WEEK 2 OF 5

FIVE ANCHORS OF A D

ROOTED

Christ-centred

Not I, but Christ

Five Anchors of a Disciple

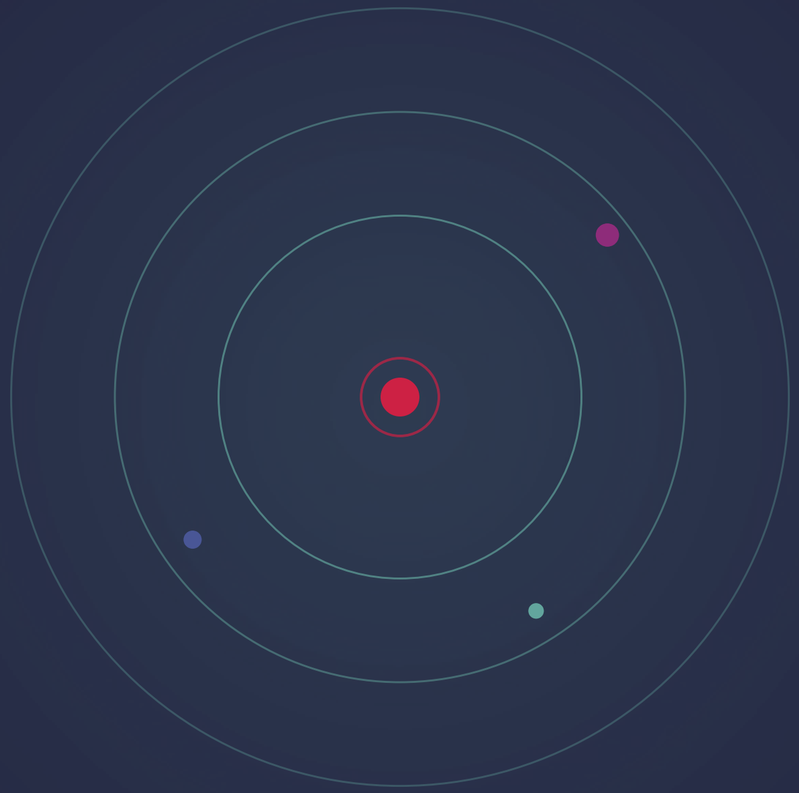
WEEK	God-Loving	*Loved Into Loving*
WEEK 2	**Christ-Centred**	*Not I, But Christ*
WEEK	Spirit-Filled	
WEEK	Word-Grounded	
WEEK	Disciple-Making	

GALATIANS 2:20 • ESV

“I have been crucified with Christ. **It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.** And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

Gravity

Every heart has a gravity



Your heart will always circle something.

If Christ isn’t your centre, something already is.

So what’s yours?

FINDING YOUR CENTRE

How would you know what your centre is?

FOLLOW THE TRAIL

Follow your mind

01

Where does it go when nothing is demanded of it?

> *“Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!” — Psalm 139:23*

FOLLOW THE TRAIL

Follow your money

02

Your calendar and your bank statement are theological documents.

> *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” — Matthew 6:21*

WHAT AN IDOL IS

That to which your heart **clings and entrusts itself** is, I say, really your god.

— Martin Luther · *Large Catechism*

Everybody worships.

The only choice we get is what to worship.

— David Foster Wallace · *‘This Is Water’, 2005*

EVERY OTHER CENTRE

“Give yourself for me.”

JESUS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO SAYS

“I gave Myself for you.”

THE ONE POINT

Christ is not the way to the blessed life.

He IS the blessed life.

Blessed doesn’t mean life gets easy.

So how does a heart change its centre to Jesus?

Not by trying harder.

Receive a new heart

> “And I will **give** you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will **remove** the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will **put** my Spirit within you…”
>
> EZEKIEL 36:26

“I have been crucified with Christ.” — Galatians 2:20

His verbs: give · remove · put. Yours: receive.

