

Hello Highland!

I still like paper maps. I know that makes me an old soul, but there is something about a paper map that I lose when I use my phone. When I pull out my phone and type in an address I immediately receive three route options to my destination along with current traffic, an estimated time of arrival, the exact distance to my location and the weather along the way. The information overload is amazing and I love it, but the price of this convenience and immediate gratification is my own engagement. I do not have to think. My phone has done all the thinking for me so that I can disengage. All I have to do is turn off my brain, disengage, and follow the step by step instructions from the calm, yet firm, British voice coming from my phone telling me “in three hundred feet, turn left”.

When I open a paper map the opposite is true, I must engage my brain. I have to look up and get a sense of where I am or I will never figure out how to get where I want to go. I have to pay attention to each road crossing and intersection because no one is telling me to “take the next left”. I have to pay attention to how I unfolded the map or I may never get it back into its compact state again. I can't just go through the motions, I must be fully engaged, and my engagement causes me to gain a level of understanding about my trip that mindlessly following my phone could never achieve.

This is the idea the psalmist explains in Psalm 119:130 when he writes, “*The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.*” The time and effort it takes to unfold the Word of God can not be substituted by the conveniences of modernity. Sometimes the process of finding the answer is more rewarding than the answer itself. Unfolding the Word of God, engaging with it and seeking to understand it is just like using a paper map. Sure, we could google the answer, but the process of our own search causes a deeper appreciation of His Word. Let us be a people who seek to understand our God by unfolding our copies of His Word before we see what someone else has said about it.

Blessings!
Pastor Wes



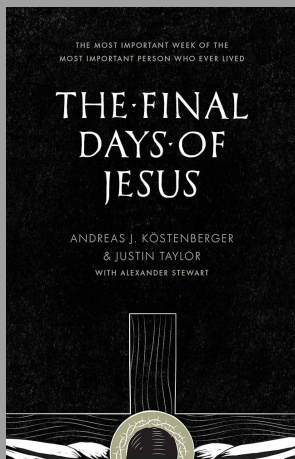
Not to us, O LORD, not to us,
but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love
and your faithfulness!

Psalm 115:1

Pastor Danny's Recommended Resource

"The Final Days of Jesus"

by Andreas Kostenberger & Justin Taylor



Designed as a day-by-day guide to Passion Week, *The Final Days of Jesus* leads us to reexamine and meditate on the history-making, earth-shaking significance of Jesus's arrest, trial, crucifixion, and empty tomb.

Combining a chronological arrangement of the Gospel accounts with insightful commentary, charts, and maps, this book will help you better understand what actually happened all those years ago—and why it matters today.

HIGHLAND EVENTS

WELCOME LUNCH

We will be having a Welcome Lunch on Sunday, April 27th, 12:15-2pm. If you are new to Highland or would like to learn more about our church, join us! Sign up on Church Center.

MEN'S MEAT UP

All men of Highland are welcome to join us for an evening of good food and fellowship on Saturday, May 3rd, 5-8pm. We will eat dinner together, give away prizes, have a judged meat competition, and hear a challenge from the Word. It'll be a great time! More info to come.

HIGHLAND KIDS GRAND PRIX

The Grand Prix will be on Wednesday, May 14th, 6:00-8pm. We will be having a "Dad division" again this year. Cost is \$6. Sign up on Church Center. See Pastor Nathan or Brittney Scherrer for questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are so excited to learn more about tracking down the ONE true God on Mystery Island! VBS will be June 3rd-6th from 9am-12pm with a special program for the WHOLE family on Friday the 6th at 6:30pm. You won't want to miss this! More info to come!

SUMMER THRIVE

Summer studies and AWANA will begin on Wednesday, June 11th. The women's study will be offered in the mornings, 10:00-11:30am, and in the evenings, 6:30-8pm. See you then!

KICKBACK YOUTH RETREAT

Save the dates! We are excited to go to Snowy Mountain Lodge again this July 27th-30th. More info to come. For questions, see Pastor Wes.

ALL CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICE

Save the date. Our All Church Worship Service and lunch will be at the Nance property in Arvada on August 31th. More info to come!

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the dates, September 5th-7th. Highland women, join us at the Hideaway Inn & Conference Center in Colorado Springs for a time of worship of the Lord, fellowship with sisters, and growth through the teaching of the Word. More details to come!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS & BABIES!



JOE & JAIME GILMAN



**DENNIS & JARICIA
GRIESS**



AMANDA ROQUENI



**MARK & CATHY
STANCEC**



BEN STEVENS



VERA ELIZABETH WADE

JAKE & SIERRA - FEBRUARY 16



BAPTISMS: GARRETT BARNES & KARISA DOTY

MISSIONARY UPDATES



Paul & Laura Sheppard *Open Door Ministries* odmdenver.org

Open Door Ministries exists to provide practical help and hope to people in urban Denver who are homeless or low income. Their primary objective is to move people toward self-sufficiency by helping change the circumstances and life patterns that have held them captive to poverty and addictions.

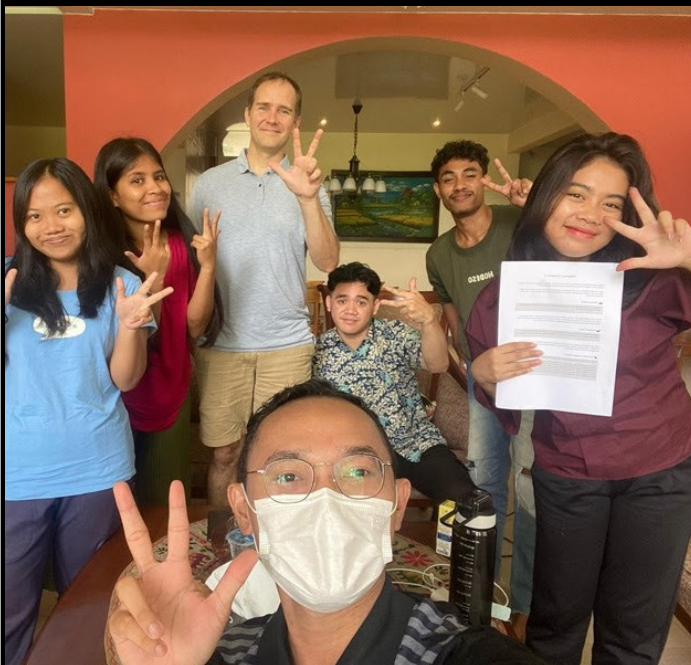
Praises—Fully staffed children and youth programs and expansion of our youth ministry. Committed volunteers who provide meals, lead bible studies, support field trips and help and encourage in so many other ways.

Prayer Requests—For the many people grieving the passing of a 23-year-old, long-time resident.

--For the Learning Center as there is a freeze on Child Care Assistance Program funds, leaving a significant funding gap for low-income recipients.

--Youth program kids will continue their spiritual growth from the retreat.

--Open Door and Parade of Homes fundraising events on April 12, as they help fund many yearly program budgets.



K Family *SE Asia OC International* onechallenge.org

One Challenge is a non-denominational mission agency committed to equipping, assisting, sending, and partnering with the global church. They encourage and work to empower local individuals and communities as they seek to spread and live out the gospel in their own culture and beyond.

Praises: Development of the new Indonesian discipleship app. For Indonesian partners and programmers developing Phase 1.

Prayer Requests

--Direction to a film team to help in producing videos for the app.

--Doctoral class on the gospels Alex teaches.

--Betsy's role on the school board where the K kids attend.

--Provision for the head of that school.

Teaching the STII interns the third "finger" of the gospel.