

Seek the Lord while he may be found!

- We spend our lives searching!
  - > We search for life partners.
  - > We search for a vocation.
  - > We seek after friendships.
  - > We search for information.
  - > We spend so much time searching, that Google is, by some measures, the largest company in the world!
- But the two most important searches in the entire history of the universe are prophesied by Isaiah in Chapter 55:
  - > The Lord Jesus Christ seeks us! The Lord will call all nations, all people, to himself.
  - > We are called to seek the Lord—to seek the Lord while he may be found!
- While he may be found!
  - > In this day of grace, while he offers mercy and reconciliation!
  - > While he may be found! In the original Hebrew, the words suggest that we must seek the Lord while he allows himself to be found!
- Call upon the Lord Jesus Christ while he is near!
  - > Near to you by his gracious presence!
  - > Near with forgiveness and mercy!
  - > Near to you as a fellow sojourner who has faced the trials of both life and death!
- Isaiah's words convict us!
  - > Faith must not be passive! We must seek!
    - + Strive to be alive!
    - + Give if you wish to live!
    - + Call out before you fall out!
  - > We can't merely vow to avoid visible and obvious sin: we must lay down our pride and embrace the Lord.
- Paul agrees that the time is now!

In 2 Corinthians 6:2, "See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!"
- A warning! To the chagrin of many modern thinkers who take for granted the forbearance of our God:

*There is a day coming when he will not be found.*

Proverbs 1:28-29, "Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will

not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord,

Luke 19:44, "They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

- It is certain that death's door will be shuttered and bolted for those who have rejected Christ!
- At the final judgment the gates of heaven will close as surely as the sun sets!
- But do not despair! The very purpose of the prophetic pronouncement is **this blessed truth!**
  - > That God may now be found.
  - > By the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, our lost souls find pardon and redemption!
- We are called to share this Good News!

Invite others to seek the Lord while there's time!

  - > Whisper in the ears of your children!
  - > Show the love of Jesus to your grandchildren!
  - > Encourage a friend, nurture a neighbor!
  - > If your good intentions falter and the words of witness stick in your throat, perhaps it's time for YOU to seek the name of the Lord!
- But you will not be alone! When you seek the Lord, there is help all around you!
  - > God comes near to us in the preaching of his word!
  - > God is near to us when we or someone we love faces illness or infirmity.
  - > God draws near to us when we lose someone,
  - > God is near when the choir offers a sacred anthem.
  - > God is near when we prayer fills our hearts.
- God is near to us here in this sanctuary today!

The love and blessings the Savior fill every corner of Lafayette Presbyterian Church

  - > This church makes a difference in our lives!
  - > We don't need a script, a set of conditions, or a particular time or a place!
  - > We trust that God is near to us in Christ Jesus!
- When we seek the Lord, we discover the truth once offered by theologian Rudolf Bultmann:

*"I sought after the Lord earnestly, and I found his when I discovered that he had already found me!"*

**Seek the Lord!**