

These notes suggest ways you can prepare for the sermon that will be preached on September 19, 2021 at First Evan. Feel free to use them for class or small group discussion. Feel free to pick just one or use them all.

1. Review Question: Here is a basic summary of key concepts we have covered in the previous two messages and what we will consider today. In what way have you found something practical in this series that has been helpful to you personally?

One Heart: We have one heart.

I love Him. Love propels obedience – how to grow in our love for Him

One Way: He is the way.

I trust Him. Following His direction is the wise way – how to say yes every time.

One Truth: He is the truth.

I believe His Word. Truth driven living taps into divine power – how to deploy truth in every situation.

2. As our culture continues to move away from God, what do you think could happen to someone whose obedience is not love driven, who doesn't trust God in difficult circumstances, or whose actions are not driven by God's Word?
3. The passage that Jim will discuss in the third sermon in the series "Strengthen Your Core" comes from John 16:7–15. What are some initial observations you would make about this passage? How does this passage relate to Jesus prior statement, "I am the truth" (John 14:6)?
4. In the sermon, Jim will say, "The Spirit saves the lost via word-driven conviction, transforms the saved via word driven sanctification, and imparts true hope via word driven expectation." In other words, when we minister the word to others, the Spirit can convict, edify, and encourage. Share a personal experience in which you used a verse or passage to minister to someone else and you saw the Spirit work through your words?
5. What methods and practices do you use to memorize and internalize God's Word? How has this been helpful to you personally and in ministry to others? In what ways is this challenging? Can you recall a conversation in which God ministered to someone else through a verse you quoted from memory? Do tell!

6. If you were to respond to God's Word in a way that is informed by 1 Thessalonians 2:13, what would that look like?

7. Read Jesus' words to the church in Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13). Especially consider verse 8. Jesus says that He has put before this church an open door which no one can shut. Further, He says that He has done so because of three characteristics of this church. What would it mean for us at First Evan to evidence these three characteristics? Assuming we did, what would it be like for God to open a door for our church like what He did for Philadelphia? What would it take for Him to do so?

STRENGTHENING YOUR CORE

One Heart One Way **One Truth** One Life One Mission One Peace One Hope