RECEIVE

A new heart is not a repaired heart.

Not resolution

Trying harder only polishes the old heart. It still wants what it wanted.

Not renovation

God doesn’t patch the stone. He takes it out.

Replacement

He gives flesh where there was stone, and puts His Spirit inside it.

You cannot give yourself a new heart. You can only hold out your hands.

Receive

0

operations a transplant patient performs on themselves.

A heart transplant is not something you do to yourself.

You cannot open your own chest. Someone else does the cutting, and you are unconscious while the life-saving part happens.

Every donor heart comes out of a death. Someone died, and their heart is now beating inside a stranger.

And rejection is the lifelong risk — the body keeps trying to throw out the very thing keeping it alive.

That is Ezekiel’s language exactly: stone out, flesh in.

Renew your mind

> “Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed by the renewal of your mind** .”
>
> ROMANS 12:2

“…the Holy Spirit… will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” — John 14:26

You put the Word in. The Spirit brings it up.

RENEW

Your mind is being formed either way.

Something is teaching you

Feeds, timelines, targets — all of it is discipling you for free.

Choose your input

“Do not be conformed” is passive. “Be transformed” is a daily yes.

The Spirit does the rest

You put the Word in. He brings it up when you need it.

The heart re-centres on whatever it looks at longest.

RENEW

Fluent

Most of us in this room learned a second language. Think about how it actually happened.

Nobody memorised their way into fluency.

At first you translated every sentence in your head. It was slow, and it was tiring.

Then one day you weren’t translating any more. You just understood. You couldn’t say when it happened.

Same as the child at the piano: scales nobody enjoys — then music, without thinking about the keys.

That’s renewal. Daily exposure, until Christ becomes your first language.

MATTHEW 14 · JOHN 21 · GALATIANS 2:11

Repent — come home

3

> “Repent therefore, and turn back… that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”
>
> ACTS 3:19–20

Metanoia — a change of mind about your centre.

Not away in shame — home, where breakfast is already cooking.

REPENT

Repentance is a turn, not a mood.

Not feeling bad

Guilt can sit still for hours. Repentance moves.

A change of mind

Metanoia — you change your mind about where your centre is.

Then a change of direction

You turn back. Every time. That’s the whole practice.

Drift is lifelong. So is grace.

REPENT

1°

off course — too small to feel from inside the cockpit.

Pilots have a rule: one degree off, one mile wide.

Navigators call it the 1-in-60 rule: one degree of error puts you one mile off target after sixty miles of flying.

Fly Melbourne to Sydney one degree off and you land about seven miles (around 12km) from the runway.

A pilot who corrects at minute one moves is on target. A pilot who corrects at hour three is running an emergency.

This is why repentance is daily and not dramatic. Turn now before it becomes an emergency.

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Not I, but Christ.

THE ONE POINT

Christ is not the way to the blessed life.

He IS the blessed life.

Blessed doesn’t mean life gets easy.

What would actually change on Monday?

If He were the centre — not the topic.

You worry less

> *“…who loved me and gave himself for me.” — Galatians 2:20*

He didn’t spare Himself for you. He won’t withhold anything smaller.

Less worry doesn’t mean fewer storms — the storms can’t reach the verdict.

You’re more secure

> *“…it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” — Galatians 2:20*

Who you are — settled by Christ.

Where you’re going — settled by Christ.

Nobody can take what Christ made you.

You have purpose

> *“…the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God.” — Galatians 2:20*

Your life is now a place where He is at work.

What Christ does through you will still be standing in ten thousand years.

THE ONE PRACTICE THIS WE

Tomorrow morning. Before the phone.

“He loved me.
And gave Himself for me.”

Seven seconds. Say it about yourself. Out loud, if you’re brave.

What would our church look like if all of us lived with Christ at the centre?

Christ is not the way to the blessed life.

He IS the blessed life.

Not I — but Christ.