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GIVE







What's your next step?

Is God moving in your life? Are you ready to get involved, join a group, or volunteer? Let's get started!

Download the Willow App

The Willow app is an easy way to stay in the loop on all things happening at your Willow location. You can also read daily devotionals, access group guides, watch weekend messages, and more!

HAVE AN IPHONE?

HAVE AN ANDROID?

Sign up for the weekly newsletter

Our campus pastors write to you each week, sharing reflections, challenges, and updates on all things happening at your Willow location. Sign up and don't miss a beat!

Chicago · Crystal Lake · Huntley · North Shore · South Barrington · South Lake · Wheaton

Digital Connect Card

Spend daily time with God

God is for you. We are for you. We are excited to partner with you to discover community, engage with Jesus Christ, and take next steps in your faith journey.

I'M READY!

Sign up to receive daily devotionals each morning, Monday–Friday, and read scripture and reflection to go deeper in your time with God.

LET'S GROW

Join a Group

Looking for a specific type of group based on your life stage? Wanting to meet on a specific night?

Use our Group Finder tool to find a group that works for you!

CHECK OUR GROUP FINDER

Attend Welcome to Willow

Welcome to Willow is for anyone who wants to learn more about who we are as a church family and how to get connected. If you are new to Willow, or maybe you have been attending for a while but are not connected in community, you don't want to miss this experience.

EXPLORE UPCOMING DATES



P: (847) 765-5000

E: INFO@WILLOWCREEK.ORG







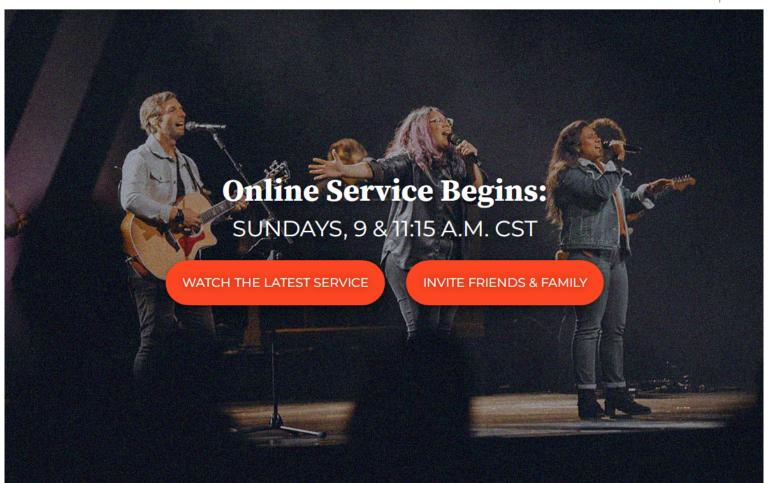


GROUPS

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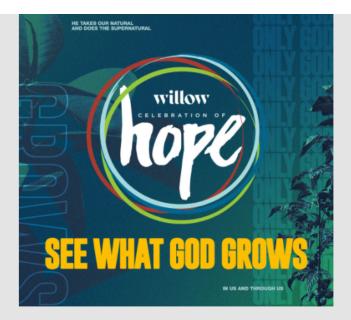


Find your Willow location!

Each Willow location has a YouTube channel where you can stream weekend messages live and on-demand. Explore your campus and subscribe today:

Chicago | Crystal Lake | Huntley | North Shore | South Barrington | South Lake | Wheaton | Willow Español

VISIT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!



n of Hope

Celebration of Hope is a time to learn, serve, and fuel the work of our global partners who are fighting poverty and injustice each and every day. Come hear the stories of hope and transformation planted by our partners, watered by Willow, and grown by God

LEARN MORE

Recent Messages

View All





Celebration of Hope

April 24, 2022



Easter 2022

April 17, 2022



Good Friday April 15, 2022

202

Next Steps

Find your next step

Is God moving in your life? Are you ready for a change, to join a group, or start volunteering?

Discover your next step!

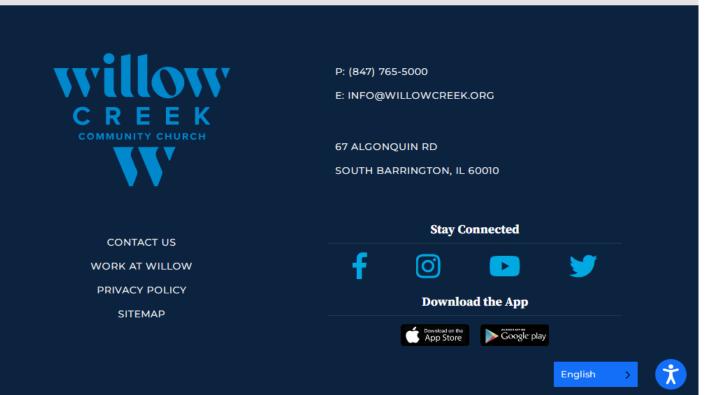
STEP FORWARD

1:32:45 PM 4/29/2022

Learn during the week

Sign up for our daily devotionals, sent Monday– Friday, and receive a passage of scripture and reflection to help you connect with God.

