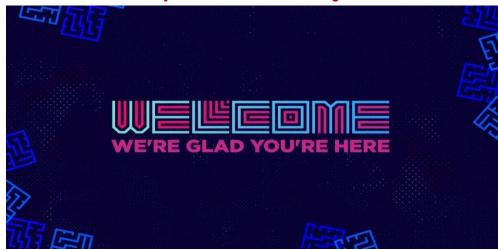
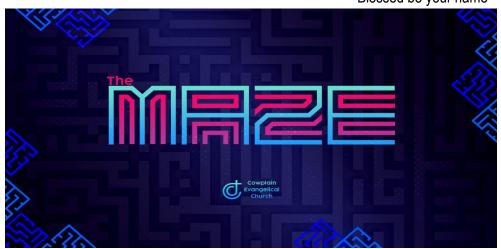
## **Discovery Service Order and Message Outline**



WELCOME TO CEC	Pastor Phill
SINGING TOGETHER	Give thanks to the Lord (Forever)
	Gonna trust in God
PRAYER	
UPDATES	Pastor Phill
	The splendour of the King
BIBLE READING	2 Corinthians 4:1-18 (Church Bible page 1212)
MESSAGE	Taught by Pastor Phill
COMMUNION	When peace like a river
	Behold the lamb
	Blessed be your name



# The Maze ~1 How to endure the changes of life. 2 Corinthians 4:1-18

## 2 examples of determination to keep going:

(Jesus) 'Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day." Luke 13:32-33 NIV

(Paul) 'We are hard pressed on every side by troubles, but we're not crushed and broken. We're perplexed, but we don't give up and quit. We're hunted down, but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going.'

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 NLT

1. Honestly tell God, what I'm  'Unload all your burdens on to him, since He is concerned about you.' 1 Peter 5:7 NJB
1. God already knows every I feel.  'The Lord gave each of us our minds, so nothing we think or do can be hidden from him.'  Psalm 33:15 CEV
2. God my feelings better than I do. 'The Lord knows what's in everyone's mind and he understands everything you think.' 1 Chronicles 28:9 NCV
3. God loves to to me.  David: 'I love the Lord, because he listens to my prayers. He listens to me every time I call to him.' Psalm 116:1-2 TEV
'Morning, noon, and night I complain of my distress, and still the Lord hears my voice.' Psalm 55:17 NLT
'The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate' Psalm 103:13 NLT
'The Lord is good to everyone, and he shows compassion to all he has made.' Psalm 145:9 TEV
'Cry out in the night. Pour out your heart like water in prayer to the Lord.' Lamentations 2:19 NCV
2. Humbly ask God for  'Look to the Lord and his strength.' Psalm 105:4 NIV

'God is the real source of wisdom and strength.' Job 12:13 CEV

<u>'When I pray,</u> you answer and encourage me <u>by giving me the strength</u> I need.' Psalm 138:3 LB

'O Daniel, greatly loved of God, listen carefully... Since the first day you began to <u>pray</u> and <u>humble yourself</u> before your God, your request has been heard in heaven.' Daniel 10:11-12 NLT

## 3. Gratefully for all that's good despite all that's bad.

'Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIV

'Job tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground and worshiped God. He said, 'I was born with nothing, and I'll die with nothing. The Lord gave, and now he has taken away. May the name of the LORD be praised.' In spite of everything that had happened. Job did not sin by blaming God.' Job 1:20-22 TEV

Job showed that I can always be grateful:

•	That God is loving and cares for me	Job 10:12
•	That God had a detailed plan for my future	Job 23:14
•	That God is in control of what I don't understand	Job 34:13
•	That God will reward me after I'm tested	Job 23:10

'Here I am in the place of worship, eyes open, drinking in your strength.' Psalm 63:2 MSG

'Those who worship God will be encouraged.' Psalm 69:32 TEV

#### 4. Constantly keep God as my \_\_

'We must <u>focus on Jesus</u>, the source and goal of our faith. He saw the joy ahead of him, <u>so he endured</u> death on the cross and ignored the disgrace it brought him. Then he received the highest position in heaven.' Hebrews 12:2 GW

<u>'This is why we never give up</u>...our spirits are being <u>renewed every day</u>. Our present troubles are small and <u>won't last very long</u>. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great <u>glory that will last forever!</u> So we <u>fix our eyes not on what is seen</u>, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.' 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NLT/NIV

'We are praying that you will be filled with his <u>mighty</u>, <u>glorious strength so that you can keep</u> going no matter what happens -- always full of the joy of the Lord.' Colossians 1:11 LB

'We can only keep on going, after all, by the power of God, who first saved us' 2 Timothy 1:8-9 MSG



#### SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

- 1. Read Luke13:32-33. Why did Jesus have such determination to complete his mission? How does his example inspire you to stay motivated and keep going despite opposition?
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9. Regardless of his numerous difficulties, Paul reminds us we are never abandoned and to keep going. What gives you strength to get up and keep going in the face of life's setbacks?
- 3. Read 1 Peter 5:7. Why are we often reluctant to be open with God about our feelings? Why is confessing our feelings to him beneficial to us?
- 4. Read Psalm 105:4, Psalm 138:3. What are the benefits of asking God humbly for strength every day? What moves God to answer our prayers when we come to him in humility?
- 5. Read Psalm 69:32. What are some methods or tools you've used to remind yourself to focus on gratitude for God's blessings when things got rough? How did it change your perspective?
- 6. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Life is full of challenges that distract our focus away from God. How do you keep focused on God daily?



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch.