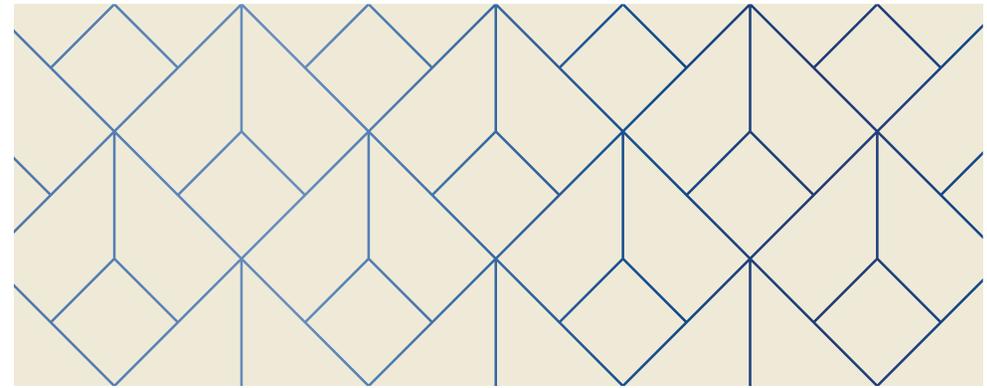
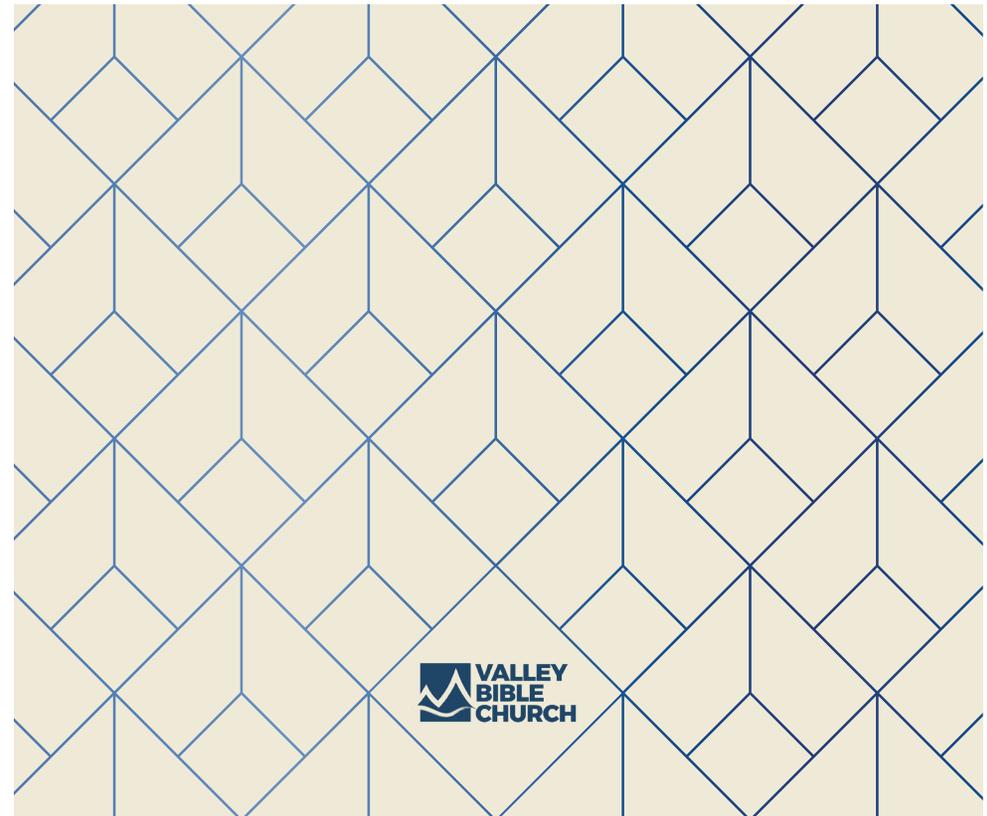


1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Verse 38 quotes Isaiah 53:1 and verse 40 quotes Isaiah 6:10. What is the context of each of these passages in Isaiah, and how does that context help illuminate our passage in John?
3. Verse 40 tells us that Jesus blinded eyes and hardened hearts. Does this mean that some who do not believe in Jesus are not responsible for their unbelief? Why or why not? Read, too, John's previous words in 3:16-21.
4. What might it look like to love the approval (some translations use the word "glory") of man more than the approval of God (verses 42-43) in our modern context?
5. Is it possible to be a secret follower of Jesus?
6. Our passage teaches us that the Jews needed to reject Jesus so that Jesus could be the Messiah to all people. Does this seem just? Why or why not?
7. Read verses 47-48. What does Jesus mean when He says that the word He spoke will judge at the last day?
8. To what degree is man's intelligence, as created by God, sufficient or insufficient to comprehend the will and workings of God in salvation?



T H E G O S P E L O F  
**J O H N**



## TODAY...DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEART

John 12:37-50 / Ben Orchard / February 7, 2021

The Warning: \_\_\_\_\_ to the light you are given, lest you be left in  
\_\_\_\_\_ (37-43)

The Invitation: \_\_\_\_\_ in the Father and the Son to eternally  
\_\_\_\_\_ the darkness (44-50)

## OUR MISSION

As we proclaim biblical truth, we cultivate relationships that are  
*intimate with Christ, active in the Church, & loving the community.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BABY DEDICATIONS

We are having a Parent/Baby Dedication on **Sunday, February 28th**. Please let us know if you would like to participate by writing a note on the Connection Card or by calling the Church office (509-928-5161).

### WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Join us for a one-hour weekly prayer meeting starting at 6:30 pm on Sundays here at VBC.

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for some help in our Children's Ministry. Immediate needs are for substitute teachers and assistants. We would also like to start recruiting for this summer in our Sunday School, nursery, and VBS in various positions. Please email Jennifer Dokken at [jennifer@spokanevbc.org](mailto:jennifer@spokanevbc.org) if you are interested in helping out or would like to find out more information.

### MANHOOD, WOMANHOOD, AND GENDER CONFUSION

We live in a world of increasing confusion over matters of gender and sexuality. No one in the church is untouched by this confusion, where lines between what is masculine or feminine have been grossly blurred, if not altogether denied and decried. How should we understand these matters from a biblical perspective? Dr. Owen Strachan will help us understand these matters biblically and equip God's people to interact with our ever-changing culture and the people we know and love who have been captured by this cultural confusion. **We are hosting a live stream of the 2021 Transform Conference here at VBC on February 12-13.** The topic is Manhood, Womanhood, and the Gender Confusion. The conference is free but please register on our website at [spokanevbc.org/events](http://spokanevbc.org/events) so we know how many are coming.

### NEWCOMER'S LUNCHEON

If you are new or want to know more about VBC, you are invited to come to the Newcomer's Luncheon on **February 28** right after the second service in room 130. Meet the pastors & staff, enjoy a complimentary lunch, learn about our ministries and more! Children are welcome. Register at [spokanevbc.org/events](http://spokanevbc.org/events) or on the church center app.

### VBC WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

The Women's Ministry is hosting the monthly Breakfast & Bible study on **Saturday, February 20 at 9 am** in room 130. Our speaker is Brenda DeJong will be speaking on the topic, "Kindred Spirits: Loving God Through Friendships". No sign-ups, come if you can. See you there!