SIGN ME UP





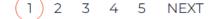
Blog

BY AUTHOR



DATE RANGE











Humble Service Transforms A Community

Willow Creek | Apr 26, 2022

After hundreds of meetings on Zoom, Facebook Live, and phone throughout the pandemic, I finally met face-to-face with...

Seed Packing Stories: A New Career in Farming.

Willow Creek | Apr 19, 2022

Jubilee Centre is currently working with 231 churches across five networks in Zambia. In 2017, the Jubilee Centre began...

Do You Have Room for Compassion?

Willow Creek | Apr 12, 2022

How are you? How are you really doing? How would you respond if a friend or coworker interrupted your day and asked you...







A Look Back through the What if God Doesn't Storm

Willow Creek | Apr 5, 2022

Can Jesus turn our storms into stories? During the frenetic weather of a storm, it's hard to imagine that He can, but...

Answer?

Willow Creek | Mar 28, 2022

When we follow Jesus or are exploring faith, there's a common practice people point to as a way to connect with God:...

A Space to be Seen: A **HFY Follow-Up**

Willow Wheaton | Mar 22, 2022

Jesus challenged religious systems, lifted up the outcast, gave value to the overlooked, healed the hurting, and...







Do You Know Where **Your Temptation Lies?**

Willow Creek | Mar 21, 2022

Temptation is all around us. It's the thing begging for our attention now that has the potential to keep us from what we...

Quick to Listen

Willow Creek | Mar 16, 2022

Anti-Human Trafficking with Refuge for Women Quick to Listen gatherings bring groups of people together around a variety...

A Daily Communion

Willow Creek | Mar 7, 2022

While the ritual of eating the bread and the wine allows us to pause and remember together, we can experience a daily...





Parent Update: Masks Optional

Megan Bagnall | Mar 1, 2022

To Parents of Willow Kids and Students, From the beginning of the pandemic, our masking policy was created with two...

Our World is Breaking— Can Giving Help?

Willow Creek | Mar 1, 2022

The brokenness and pain in our world can be overwhelming. If you're attuned to it, the wars, violence, poverty,...

Are You Content in Debt?

Willow Creek | Feb 14, 2022

We've explored how we can worship money or use it for worship. We can't serve both God and money, so how do we break...







The Power and Potential "It's a Family" **Depends on our** Devotion

Willow Creek | Feb 7, 2022

Our culture screams "get what you can." The ads are targeted to us, strangely tied to the conversation we just had...

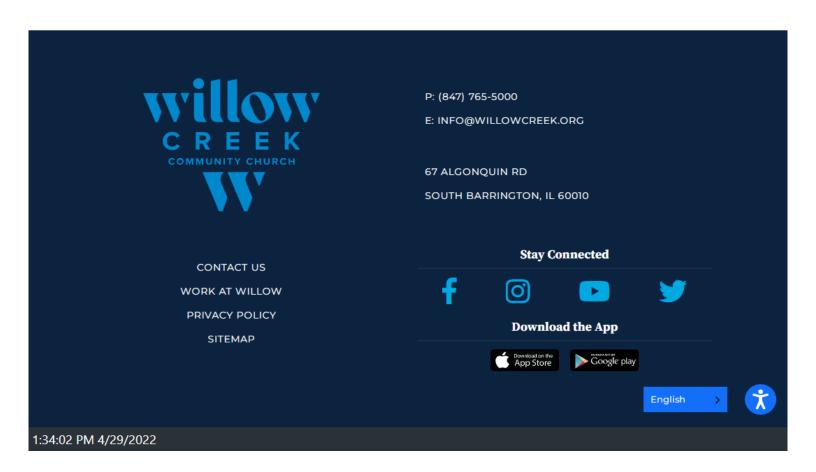
Willow Creek | Jan 31, 2022

Taking that Leap of Faith Patty began attending Willow back in 2015. She was a regular attender and even tried joining a...

Your Treasure Follows Your Heart

Willow Creek | Jan 31, 2022

How does money and all that comes with it-spending, saving, debt, budgeting-gives us a glimpse into the state of our...









