

Christmas Party – The After Party
Pastor Lee Coleman
December 27, 2009

Welcome this morning. This is the last installment in our series Christmas party and I hope you had an incredible Christmas experience with your family. I realize that for some of you it wasn't as cool as you wanted it to be. Some of you teenagers and children; there's maybe one thing on your list that got left out. You have to leave room for us to get you something for your birthday so just chill. Me and my family had an incredible experience; people coming in from lots of different places and just having the opportunity to sit down but really it's been a short time hanging out with them and spending a little bit of time with them and I wish there was more time but there is just not. So, we're in the phase of the season where it's over, what do we do now? That's what we wanted to discuss today. This is the after party we are going to talk about today. If you ever went to a junior high party back in the day, you know what an after party is like. Back in the day is when I was being Mr. Awesome in junior high. I was going to these parties, getting invited to at least one a month and I would go to these birthday parties and there is this one I distinctly remember. It was being hosted at a community center, which was a double wide with no walls on the inside and so it was awesome. I remember going to several parties there but this one in particular I remember going to and as it went, I walked in wearing my cool red parachute pants that didn't really fit really well. I don't know if you want to picture that or not. I walked in and did my thing, which was before I realized that wearing vertical stripes instead of horizontal would help me so I had this strip shirt going across, which looked like a combination of overweight Michael Jackson and Waldo. It's one of these boy/girl parties where there is going to be dancing involved. There is a disco ball in this community center; why there is a disco ball in a community center I don't really know other than for these dances. There's somebody's dad over in the corner who is going to be the DJ and he's got all these tapes lined up. For those of you who don't know what tapes are, it's these cassette things that look about this big. It is what we used before CD's. So we had these awesome tapes and I remember there were guys on one side, all the way down this double wide and then there are girls all the way down the other side and we didn't know what to do, we had no clue. We can't dance, we're 7th grade guys, we don't have our moves down yet. We're still working on this and the girls don't know what they're doing either. We're standing there and if there was at least a snack table I would know what to do so I'm like what do I do and by the end of it, seriously two hours later of the dad running mix tapes for us and a disco ball sitting in the middle of the room, I didn't move. I changed my leg position a couple of times, but I didn't do anything and so me and some of my buddies as we walk out we're like what do we do now because that was lame. Let's get some pizza at Godfathers and then go watch the Dukes of Hazard and that was a great idea because A) Bo and Luke Duke drive fast cars and shoot explosive bows and arrows and then there is Daisy. So we're walking in and get our cheese pizza, and then me and four or five of my buddies go over to somebody's house because no one ever came over to my house. That was our after party. We walked out of the dance thinking that was kind of lame and that maybe the way you're walking out of this year thinking this year was really lame; it was really stupid; it was really annoying. I had a lot of not

nice things happen to me this year and I need to move on from that and what we would do when I was in school, after a party we would talk about the people who threw the party. We would talk about what it was like; what we didn't like; what we did like and how we were going to improve it if we were to throw that party and it always involved pizza and Dukes of Hazard. That is the conversation we want to have with you today in regards to how you've lived your life this last year as a part of the believing body here at The Avenue, but also just as an individual in different zones of your life. Hopefully you got a worship guide when you came in and you have an opportunity to take some notes and take a look at some things.

