

Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**“CORE VALUES SERIES”**  
**Core Value #1 - “COMMUNING WITH GOD”**  
Pastor John Mackie

**“Is communing with God ‘one more thing’ or ‘one big thing’?  
“Prayer is the act of seeing reality from God’s point of view” (Yancey)**

**SOME SCRIPTURES:**

**Luke 10:38-42**

38. As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him.
39. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said.
40. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”
41. “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things,
42. but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

**Mark 1:32-39**

32. That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed.
33. The whole town gathered at the door,
34. and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.
35. Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.
36. Simon and his companions went to look for him,
37. and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”
38. Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”
39. So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

**Mark 11:12-19**

12. The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.
13. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs.
14. Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it.
15. On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves,
16. and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.
17. And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”
18. The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.
19. When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

**1 Timothy 2:1-5**

1. I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—
2. for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.
3. This is good, and pleases God our Savior,
4. who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.
5. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,

**SOME TENSIONS WITH THIS CORE VALUE**

Is this a 'church' **or** personal core value?

Is Christ at the center the means to achieve **or** the fruit/goal of this core value?

Does this core value stand-on-its- own **or** is it related to other core values?

To commune is to T\_\_\_\_\_ I\_\_\_\_\_

- 1) K\_\_\_\_\_ God B\_\_\_\_\_ Ephesians 1:17
- 2) P\_\_\_\_\_ God F\_\_\_\_\_ Exodus 20:3
- 3) C\_\_\_\_\_ A\_\_\_\_\_ F\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 8:15
- 4) R\_\_\_\_\_ before R\_\_\_\_\_ Luke 11:1-13

**A Relational Approach to Dialogue with God – 4 Steps (Crabb)**

- 1) P\_\_\_\_\_ yourself to God with no pretenses
- 2) A\_\_\_\_\_ to how you are thinking of God
- 3) P\_\_\_\_\_ yourself of anything that blocks your relationship with God.
- 4) A\_\_\_\_\_ God as the 'first thing' in your life.

**TALKING WITH GOD**

◆ *We Speak*

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◆ *God Listens*

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**Implications:**

Church - \_\_\_\_\_

Personal - \_\_\_\_\_

◆ *God Speaks*

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◆ *We Listen*

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\_\_\_\_\_

Implications (Church and Personal)

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

S \_\_\_\_\_

S \_\_\_\_\_

S \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Ways I will respond to today's message:

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