1qA



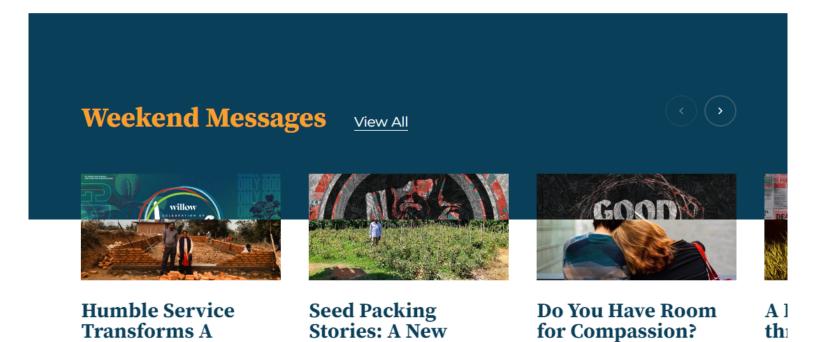
Tune in live

Experience the weekend service live at 9 & 11:15 a.m. on Sundays. Learn about our current sermon series here!

WATCH THE LIVE STREAM

Community

April 26, 2022



Career in Farming.

April 19, 2022

April 12, 2022

Devotionals

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Beyond the Words April 22, 2022



Awe April 21, 2022



A Divine Conversation April 20, 2022



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SOUTH BARRINGTON, IL 60010

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English >







GROUPS

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Welcome to Willow South Barrington

LOCATION

SERVICE TIMES

67 Algonquin Rd

Sunday

South Barrington, IL 60010

9 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

INVITE FRIENDS & FAMILY







Contact: (847) 765-5000 | info@willowcreek.org

Expect

Welcome to Willow South Barrington! We are passionate about loving God, loving others, and changing the world especially within our own city. Each weekend we gather to worship and learn from God's Word, but we believe "church" is much more than a one-hour event. The relationships formed through volunteering and small groups provide the ideal place to truly belong, celebrate the joys of life, weather the storms together, and become who God made

What do you do for kids?

Are you open throughout the week?

Are masks required to attend?

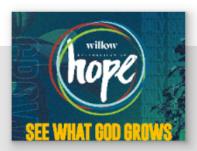
Do you offer language interpretation for services?

Our events and programs offer easy ways for you to meet others and get involved in what's happening at Willow South Barrington!

Urgent need: Willow Kids needs volunteers to help expand our capacity to care for infants during weekend services. Sign up to volunteer in our infants' room today!

Upcoming Events

View All



SEED PACKING

Gather your friends and families to help fill one million envelopes of seeds, supporting 200,000 families in South Africa and Zambia! We're packing from April 28 to May 1.



GET CONNECTED!

Whether you're new to Willow or are looking to re-engage in church, we want to connect with you! Join us for a Welcome to Willow class or schedule a time for Coffee with a Pastor.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Looking for other events here at South Barrington? Click here to check out some of the fun things happening on campus!

What's your next step?

We believe we're never done growing—sometimes that looks like taking a step in volunteering or generosity, and sometimes that means reaching out for help. We all experience the ups and downs of life, and no matter where you find yourself, we are here to help you discover what's next.















Download the app today!

Grow Deeper On The Go

- Read daily devotionals
- Submit prayer requests—and pray for others
- Access weekly group guides
- Stay up-to-date on what's happening at your Willow location







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willow Creek Weekend **Podcast**

Willow Creek Community Church

FOLLOW



About

Love God, love people, and change the world. We believe the life and lessons of Jesus aren't just good advice, but are Good News for us here and now.

As a church, we are all about following Jesus and know there's no end to that journey—we're more about becoming than arriving.

We are committed to becoming a multi-generational, multi-ethnic, multiply... see more

All Episodes



 Celebration Of Hope 2022-Wk 1-What is God Growing in the World-Ron Bueno

Where is God in the pandemic? What has God been doing during the global pandemic? Does it feel like God has disappeared? Ron Bueno, Executive Director of the non-profit organizati...



Apr 24 · 36 min 10 sec



Easter At Willow Creek Church-2022-Dave Dummitt

Join Willow as we celebrate Easter, 2022. Hear the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection from a new point of view, seeing that hope isn't something we need to search f...



Apr 17 · 25 min 57 sec

M2215_Read All About It_The Compassion Of Jesus_Megan Marshman

Many of us have heard of Jesus' miracle, feeding 5,000 with just five loaves of bread and two fish. This story in Luke 9 tells us about Jesus' power and His immense compassion for peopl...



Apr 10 · 37 min 15 sec



Read All About It-The Power Of Jesus-Dave Dummitt

Continuing our series in the book of Luke, we look at Luke 8, where Jesus is sleeping in a boat, then calms the storm on the lake, displaying His supernatural power. Who commands...