I want to talk now about the idea that you have and that I have of this New Year coming in on us. We have a chance to walk through a brand new door. We walk through doors every day. We have a chance to enter into a new party zone and new situations and some new circumstances that have been coming for awhile. We have a chance for a fresh start to a degree and so here's the thing; what are you going to do as you walk out the door of 2009 and into the door of 2010? What's going to happen in your world and in your life? We all walk in and out of different doors every day. All of you who are in this room right now, unless you have some kind of miraculous powers, you walked in these doors. You came in and at one point today you're going to hopefully leave after the sermon but how are you going to make your decisions? What is going to be different as you leave this place? Every time you enter a door somewhere somehow, there is something that should happen inside that place you go that creates a different response as you leave that place. I know that for me and my family we have lots of doors we walk into. We have dentist's doors; things are different when we leave there. You're scared out of your mind as you go in there thinking they're going to give me all brand new teeth. They're going to pull them all, drill everything; I'm going to feel every bit of it. There are those doors you walk through and you walk out and it's not that bad, you just have cleaner teeth and they gave you some free mouthwash. It's a good deal. You walk out with a completely different understanding than when you walked in and you know what? There's another place you do that; the doctor's office. Some of you this year have walked into doctor's offices very uncertain, very unsure and very scared not knowing what was going to happen in that appointment. Some of you have walked into those types of situations this year and medically you've gotten some really bad news for you or one of your family members. Some of you have walked in and gotten really good news. You have some test results come back that proves that you're actually okay. We've all had different experiences and every time we walk into a doctor's office like that, for instance, we had this conversation with somebody who knows how to help us and then we leave there with a different set of tools or thoughts on how we can make changes or do things different in our life. But listen, for me there is almost always a dread going to the doctor but it's mixed with a joy and I say that with my children. I took one of my kids to the doctor a couple of weeks ago and we thought she had strep throat and I don't know if you've ever take your kid to the doctor for strep throat but listen, that is crazy. You need to take them; they need medicine so we've got to get that fixed. I'm walking in with Mary Grace and I'm telling her it's going to great, you're going to get medicine and you'll be all better and she's walking in saying no daddy, I don't want to do the test. I'm like what test is she talking about. She must know something that I don't and as we walk in she said, anything but the stick with the white thing on the end, but I go and check her in and like a good dad I reassure her, that won't happen. It's going to be fine. You'll be okay. We go back to the room

and there is a nurse and this is at the end of the day and I'm going to be honest, she probably is great at her job but she was not happy at this point of the day. She was done with children and everything that they had and so she came into our room and she did all the vitals and Mary Grace was looking at me like she's the one! The nurse asked me the symptoms so I tell her she has a sore throat and then I see her reach into the cotton swab canister and you guys know these are huge, you can use them to pole vault with so she starts approaching Mary Grace and tells her to open her mouth. I'm thinking this nurse does not know what is about to happen to her. Mary Grace has Chinese throwing stars hidden on her somewhere I'm sure of it. She's about to pull these out and go nuts and I'm like this is going to be awesome. The nurse begins her process of convincing Mary Grace, which to Mary Grace are empty threats. I'm telling her come here and I will hold her and she's freaking out and I'm trying to reassure her it will be okay and I know it's not going to be okay. I realize at this point I'm a liar. The nurse says if you don't do this I'm going to have to get another nurse and I'm like, man they're bringing in reinforcements. The other nurse comes in and I am at Mary Grace's feet and one nurse has got her legs and another nurse has her upper body. They need to have those cattle shutles at doctors' offices to do this test. They finally get this huge swab in there and Mary Grace is going nuts. Man, she's scaring me. The nurse gets it and walks out and I'm like whew, that's over and Mary Grace sits up likes she's been in a coma for years and wakes up like what just happened! Dad, I told you they were going to do that and she starts bawling and she sits in my lap and our doctor comes in and he comes over and is trying to check her out and she doesn't want to cooperate and I'm like what did I just do to her. I just walked in this door to this doctor's office to get her some help and she is having this type of response, what's going to occur after this. As we walked out of that examination room her brain completely shifted gears because just outside that room there's a huge bowl of candy that is sitting right there and all of a sudden her mind changes. I told her she could have two and I'll get one also. As we walked out, we went to the pharmacy and got her medication to make her better. Now listen, most of you have had a similar life experience, you've done something like that with your children or yourself. When I thought about that story I realized many of the lives that are going to be in the room on Sunday having experienced something like that. Maybe in a different way; maybe you've walked into a doctor's office, maybe you've walked into a lawyer's office because something came up in your business or in your family that required those types of measures. Maybe you've walked into a court house this year; maybe you walked into any number of places to have to work out some life circumstances that have occurred for you, your family, and your friends, whatever. Guys, when we walk into those places it can become a difficult place but then again some of us have walked into some great places this year. We've entered some incredible doors that we've gone into this place and we've walked out with a brand new baby that was ours. Some of us have gone to church building like this and gotten married and experienced the joy of that relationship. There is a lot of different great things we've experienced too but with all of that in mind, what's happened in 2009, we need to remember some special things that God's word wants to show us today and I want you to hang on to them and hopefully take with you. They are in your notes so you can hold on to those through the season.

