

Sermon Questions
Controlling the Narrative of Our Lives
June 1-2

1. As Christ followers, we are called into spiritual growth. How would you describe "spiritual growth?"
2. How does one grow spiritually?
3. In what ways does our culture distract us from spiritual growth?
4. Read 2 Timothy 4:3. To what philosophies and teachings might this verse refer in our day and time?
5. Read and paraphrase Hebrews 5:11-14 in one sentence. What does the author of Hebrews say is a reason we become distracted from our spiritual growth?
6. Where do you invest most of your time and/or money? Do these things satisfy your need for God-connectedness? Do they distract from your spiritual growth? (Explain)
7. Think of a time in your life when you were in conflict with a person you loved. What was the emotional cost of that conflict? (guilt, anger, stress, etc.)
8. Sin can result in a sense of conflict with God and result in consequences in our relationship with others and with God. What are some means by which we try to restore harmony with God? Are these methods effective? Why or why not?
9. Read Romans 5:6-9. In terms of our sinful nature, what does it mean to be crucified with Christ?
10. Jeff uses the story of Akasi to illustrate the idea of redemption. How costly was His redeeming grace? As Christians, we are aware of the ultimate cost of redemption—the cross of Jesus. For God, does the cost end at the cross or is there something continual and eternal going on?
11. How did Christ's death on the cross free us from the bondage of sin? The very nature of God is self-sacrificing love, as revealed in Jesus. Could our freedom from sin as a result of the cross come from being like Jesus—in selfless service to others?
12. Before you leave, give thanks to God for His grace that forgives and frees!