Apr 3 · 38 min 46 sec



Read All About It-Wisdom of Jesus-Shawn Williams



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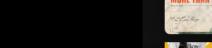
Liked Songs



Abraham was a man who completely surrendered to God even when it wasn't clear—and even when it didn't make sense. The story of Abraham tells us what full surrender and trust...



Feb 27 · 45 min 37 sec



More Than Money-Free to Live Generously-The Principle of First-Robert Morris

What comes first in your life? This week we're exploring the Principle of First: first things first. But, what should come first? Learn from Robert Morris on how to prioritize and make sure...



Feb 20 - 34 min 29 sec



Jan 23 · 33 min 55 sec

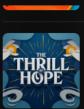


We Are Willow - Love People - Dave Dummitt and Panel Discussion

It's easy to love people who encourage, are friendly, and agree with us, but God longs for us to love all people across all boundaries, pursuing the type of community where no need is le...



Jan 16 · 34 min 21 sec



Thrill_Of_Hope-The_Shepherds-Uncontainable_Hope-Megan_Marshman

Gabriel encounters the shepherds and says, "Fear not. I bring you good news." He announces that the fear breaker, Jesus, is here. Good news that will cause great joy; good news that...



Dec 2021 · 33 min 48 sec

Pride says I'm number 1 and everyone else is not. Humility says God is number 1 and I am not. Pride makes everyone a potential competitor. Humility makes everyone a potential partner....



Nov 2021 - 32 min 16 sec



Monsters Within-Envy and Fulfiullment-Dave Dummit

When God's provision isn't enough. In Numbers 11 we God's people have left Egypt but have



Willow Creek_Mission-Vision-Values_Dave Dummit

God has been working in and through Willow for 46 years—bringing people into eternityaltering relationships with Jesus, mending marriages, healing families, impacting entire...



Sep 2021 · 30 min



Alive Without Breathing-Prayer for the Church Hosanna Wong

: How can we deploy people to be the church where we live, work, and play? Hosanna will teach from her new book "How Not To Save the World" which tackles lies we believe that...



Sep 2021 · 33 min 2 sec



Nicodemus, The Pharisees, and Sharing Our Faith-Dave Dummit

What compels someone to risk everything for something they believe in? This weekend we look at the life of a man named Nicodemus and how he journeyed from hidden faith to publi...



Sep 2021 · 34 min 52 sec



Alive Without Breathing - Prayer For The Church - Hosanna Wong

How can we deploy people to be the church where we live, work, and play? Hosanna will teach from her new book "How Not To Save the World" which tackles lies we believe that...



Aug 2021 · 33 min 2 sec

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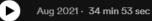
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Alive Without Breathing - Week 2 - How to Listen to God - Shawn Williams

As Jesus was leaving his disciples to go to the cross, he told them that he would send the counselor, the Holy Spirit, who would instruct them in all things and remind them of Jesus'...





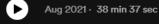
Alive Without Breathing - How To Pray - Ed Ollie Jr.

Many people believe they need to have a pastor or clergy member pray for them; that God doesn't hear the prayers of anyone else. But because of Jesus, we have been given access t...

Aug 2021 · 33 min 26 sec

Road Trip Radio - Track 105 - Shawn Williams

Too often we compartmentalize worship. We think of worship as this thing we do between 10:30-11:30 on Sunday morning. Worship is meant to absorb and soak into every hour and...





Road Trip Radio-Track 119-Miguel De La Mora

Many of us are in a rhythm that is taking us down a certain path and leaves us feeling frustrated & confused. We're off beat. However, there is a rhythm for your life that God want...





Road_Trip_Radio-Track_46-Miguel_De_La_Mora

We cannot avoid conflict, but we can control our response to it. Will we seek refuge through our earthly desires, or will we trust God and run to Him, allowing Him to be our refuge,...



Jul 2021 · 35 min 18 sec



Courage To Pray Bold Prayers

Big problems require big prayers. God moves through the prayers of His people, especially when those prayers are anchored in His promises. When we pray, God can do more than we...

These Are My People-Frenemies From Birth-Siblings-Ed Ollie Jr

Our brothers and sisters can be our greatest friends or our biggest enemies. Looking at the story of Joseph and his brothers, we see heartache, but also redemption. When it comes to...



May 2021 · 33 min 24 sec







These Are My People - Love Worth Fighting For - Dave Dummit



May 2021 · 38 min 59 sec



Jesus is the one we follow. His whole life was a blessing to the world. Every place that he went, every person he encountered experienced a "God moment" in his presence. Jesus liv...