I want to tell you a story of two guys who walked into some other doors, spent some time in a place and walked out. I want you to look with me at what they did, how they got

there and how they responded afterwards. This is found in Acts chapter 5 and it's about these two apostles and as we look at this I think in terms of you, in terms of me, I think as The Avenue Church as a whole. Listen, we've walked through some awesome doors this year. There have been some incredible things happen at The Avenue and I'm not going to lie, there have been some very difficult things happen here at The Avenue also, some challenging things to you as individuals that we as a staff have walked through with some of you. Some challenging things to us as a staff and in our personal lives as well as in what we do in helping lead the church where we believe God wants it to go. There are some difficult places but there are also some incredible places that God has brought us into this year as a church. Listen if you haven't stopped by the new building to see what's going on out there, I'm not doing an advertisement for TaMolly's or for any of those restaurants out there but hey, it's close by. Eat your lunch there today and take a look at what God is allowing us to do. Building a place where this county can be reached. It is exciting, I'm getting goose bumps. You can drive by and see it from the road and it's incredible how God is using this church and church body to reach people for his name and there's a couple of other guys who had the same thing in mind. If you look in Acts 5 it says this, ¹² *The apostles were performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers were meeting regularly at the Temple in the area known as Solomon's Colonnade.* ¹³ *But no one else dared to join them, even though all the people had high regard for them.* ¹⁴ *Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women.* ¹⁵ *As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by.* ¹⁶ *Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil^[a] spirits, and they were all healed.* Dude, that's some cool stuff that God was doing at that time at that place and you know what? Some of you have been experiencing those kinds of things this year for your family or your life. For some of you it may look at little bit different. For some of you, maybe earlier this year you lost your job and then sometime during this past year you regained another job because God had chosen at that point in your life to say this is what I'm going to do, this is how I'm going to lead you, and this is where I'm going to bring you. For some of you, maybe you lost your job last year or the year before even and things haven't gone to the place where you have that new, steady job that you've been wanting. Maybe that's because God has something new, some other door that he wants you to walk through that you haven't made it to yet. These guys were doing what God had called them to do, preaching God's word, sharing God's love of people, people were being healed, lives were being changed, and people were being transformed. Then it says in verse 17 in chapter 5 of Acts, ¹⁷ *The high priest and his officials, who were Sadducees, were filled with jealousy.* And by the way, this high priest most likely was the same high priest who accused Jesus of being Jesus. ¹⁸ *They arrested the apostles,* because they were helping people, always arrest those people first. *and put them in the public jail.* ¹⁹ *But an angel of the Lord came at night, opened the gates of the jail, and brought them out. Then he told them,* ²⁰ *"Go to the Temple and give the people this message of life!"* These apostles walked through one door. This particular door in this case is this prison door. They were escorted into prison, put in a jail cell and they were placed there by the high priest

and all his buddies and as they put them in there they had a choice to make. Do we become bitter, angry, vindictive or do we sit here and say God what do you want us to do with this? Do we sit here and say God, what is next or do they become sad and just disillusioned and lost. Well I think what you see happen next later in this chapter tells you what goes on. Verse 21, ²¹*So at daybreak the apostles entered the Temple, as they were told, and immediately began teaching.* What did they begin teaching? God's love, Jesus Christ resurrected then it says, *"When the high priest and his officials arrived, they convened the high council."* So these guys are getting ready, we're going to get these cats out of jail that we put in jail, we're going to bring them in here and we're just going to run them through the ringer and we're going to kill them because they're punks. —*the full assembly of the elders of Israel. Then they sent for the apostles to be brought from the jail for trial.* ²² *But when the Temple guards went to the jail, the men were gone. So they returned to the council and reported,* ²³ *"The jail was securely locked, with the guards standing outside, but when we opened the gates, no one was there!"*

²⁴ *When the captain of the Temple guard and the leading priests heard this, they were perplexed, wondering where it would all end."* What I love about that is it hasn't ended yet. God's word, God's reality, God's presence is still being preached in this moment as you sit in this room. So those guys wondering where it would all end, it doesn't.

