**Sermon Notes**

**“Introducing the Spiritual Journey”**

**“Why are we doing this series?”**

***Loving Jesus.***

***Loving People.***

***Transforming Lives.***

1. **Jesus definition of the spiritual journey = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” 29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:28-31)

1. **The journey has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory.”(Isaiah 43:6-7)

1. **Each decade has its own unique challenges (Paula D’Arcy)**

Teens = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

20’s = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

30’s = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

40’s = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

50’s = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

60’s = saving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Israel’s journey

**We need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if we’re going to be an authentic, vibrant, healthy Christian community.**

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” (1 Corinthians 12:21)

**The church is called to be a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household” (Ephesians 2:19)

**Closing Challenges**

1. Invite others to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for those in each \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What was the most memorable part of this message for you?

2. Which decade of life are you most interested in hearing about? Why?

3. Does Paula D’Arcy’s summation of the decades resonate with you? Why or why not?

4. Is there a decade of life that you are tempted to think the church would be better off without—a decade towards which you are tempted to think, “I don’t need you”?

5. Read through 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 2. What are some of the lessons these two chapters teach us about Christian community?

6. Is the fact that the church is called to be a family a source of encouragement or frustration for you? Why?

7. What are steps you could take to reach out to those in a decade outside of your own? Is there someone you could invite to one of these weeks, or encourage to listen to the sermon after-the-fact?