Mar 2021 · 31 min 2 sec



NEXT - Together One Church - Ed Ollie Jr. - Shawn Williams

At the heart of the Gospel is reconciliation. Jesus' prayer was that His church would be one. During this message, Dave Dummitt will preach about the ethos of reconciliation, Jesus' visi...



Mar 2021 · 29 min 23 sec

Next - X-Factor Multiplication - Dave Ferguson

Jesus understood exponential growth. By taking 12 ragtag, misfit men and training them, discipling them...the world turned upside down. We can live lives of exponential impact by...



Feb 2021 · 25 min 1 sec

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Everyone In A Group-Every Group On Mission-Megan Marshman

As a church, we've spoken heavily about getting connected into small groups, but we are going to double-down. Part of our NEXT vision is becoming a church OF small groups, not j...



Game On-Step Forward in Peace- Derwin Gray

Happy are the merciful. In the story of the Good Samaritan we see a man show tremendous compassion on someone others had labeled an enemy. When we remove human labels and...



Jan 2021 · 35 min 48 sec



OIT

Game On-Step Forward in Health-Dave Dummit

Our physical health impacts our entire well being. But in order to have victory in living as the healthiest versions of ourselves, we have to start with right motivation. Our decisions about...



Jan 2021 · 23 min 54 sec



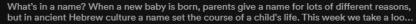
Whatever It Takes - Ed Ollie

A group of friends wrecked a roof to get their friend to Jesus; they were committed to relentlessly doing whatever it took for their friend to experience the transformation that only...



Jan 2021 · 21 min 49 sec

Christmas at Willow-Great God





Dec 2020 · 14 min 37 sec



Great Expectations - Great Joy

It's amazing how important a kick can be. This week we will take a look at one of the most significant kicks in history as we pursue understanding one thing: There is a direct correlatio...



Dec 2020 · 24 min 31 sec



Great Expectations - Great Redemption

Matthew 1 digs into the genealogy of Jesus. We all come in here with scandalous schizophrenic family trees not just in our past but in some degree scandalous and...



Dec 2020 · 27 min 30 sec



Great Expectations - Great Interruption

Divine interruptions have a huge impact on our spiritual lives because if we don't recognize them and respond to them, we miss out on some of the most important things God wants to..



Dec 2020 · 30 min 2 sec







Thanksgiving - Gratitude

Even during seasons when hope is running low, God's hand of care is not removed. This week Shawn Williams teaches us that having eyes to see God's goodness—gratitude—is a key...



Dec 2020 · 25 min 57 sec

Nov 2020 - 31 min 41 sec



Journey Through Daniel: Week 2

Ever felt powerless? What's the secret to having peace and calm when you can't control much of anything? This week Albert Tate takes us through week 2 of our Journey through Daniel t...



Nov 2020 · 28 min

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Journey Through Daniel: Week 1

Have you ever felt like an outsider--like a foreigner in a strange land? Meet Daniel--the central character in our Journey series. This week we ask one primary question: How do you follow...



Nov 2020 · 31 min



Restoration

This is such a powerful moment. Do you see what Jesus is doing? He is revealing his purpose in this world as one sent by God to bring about restoration to that which has been broken. It'...



Nov 2020 · 21 min 36 sec



The Goat | The Greatest Visionary

People have been asking what is the next vision for Willow Creek in this new season of ministry. But the real question is: what is God's vision for His church. This week, Senior Past...



Oct 2020 · 30 min 2 sec



Sep 2020 · 22 min 2 sec



The GOAT | The Greatest Healer

We seek doctors when we are sick, but Jesus does even greater work: he resurrects what is beyond remedy. If Jesus raises the dead to life, no situation we face is beyond hope or...



Sep 2020 · 27 min 23 sec



Jesus Over ____: Jesus Over Everything

Many of us keep striving for faulty prizes: the house, car, family, & finances are our grown-up trophies. Turns out the roof will wear out, the car's getting rusty, family isn't what Instagram...



Aug 2020 · 29 min 21 sec



Jesus Over ____: Humility Over Pride

We live in a culture that says things like "Take pride in your work" and "Be proud of who you are." But is it possible for pride to go too far? Could the limiting factor of joy in your life be d...



Aug 2020 · 20 min 23 sec







Jesus Over ____ | Joy Over Sorrow

Life is hard. Circumstances can knock us down and threaten to rob us of joy and peace. But what if the story is bigger than what we see? What if it's really true that God will finish what...



Aug 2020 · 23 min 32 sec



So You Want To Be Great

We strive to become great. We climb the ladders, aim for the trophies, and strive for the titles. Jesus has a thing or two to teach us about what lasting greatness really means. He flips the...