²⁵*Then someone arrived with startling news: "The men you put in jail are standing in the Temple, teaching the people!"* Guys, as they exited the jail, they chose to go and to continue what God had said this is what I need you to do. As you walk through this door, do these and today I'm going to challenge you through the rest of the morning, what is it that God is saying to you, do this. I've put you in this position in 2009 and 2010 here's what I need you to do. Here are some tweaks to add to your life, to your heart, to your family. The apostles were brought before the high council and they had a little talking to and as they got there there's another guy who stood up in their defense and basically told the high priest and the rest of the people, listen, if they can get out of jail and no one knows how that happened, if I were you I wouldn't mess with them. So it finishes out with this, ⁴¹*The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.* ^[d] ⁴² *And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message:*

"Jesus is the Messiah." The apostles had a choice, they had to decide, are we going to sit and be upset about the fact that we got thrown in prison or are we going to do something that is out of the ordinary. Completely different than what the rest of the world expects. What are we going to do after we get out of this little jail party? How are we going to respond, what's going to be our next step, what is our after party going to look like? As these guys developed a plan it really wasn't much of a plan because you see where the angel of the Lord came to them and said, here's what I need you to do, go and preach Jesus Christ. Guys, our call, those of you who are believers in this room, are call is not really that much different. That's pretty much what it all boils down to. God doesn't say I need you to go out and give a lot of money to a lot of organizations so you get a lot of tax deductions. God doesn't say I need you to go out and be president of your company. I know you just started last week, but I think you should be

president this year. That's going to cause some really awesome problems for you at work and you may be president of your own organization with your name on it. If you try to do that kind of thing, you've got to be careful. You can't just assume that some of your thoughts are what God wants you to do. You need to seek God in his word, understand his heart as he shares with you and I want you to understand, these apostles had a choice, they could follow what God wanted them to do or they could go with their own emotions based on the experience they were in. But they chose to walk out the door and live differently. This year, we talked about it awhile ago; there are a lot of doors you walk through. Some of you have walked into the doors of depression and you've had a hard go at it, I understand that. You've walked into a place of some kind of illness or anxiety. Some have walked into a place known as sleep disorders, that's not a fun place to be. Some of these things are health related, yeah, we can talk about that but some of these are emotionally related because of different circumstances in our lives and it's that kind of stuff that we have to turn to God and say, God, I've walked into this, what now? I've been a part of this party that you've had me in, fun or not, now what as I walk through the door of 2010? Some of you this year walked into a door where your marriage ended up being on the rocks. Some of you ended up walking into a door and entering a room where your children were beginning to rebel for whatever reason. There's lots of negative places that many of us have walked into and that's what we can tend to focus on but if we will remember some of the other doors that God has allowed us to walk through and the rooms he has allowed us to enter, those places of goodness, even if it's just one hour on Sunday where you get to just spend it with God, that door that you get to walk through, you have to remember those as well. With all of these things added together, what's next as we leave this place as you walk out those doors? What's going to be different as you leave this party? I want you to think about three tips or reminders in your notes. Three things that you can hang onto and take with you as you leave the 2009 party and walk into 2010.

The first one is this; no matter how successful you become, it is dangerous to think that you have arrived. No matter how successful you were in 2009, it's really dangerous to think that you're done. No matter how great things went in your family in 2009, it would be a travesty for you to think, okay, done, clear, we're good. It would be horrible for you to think, wow; in 2009 we have reached in our business the peak of what we will ever reach. We've done the best we're ever going to do. It will be really sad if that's where you chose to stop. No matter how successful you become it is dangerous to think you have arrived. In Colossians 2 verses 6-7 it says this and guys this is speaking specifically to your relationship with Jesus Christ. It would be really, really sad where you sit right now in your relationship right now, where ever you are if you don't know Christ at all or whether you think you know him really well, it would be really, really sad if you stopped where you are where you are no matter what in your walk with Jesus. *⁶And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.*" My hope is that you will walk through that door that is I'm not done with Jesus yet. You will walk through that door of I've got more Jesus that I need to know about you and honestly Jesus, I haven't told you everything about me. I love having that conversation with Jesus because I love saying, Jesus I know I haven't told you everything and he's like yeah, I know because I already know it but you

