaches us that spiritual growth – which includes a deepening relationship with God, progress in Christlikeness, more faithfully living a life of live – is a normal and expected part of the Christian life.

Then came COVID. For most of us, just as it did every other realm of life, the virus disrupted our spiritual lives. In some cases, the changes were healthy: we slowed down, reconnected with family and friends, thinned out our schedules, found more balance. But if we're honest, in many cases the changes were ones that set us back in our spiritual progress. For a number of us, the last couple of years have been a time of pulling in, paring back, even opting out. Getting used to retreating a bit, becoming accustomed to our church involvement requiring less of us, we've become less consistent in worship, less inclined to get together, less available to serve.

In Colossians chapter 3, Paul invites the church to continually renew its commitment to Christ by "setting your hearts on things above" and "setting your minds on things above." This fall, in our series called *Re-Up*, we do the same. The first couple of Sundays we'll talk about how we think about discipleship and the spiritual life at Covenant. Then we'll get specific and practical, exploring each of the three dimensions of our calling as a church (love Jesus, love his people, pour out his love on the world), and the six tangible ways we can expect those commitments to express themselves in our day-to-day lives.

August 21 Look Up

Set Your Heart On Things Above

Colossians 3.1-4

August 28 Keep It Up

Living a Life of Love Colossians 3.12-17

September 4 Offer Up

Love Jesus, Part One: Worship Daily and Weekly

Psalm 84

September 11 Listen Up

Love Jesus, Part Two:

Study Scripture

Psalm 1, II Timothy 3.16-17

September 18 Build Up

Serving Opps Love His People, Part One:

Use Your Gifts to Serve the Church Family

Ephesians 4.11-16, Romans 12.5-8

September 25 Meet Up

Camping Trip Love His People, Part Two:

Christ-Centered Relationships

Romans 1.8-12, 12.10, Ephesians 4.29

October 2 Point Up

Pour Out His Love on the World, Part One:

Love Your (Literal) Neighbor Matthew 5.13-16, I Peter 2.9-12

October 9 Stand Up

Pour Out His Love on the World, Part Two:

Make a Difference in the World

Matthew 25.31-46, James 1.22-27, 2.14-19