Aug 2020 · 23 min 34 sec



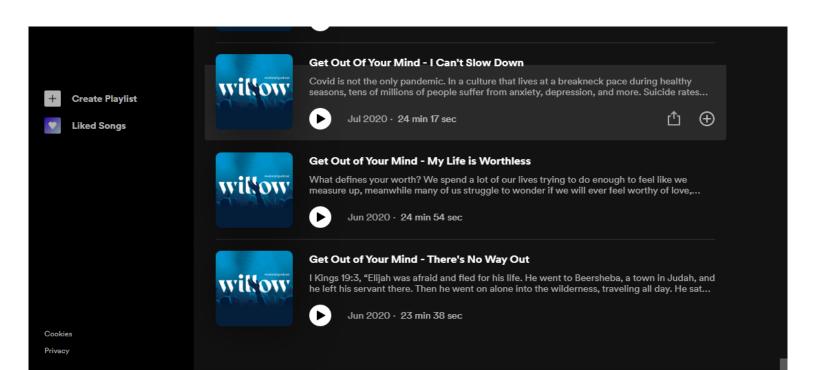
Summer At The Lake - Walking on Water

Sometimes Jesus calms the storms. But sometimes Jesus walks on the choppy waters with us. The question is: are we asking for big enough things? Are we asking for things that move us...

Covid is not the only pandemic. In a culture that lives at a breakneck pace during healthy seasons, tens of millions of people suffer from anxiety, depression, and more. Suicide rates...



Jul 2020 · 26 min 33 sec



1:39:33 PM 4/29/2022

Apple Podcasts Preview



171 episodes

Love God, love people, and change the world. We believe the life and lessons of Jesus aren't just good advice, but are Good News for us here and now.

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APR 24, 2022

Celebration Of Hope 2022-Wk 1-What is God Growing in the World-Ron... >

Where is God in the pandemic? What has God been doing during the global pandemic? Does it feel like God has disappeared? Ron Bueno, Executive Director of the non-profit organization ENLACE, shares stories of God's incredible work through churches in hard-hit communities worldwide and ho...

► PLAY 36 min

APR 17, 2022

Easter At Willow Creek Church-2022-Dave Dummitt

Join Willow as we celebrate Easter, 2022. Hear the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection from a new point of view, seeing that hope isn't something we need to search for actively; it's already here. When our world is shaky, we reach for hope. At times, it can feel far away—nearly impossible to gras...

▶ PLAY 25 min

APR 10, 2022

M2215_Read All About It_The Compassion Of Jesus_Megan Marshman

Many of us have heard of Jesus' miracle, feeding 5,000 with just five loaves of bread and two fish. This story in Luke 9 tells us about Jesus' power and His immense compassion for people. Megan Marshman shows us exactly how much Jesus cares for us all in this week's teaching.

► PLAY 37 min

APR 3, 2022

Read All About It-The Power Of Jesus-Dave Dummitt

Continuing our series in the book of Luke, we look at Luke 8, where Jesus is sleeping in a boat, then calms the storm on the lake, displaying His supernatural power. Who commands even the waves and the water? Learn more about the power of Jesus.

► PLAY 38 min

MAR 27, 2022

Read All About It-Wisdom of Jesus-Shawn Williams

Read All About It: Seek and You Will Find: The Wisdom of Jesus | March 27 | Shawn Williams The gospel of Luke tells us a lot about the wisdom of Jesus, who sometimes uses parables, or stories, to illustrate a point. This week, Pastor Shawn takes us through Luke 11, in which Jesus famously advise...

► PLAY 34 min

MAR 20, 2022

Read All About It-The Humanity of Jesus-Dave Dummitt

As we explore and learn about the humanity of Jesus through the book of Luke, we look at Luke 4 and how the devil tempted Jesus. When temptation is keeping us from focusing on God, what can we learn from Jesus' response?



Show 10 More Episodes

Customer Reviews See All

4.5 out of 5

200 Ratings





Tall Girl 19, 05/31/2018

Inspiring

The "episodes" are easy to listen to and follow.



Machrist234, 09/06/2021

They ditched Hybels sermons

They're trashing all of Bills old sermons and most of the remaining are poor sermons.



BradWachter, 09/21/2014

Wonderful opportunity

What a great opportunity to be able to benefit from the great teaching at Willow Creek from far away via a podcast.

Top Podcasts In Religion & Spirituality



The Bible in a Year (wi... Ascension Catholic Fait...



The Bible Recap D-Group



Joel Osteen Podcast Joel Osteen



Encountering You AccessMore



WHOA That's Good P... Sadie Robertson



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LISTEN ON SPOTIFY

why? Because He knew we would struggle to fully put our faith in God with the temptation, allure, and power money can have.