need to release that to me. I know I need to release it to you and I journal all about it and I write about it and then I spend time talking to God. God, begin to perfect this area of my life whatever it is. It's got to be a constant thing guys. Christianity is not a one and done. You don't go to camp when you're a teenager and give your life to Jesus and then you don't have to grow anymore after that. That's stupid, it just is. What are you going to do now, how are you growing in Jesus now? My son, on his birthday in November, we got the brother a jacket and he keeps eating food and growing. He had to get another jacket the other day. We can't stop it and we don't want to stop it but you know what? That's natural. We grow, even old men. I'm not making fun of it, but your ears keep growing. It's just natural. Physically we're designed by God to continue to grow. Not only do they continue to grow flesh, there's sprouts of hair that is growing out of those ears too. Listen, I'm not making fun of you, I've got issues too. If you haven't written this down, this is old school for many of you who have been in church for a long time, continue to grow in Christ. But so often we just forget that. We start off January 1st saying we're going to read the bible through. No you're not, you're going to stop in about three weeks because you get too busy or you can't wake up in time or whatever. You've got the read the bible through thing and you lose your guide and you say I guess I'll wait till next year. No, we can't just stop in the middle and say we've arrived and we know God well enough so we're good to go. That's just silly. Let this passage from Colossians encourage you to this next year in 2010 as you enter that door as you go into the party known as 2010 to continue to know Jesus more deeply, more fully.

The second tip is an attitude of entitlement and being done will poison a person or an organization. If we at The Avenue Church believed that we were done reaching this county for Christ, we would stay in this building. If we at The Avenue Church believed that we were done, we would just enjoy things as they are but listen, we have a lead pastor who believes and has heard God say to him, this is what I need you to do with The Avenue. This is how I need you to lead this body and us as a staff sit around and talk about it. David shares with us God's vision for this church and it is not to stay in here, comfortable in these pews. It is to reach a community and to reach a county and even beyond that for Jesus Christ. Do you know what is interesting, if you go back to the Acts passage; the apostles did the very same thing. Ironic, that was the way the church was designed and if we have an attitude of entitlement and just being done, it's going to poison this organization known as The Avenue and you as an individual it will poison you also. If you think you're done with your career, if you think you're done raising your children, those of you who have adult children, you're not done are you? It's a lifelong commitment when you're a parent as big of a challenge as that is. You of those who have little ones say I can't wait till they're 18, guess what...it lasts a whole lot longer than that. Ask my mom. Everything I'm wearing she bought and I'm 35. Anyway, if we have an attitude of entitlement of being done as a parent, as a believer in Jesus, as a church member, as someone who is a part of a work organization or whatever, as a student, as an athlete, listen I'm not done as an athlete. It's true, all high school athletes who were incredible in high school, we never cease to be an incredible athlete, and we just get older. I promise. I played some flag football a couple of weeks ago, and I'm still good. I just wish we would have had helmets and pad and I would have shown somebody whose boss. An attitude of entitlement and being done will poison a person. In Joshua chapter 4 verses 1 through 7, see a really cool thing that the Israelites encountered, that they experienced, and they could have just stopped right where

they were. It says this, ¹*When all the people had crossed the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua,* ²*"Now choose twelve men, one from each tribe.* ³*Tell them, 'Take twelve stones from the very place where the priests are standing in the middle of the Jordan. Carry them out and pile them up at the place where you will camp tonight.'"* ⁴*So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel.* ⁵*He told them, "Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the LORD your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel.* ⁶*We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?'* ⁷*Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the LORD's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever."* Even these guys realized we're not done but we need to mark this so we can remember the greatness of God, but they still continued on. They didn't say that they stopped and camped there like they were done but they did put up a marker to remember. Done doesn't happen, we can celebrate the accomplishments and we can remember the challenges of this year, celebrate the great thing, but remember the hard things we walked through as well. Experienced the joy again and again by remembering but don't stop where you are. There is so much more that God has for each one of us. There's so much more that as the next step down the life journey with him that is so much greater than what we've already experienced and I know a lot of us get stuck. Triathletes and coaches and people like that, they spend all of their time and energy focusing on their food intake, focusing on their training times and all these things. They get done with the iron man in Hawaii, they finish the world championships and I've read articles from all of these guys and they ask them what did it feel like to win and almost everyone of them will say, it felt great but then I had to start thinking about next year. They couldn't enjoy the win because they knew they needed to continue to push to that next level. If you're a coach in here or you're associated with a coach's family, you know, you go into the playoffs, you go as far as your team will be able to go, you're done, most coaches are thinking about what's next. How do we get these guys to take it to the next level the next year? Guys, that's kind of what I'm talking about. We can't just stop where we are; we have to remember to move on. We have to remember the past, but continue to press forward to what God has for us. For you, is there anything worth remembering this last year? Yes, there is. Whether it was negative or positive, either way, there is something to remember. Something to remember that God walked you through.

