



You're Invited to an Exciting Journey

It's so easy to make snap judgments about others, isn't it?

Though we may try our best to see others through eyes of grace, fully understanding that they are still works in progress, just as we are, it can happen so quickly that we barely recognize it. In the blink of an eye, we size someone up according to their gender, their clothing, their race, and maybe what we consider their level of attractiveness. And based on all that, we form expectations about who they are.

Sometimes, if we take the time to get to know those people, we discover that they are indeed like we thought. But other times, they offer us a surprise; we find ourselves completely amazed at their depth, or character, or even life experience. Can you relate? The tragic thing is that we don't just do this with other folks here on earth. All too often, we do it with God, as well. We think we know God based on a picture someone else has shown us. We are quick to guess God must be aloof, disinterested in our lives, or worse yet, angry and vengeful. But if we take the time to know him, we may well be surprised here, too. We may just find that he truly is good, loves us more than we can imagine, and he longs for us to walk with him daily and partner with him in his works.

Starting this Sunday (Oct. 5th), our church family will have the chance to encounter God in a variety of fresh ways. We're about to embark on a forty-day study called ***Irresistible Invitation: Responding to the Extravagant Heart of God***, and through individual devotions, Sunday school/small-group discussions, and related sermons, we'll all grow in faith together.

Our goal is to have 100 percent participation in this life-changing event. Each of us will be asked to accept the invitation to take part. All of it culminates with Commitment Sunday, when you'll have a chance to put your faith into action. Sounds exciting, doesn't it?

Please don't miss this church-wide opportunity to grow in your faith and to experience new levels of relationship with God. He is more than able to surprise you with his blessings and surround you with his love. Make plans now to join us for this Sunday's worship service, so you can pick up your copy of ***Irresistible Invitation: Responding to the Extravagant Heart of God*** and get started. There's no telling what we can find when we're willing to take a closer look.