As we kick off our new series on living generously, we'll dive into Matthew 6 to explore how our attitude and posture towards money can tell us a lot about our relationship with it.

RESOURCES: Discussion Guide Series Blog

SHARE THIS MESSAGE

I NEED PRAYER

More than Money

Jesus talked about money more than any other topic. Why? Because money tends to be one of the number one competitors for people's hearts. This series aims to help people

In This Series





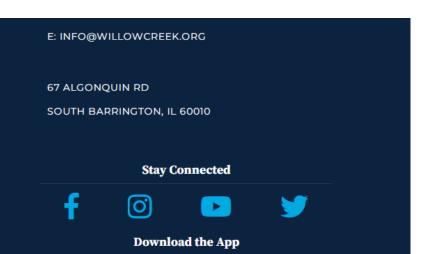








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What is God Growing in the World?

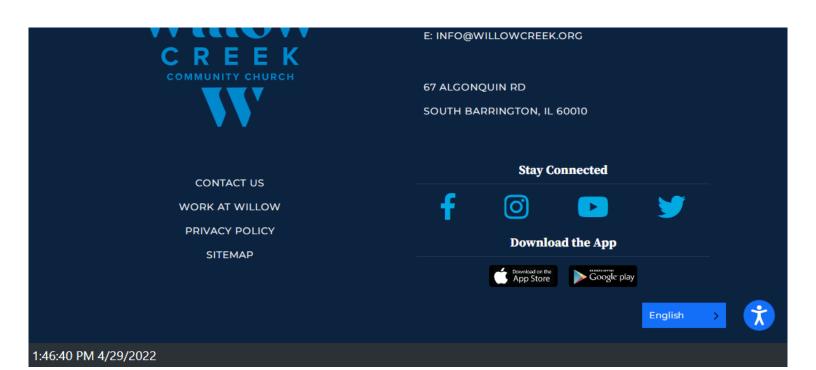
April 24, 2022 | Ron Bueno

Learn how God has been preparing his church to serve effectively over the past couple of years during the pandemic. Ron Bueno, Executive Director of the non-profit organization, ENLACE, shares stories of God's incredible work through churches in hard-hit communities around the world, and how He is equipping the church to help with rebuilding these communities.

RESOURCES: Discussion Guide Series Blog

transformation planted by our partners, watered by Willow, and grown by God









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GIVE







From stocking groceries and staffing an emergency shelter, to education, employment services, and legal consultation, the Willow Creek Care Center and special initiatives at all Willow locations are serving people in need.

Willow **Creek Care** Center

The Care Center helps all Willow Creek attenders—and those in our community —with basic needs like food, clothing, transportation, job training, and more. Learn more about the C.A.R.S. ministry, and how you can donate your car to help continue their work.

The Care Center's skilled Care team is passionate about providing immediate relief in times of crisis, as well as guiding people toward long-term solutions.

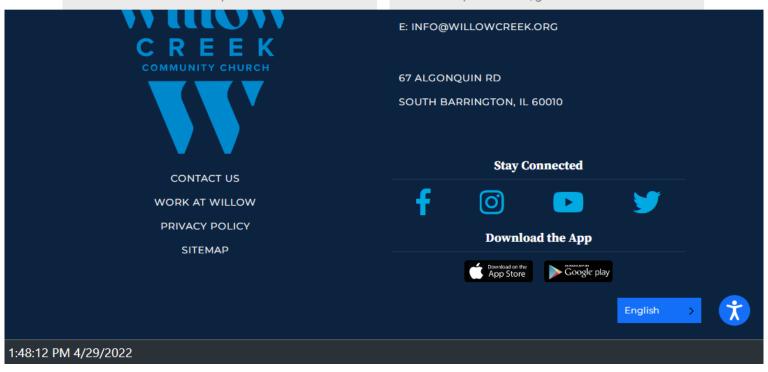


From groceries to education, employment service, and legal consultation, the Care Center takes a holistic approach to serving people in need. Most of all, the Care Center offers an environment of love, compassion, and hope, where authentic relationships can flourish.

Sometimes life is just hard. Storms come, on winds of job loss, accident, illness, financial stress, or a collision of multiple fronts. Some are

Learn more about the Care Center

Not sure what you need? Speak with a Willow Creek Response Pastor and learn about helpful next steps at Willow, get referrals for a licensed





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Contentment is a Choice

1 Timothy 6:6-8 | 1 Timothy Chapter 6 Audio 1 Corinthians 9:25 | 1 Corinthians Chapter 9 Audio

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 1 Timothy 6:6-8

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 1 Corinthians 9:25

Com-par-i-son (noun):

- an examination of two or more items to establish similarities and dissimilarities
- 2. the gateway to discontent

I can spend many hours feeling dissatisfied with various parts of my life. I don't earn enough money. I wish I was a better cook. When will I get to take a nice vacation?