The last major point I want you to put in your notes is this, we thank God for what he did through us and in us in 2009 but we won't pat ourselves on the back too long because we know the best is yet to come. 1st Corinthians 7: 29 says this, ²⁹*But let me say this, dear brothers and sisters: The time that remains is very short.*" Our life expectancy is really not that long. It's really not, so why not make the most of what we have right now. Why not take every second, every minute, and every hour and do something with it that glorifies God and honors God in his kingdom and what he's about. It also says in that verse something that I was like well, do I say this or do I not. Well I do because it reminds me of what we are doing here at The Avenue. "So from now on, those with wives should not focus

only on their marriage.” Yeah, we’re asking you in a couple of weeks to focus on your marriage. We’re asking you to focus on who you are and what’s going on in your world, but you know what? Your marriage is what God wants it to be when you go to him with it and it creates an opportunity for it to be something very special and different from the rest of the world. That is one thing that God has created marriage to be but he’s also created it to go to the next level. To impact lives around you because of God’s glory within your marriage. That’s something that we’re going to get to in the series coming up and I want you to remember this today, your marriage is important, your kids are important, your job is important but one of the important things that scripture reminds us of consistently is that Jesus Christ is more. We sang about it today, Jesus Christ is more than enough. He is and where we stand today, our time is short, the doors that walk through, are we taking advantage of the opportunities as you enter this place today, remember your time is short. What are you going to do when you leave this place, when you leave these doors? How are you going to be different after you leave this party, what’s next? I want you to pray with me. God, as we gather here together to enjoy your word and enjoy worship and all these things, I ask you God to confront some of us in this room with these different thoughts and I want you to ask you as your spending time with God, we turn the lights down, we play music to give you an opportunity to focus on him and not on whoever’s up here. But are there some things in your life that you need to get right with Jesus? For some of you, you don’t know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and that’s what you need to get right. For some of you, you’re holding out on Jesus because you’re like, Jesus I know you’re good at doing this and doing that and controlling these parts of my life, but I’m not so sure you can handle my business. I’m not so sure Jesus you can handle my marriage. I’m not so sure Jesus you can handle my child who has chosen to go a little crazy lately and rebel. Guess what, he can. The apostles that were arrested and thrown in jail, Jesus had the power, the will to bust them out. Why? So they could speak of him. Whatever prison door you’ve walked into this year, whatever that means to you, God has the power to bust you out so that you can experience joy and make him famous and sharing his name everywhere you go. Do you need to make some things right with him right now? Do you need to reevaluate how you will enter this New Year? Did you remember God’s goodness this last year and challenges also? Our lives are short, savor the moment, remember the past, look forward to the future with the great hope that Jesus gives. Right now I want you to offer yourself to Jesus. Maybe for some of you this is the first time and you’re like this guy’s right, God I’ve never given myself to you. Here’s what you say to God, Jesus I know that I’ve messed up and I know that I need you in my life. Please Jesus come in and save me from myself. Save me from my sin, my mistakes. Thank you Jesus for saving me. If you prayed that prayer, I would love to talk with you after the service. I’ll be hanging out up here because there’s nothing greater than giving your life to Jesus Christ and walking through that door. That’s awesome. Maybe you just have a mess going on in your heart with all kinds of things that are mixed up. Work related, home related, just yourself, your personal anxiety, give that to God at this moment. Offer it to him.