

APRIL 29, 2019

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Pastor David Gardner

One of the great secret benefits of life in a congregation is that over time, amazing leadership training takes place. Kids learn not only about Jesus, but also morals and manners and delayed gratification. We start as students and eventually, our discipleship leads us into teaching and ministry and mission. If one can chair the leadership table at church, that same one is easily qualified to be the President of Lions, or Rotary, or serve on the City Council.

Brené Brown is a research professor at the University of Houston. She has written several books. She lectures and recently, Netflix has a special with her. We are going to explore Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts. This exploration is going to start with this devotional and perhaps other future devotionals. It also will occur in sermons for several weeks. I pray we both get a great deal out of this.

First, there are 10 behaviors and cultural issues (condensed) that get in the way of brave leaders and courageous organizations:

We avoid tough conversations, including giving honest, productive feedback. Rather than acknowledging and addressing fears during change and upheaval, we spend an unreasonable amount of time managing problematic behaviors.

Diminishing trust caused by a lack of connection and empathy.

Not enough people are taking smart risks or creating and sharing bold ideas. When people are afraid of being put down, the best you can expect is status quo and groupthink.

We get stuck and defined by setbacks, disappointments, and failures. Too much shame and blame, not enough accountability and learning.

People are opting out of vital conversations about diversity and inclusivity because they fear looking wrong, saying something wrong, or being wrong. Choosing our own comfort over hard conversations is the epitome of privilege, and it corrodes trust and moves us away from meaningful and lasting change.

When we fix the wrong thing for the wrong reason, the same problems continue to surface. It's costly and demoralizing.

Organizational values are gauzy and assessed in terms of aspirations rather than actual behaviors that can be taught, measured, and evaluated.

Perfectionism and fear are keeping people from learning and growing.

So those are things to avoid. Here are three things (condensed) to work toward:

1. You can't get to courage without rumbling with vulnerability. Embrace the suck. (She explains a "rumble" occurs when people listen with the same passion as they wish to be heard! Also, when I read, "embrace the suck" - the first thing I thought was "NO WAY!" - and then I thought, "didn't Jesus teach us The Beatitudes?")

2. Self-awareness and self-love matter. Who we are is how we lead.

3. Courage is contagious. To scale daring leadership and build courage in teams and organizations, we have to cultivate a culture in which brave work, tough conversations, and whole hearts are the expectation, and armor is not necessary or rewarded.

John 13:34-35 (Voice) Jesus speaking -

" So, I give you a new command: Love each other deeply and fully. Remember the ways that I have loved you and demonstrate your love for others in those same ways. Everyone will know you as My followers if you demonstrate your love to others."

Dear God, whether we think of ourselves as leaders or not - we are part of the Body. We are connected and must build each other up. When we do this, then others are also attracted to the Body. Help us to shine Jesus through us to others, in His name we pray. Amen



Savannah Martin top 15
at OSU

Easter was Amazing

Baby Tanner being
delivered today

Men's Breakfast will be this Sunday May 5th at 8:00 am.

We are in need of someone to ride with the Driver on the Church Van on Sunday Mornings and Wednesday evenings to help pick up the kiddos. If you are interested, please contact the office.

If you are interested in a support weekend for Women who have a relative or friend who is or has been incarcerated, please contact Gerry Rawlings for more information about Kairos Outside.



- 1 - Paula Freese
- 6 - Landon Berscheidt
- 7 - Ron Martin
- 10- Don Henricks
- 16 - Nikki Pierce
- 17 - Kevin Berscheidt
- 23 - Megan Caveny



From Steeple to Street

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Children's & Youth Celebration

Ages 3-18 (Parents, too)

At the Greens Apartments

(421 S. 27th in Duncan)

Rescheduled to Tuesday, April 30, 2019

5:30 PM-7:00 PM (Cancelled April 23 due to rain)



Bringing the Love of Jesus from the pews of St. Paul's United Methodist Church to our neighborhood and community.

Free hot dogs, hamburgers, games, songs and Jesus loving fun right where you live and play. Join Us!

PRAYER REQUEST

Beth Horn – Late Stage Liver Failure
Religions under Attack
Amy - 24-year-old with Aneurism and Hole in her heart
Allred's Granddaughters Kirsten and Courtney
Cheryl Johnson and Family – Loss of her mom Iva Johnson
Family of Ranet Tippens after her Father's death
Ann Starrett – Dementia and broken Hip. In Memory Care.
Trish Lister - Foot
James Crow – Cancer
Kay Martin – Dementia and Fell and Broke a Bone
Family of Peggy Harper
Sara Riggs – for strength and peace as she goes through Divorce
Pipkin Family
Thomas Bradburry – Healing from Cancer
Carla Johnson – Fracture in her Shoulder
Jo Ann Pierce – Continued prayers for recovering from Knee Surgery
Pat Weber – Continued prayers for recovery from foot surgery
Marian Chessmore's sister with Heart issues
Della Henry – Heart Surgery
Kathy Allred – Continued prayers for healing and to be healthy
Marcia Haskins – On going foot sores
Drew Cole - Cancer
Junior Brown - Cancer
Connie Green – Cancer
Stacy Mettler – Cancer
Ann Johnson – Continued prayers for healing on her hip
Addie McMurrin
Jason Poorman – (Edith Suiters nephew) Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
Karen Gibson – Cancer
Gary Gibson – Cancer
Jan Smith – Cancer
Rebecca's cousin has eating disorder, liver failure and on transplant list
Kathy Bridges – Cancer
Joe Perry – Kidney cancer
Margaret Averre – Throat cancer
Daniel Whittney – Cancer
Jennifer Allred – Spinal pain and fibromyalgia
Melinda Douglas – Lung Cancer