And, if there's one thing I can always find at the root of my dissatisfaction, it's comparison. (Full disclosure: The first definition above came from Merriam-Webster, but the second one is all mine.)

Most days, I'm perfectly content with my life-until I look at other people. It can start innocently enough. Aww, what a sweet mother-daughter relationship. Such a blessing! But if I'm not careful, I can allow little voices in my head to lead my heart astray. How did she get so much? She doesn't deserve it as much as you, does she? Life's really unfair.

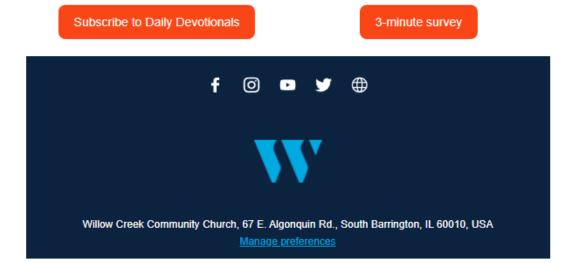
Like many things in life, we must choose contentment—over and over again. Ideally, it's a choice that begins with acceptance and leads to freedom. But it isn't always easy, especially during times of struggle. For me, that choice starts by acknowledging my current reality and telling God how I feel about it. I talk to Him about my jealousy and how hard I'm finding it to be grateful. I tell him all the things I wish I could have. Then I ask Him to help me accept—and even embrace—things just as they are and trust Him with the rest.

There's nothing wrong with wanting more in life, but my goal is to pursue contentment more than my desires. When I focus on God, I remember that life is not a race to be the best or have the most. It's a time to enjoy everything God gives me as I keep my eye on the eternal finish line.

Next Steps

- Pay attention to what's at the root of any dissatisfaction you may feel in life. When I
 noticed that seeing friends on social media was leading to unhealthy comparisons, I
 decided to limit my use of certain platforms. What is God revealing to you about
 contentment?
- Try replacing your feelings of dissatisfaction with gratitude. Each day, write down at least one thing for which you're grateful. And if you're struggling to feel grateful, ask God to help you see yourself as He sees you.

Written by: Jennifer Grabianski, Core Content Associate, Adult Engagement Team



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More Than Money | Week 1 "The Principle of Posture"

Print the Weekend Group Guide Universal Group Guide Inductive Bible Study

Running short on time?

Feel free to just use these questions, rather than the whole guide.

- 1. Review what you learned about each posture toward money. Which posture best describes you when you're at your worst?
- 2. Read Matthew 6:19-21. What earthly treasures can take first place in our hearts?
- 3. Read Proverbs 11:24–25; 19:17; and 1 Timothy 6:17–19. Jesus teaches us principles about money because He wants something for us. What does God want for us?

Group Reconnect

- · What's your favorite fast-food restaurant and your favorite item on the menu?
- . If you had \$10,000 and were forced to spend it selfishly, what would you buy?

Open in Prayer

Looking for an example of an Opening Prayer? Click here.

Message Recap

Jesus had a lot to say about money and possessions. But His teachings imply that, rather than wanting something *from* us, He wants something *for* us.

Dave Dummitt challenged us to examine our posture toward money. Are we defensive about it? Do we trust in it as our source of security? Do we feel guilty about our financial choices? Do we arrogantly flaunt our wealth? Or, do we hold our money with open hands, believing that everything belongs to God?

Discussion Questions

- · What stood out to you most in Dave's illustration about the waffle fries?
- Review what you learned about each posture toward money. Which posture best describes you when you're at your worst?
- · Read Matthew 6:19-21. What earthly treasures can take first place in our hearts?
- Money can be an enormous source of stress. How have you seen financial opinions and decisions create problems for people?
- Read Proverbs 3:9–10. In what specific ways can we honor God with our wealth?
- Read Proverbs 11:24–25; 19:17; and 1 Timothy 6:17–19. Jesus teaches us principles about money because He wants something for us. What does God want for us?

Live it Out

- What step can you take this week to place your trust in God and be more openhanded with the resources God has given you?
- Throughout this series, there will be opportunities for you to learn what God says
 about money and ways to practice generosity. Ask God to help you trust Him more
 and more as you open your heart and mind to what next steps He might invite you
 to take.
- . Is there another way God is calling you to live out the message this week?

Close in Prayer

Looking for an example of a Closing Prayer? Click here.

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