

## LENTEN LECTURE SERIES 2026



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# A Search for Meaning

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**A LENTEN EDUCATIONAL AND INSPIRATIONAL OPPORTUNITY USING THE TEXT  
“MAN’S SEARCH FOR MEANING” BY VIKTOR E. FRANKL**

**OPTIONAL SCRIPTURE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED.**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

## A SEARCH FOR MEANING

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The season of Lent for Christians is a season of humility and reflection. It is a time to be aware of humanity's need for higher power and/or purpose. In popular culture, some even take on the practice of giving-up things for lent ranging from chocolate to alcohol or other stereotypical "vices." For me, Lent inspires new educational and spiritual challenges.

This Lent, we have our second annual lecture series to provide personal growth and reflection. Our 2026 theme is "A Search for Meaning." In the book of Ecclesiastes, a sacred text in the Jewish and Christian traditions, the ancient royal philosopher Qohelet and author of the book has many complaints. His primary one being that, unlike other animals, humans are uniquely cursed with desiring meaning to their life and "toils."

*He says, "I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind."<sup>[2]</sup>*

If you've ever had to chase a runaway napkin or paper in the wind, you know how futile that feels! Qohelet reminds us that though it can be difficult, we humans must figure out our meaning and purpose. Our foundational text for Lent will be Viktor Frankl's book "Man's Search for Meaning." Frankl, Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist, recounts his experience in Nazi concentration camps inspiring him to create the concept of "**logotherapy**: *creating healing through meaning in the midst of suffering.*"

Meadowlark Lenten Lecture booklets are provided for personal devotion and growth throughout the season. In combination with the lecture series, my hope is that it is a season of renewal, challenge and introspection for you and this wonderful community.

*- Melanie Nord, Spiritual Life Leader*

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES 2026

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WEDNESDAYS



1:00 P.M.



EVENT CENTER AT MEADOWLARK

FEB. 18

**BRADY KAPPELMANN, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT**

*Optional Christian Education: Your favorite or most impactful scripture.*

FEB. 25

**DR. LISA MELANDER, PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**

*Optional Christian Education: Psalm 13*

MARCH 4

**CHRISTINE BENNE, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY RELATIONS  
GREATER MANHATTAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

*Optional Christian Education: Ecclesiastes 1*

MARCH 11

**JEFF HEIDBREDER, FITNESS SERVICES LEADER, MEADOWLARK**

*Optional Christian Education: 1 Corinthians 13*

MARCH 18

**ERIN FREIDLINE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RILEY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

*Optional Christian Education: Job 38*

MARCH 25

**ALI GOSS & MATT GOSS, OWNERS & FOUNDERS, ENAMORED BY ALI & SYNDICATE TATTOO**

*Optional Christian Education: Jonah 4*

APRIL 1

**PATRICK SCHUTTER, PRESIDENT, BHS CONSTRUCTION**

*Optional Christian Education: Holy Week Offerings at Meadowlark as advertised in the Meadowlark Messenger and on pages 18 and 19 of this booklet.*

# BEGINNING LENTEN REFLECTIONS

In the foreword of “Man’s Search for Meaning,” Rabbi Harold Kushner says “life is not primarily a quest for pleasure, as Freud believed, or a quest for power, as Alfred Adler taught, but a quest for meaning.” Like Frankl, Rabbi Kushner is no stranger to suffering and grief in his life. He’s most known for writing the book “When Bad Things Happen to Good People” following the death of his son. His book suggests there can be ways to cope with the bad and sorrowful of life. Frankl agrees, proposing three main sources of human meaning?

- 1. In work
- 2. In love
- 3. In courage in the midst of difficulty

Through his experiences in concentration camps, Frankl discusses that our inner meaning influences how we respond to the sufferings, difficulties and unexpected changes lives brings our way. Let us reflect on where we are right now – prior to our Lenten study and lectures.

## WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LIFE, FROM MY PERSPECTIVE?

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## WHEN DO I FEEL MOST USEFUL?

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## WHAT SEASON OF MY LIFE LED ME TO ASK THE DEEPEST QUESTIONS OF MY LIFE PURPOSE ... THINKING, “WHY AM I HERE?”

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**IS THERE A FAITH OR RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND THAT HAS GIVEN MY LIFE DEEPER MEANING? IF SO, WHAT DOCTRINES OR FAITH FIGURES HAVE MOLDED MY PURPOSE?**

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**WHAT SUFFERING IN MY LIFE HAS CHANGED OR ADDED URGENCY TO MY MEANING?**

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**OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN REFLECTION: READ OR REFLECT ON A SCRIPTURE PASSAGE THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS LOVED OR FOUND MEANING IN.**

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**BRADY KAPPELMANN**  
**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT**

Brady Kappelmann is currently serving as the 78<sup>th</sup> Student Body President at Kansas State University. Brady was born and raised in Liberal, Kansas and is a 2022 graduate of Liberal High School. He is currently a senior majoring in marketing and professional strategic selling and has been involved in FarmHouse Fraternity, Student Mobilization, University Christian Church worship team, Sales Ambassadors, Connected ‘Cats, and Student Governing Association while at K-State. Brady is passionate about advocating for the university he loves full well to leave K-State better than he found it. This year, he's focused on initiatives related to prospective student engagement throughout the state as well as helping to improve academic advising systems for students across all majors. He intends on graduating K-State this spring.

# LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM VIKTOR FRANKL (PG. 97)

**What is Logotherapy?** Through his experience in concentration camps, Frankl developed his own school of thought called “logotherapy.” He defines it as the phenomenon of meaning being the primary motivational force in humans. Prior to Frankl most psychotherapists thought meaning was a secondary rationalization and not a primary driver for humans.

Frankl noticed longevity related to the meaning prisoners could find in the midst of their suffering and daily toil in concentration camps. This inspired further study after his release. He quickly found correlations in society at-large. His book notes “89% of people polled admitted that they need something for the sake of which to live.

We know that our meaning and purpose evolves with life. As a child, we find meaning mirrored to us from our parents. Youth find meaning through the affirmation or antagonizing from peers. In early-adulthood we can find meaning in a variety of ways – work, faith or religion, romantic relationships, hobbies, etc. In retirement, some of us have taken-on a search for new post-career meaning. Sometimes we lose meaning in the midst of loss – after a spouse, parent or child dies, we might ponder who we are without them physically beside us.

Despite all the changes of meaning we encounter, the urgency of searching for meaning never changes. Frankl encourages us to understand the correlation between meaning and life contentment. In the most impossible circumstances, it is truly what keeps us going and growing.

**WHAT IS YOUR “SOMETHING” TO LIVE FOR? EXPLAIN HOW IT GIVES YOU PURPOSE OR MEANING.**

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### OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: PSALM 13

<sup>1</sup> How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

<sup>2</sup> How long must I bear pain<sup>[a]</sup> in my soul,

and have sorrow in my heart all day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

<sup>3</sup> Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

<sup>4</sup> and my enemy will say, 'I have prevailed';

my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

<sup>5</sup> But I trusted in your steadfast love;

my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>6</sup> I will sing to the Lord,

because he has dealt bountifully with me.

FEB. 25



## DR. LISA MELANDER

PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Melander's research interests broadly include crime and family, and many of her projects emerge from the intersection of these substantive areas. Her primary research interests include incarceration, intimate partner violence, and cyber aggression. In particular, Dr. Melander has conducted research on contact maintenance programs within correctional facilities, exploring the ways in which parents maintain contact with their children, negotiate the co-parenting relationship, and transform their parenting identity while incarcerated. Other research projects include fines and fees among probationers and parolees and jail reentry programming.

MARCH 4



## CHRISTINE BENNE

**DIRECTOR OF MILITARY RELATIONS  
GREATER MANHATTAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Christine Benne joined the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation in March 2022 and serves as the Director of Military Relations & Affiliate Liaison for Group 3. Deeply rooted in the military community, Christine is actively engaged with numerous military-focused organizations, including the Chamber Military Relations, the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition, the Association of the United States Army, the Central Kansas Military Community Foundation, and the Fort Riley Museum Board.

Her commitment to community service extends beyond military initiatives. Christine has served on several local boards and committees, including the Manhattan Chamber Business Advocacy Committee, the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Board, and a member of the Manhattan Rotary Club.

As GMCF first Military Relations Coordinator, Christine established and now oversees the Armed Forces Community Foundation, strengthening connections with active-duty service members, veterans, and military families. Her work focuses on relationship-building, community engagement, and supporting initiatives that enhance the quality of life for those who serve.

## LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM VIKTOR FRANKL (PG. 106)

**Living in an Existential Vacuum ...** “The existential vacuum is a widespread phenomenon of the twentieth century.” Frankl notes that this dilemma is twofold. First, humans continue to find themselves in a society and physical setting much different than from which we began. The “traditions” which we lived in primal days and which our bodies are designed to live are nonexistent in modern America. We have adapted to our modern, technological and advanced world... but may have a nagging feeling that this is not our true home or a way of life that leads to fulfillment.

The second dilemma leading to the existential vacuum is that we often find ourselves bored and isolated more than prior generations. Frankl found among his European students that 25% showed signs of suffering from the existential vacuum. The statistic among his American students was shocking – 60% felt they were in an existential vacuum. Author David Brooks argues that our lack of connectiveness and shared focus on the common good is one of the biggest crises of our modern times.

If we are living in the darkness of an existential crisis, how can we begin to see the light? Frankl notes the task is filling the existential vacuum... a void that can only be filled by meaning and purpose.



THE EXISTENTIAL VACUUM REFERS TO FEELING BORED, LONELY AND/OR ISOLATED IN LIFE. DO YOU FEEL ANY EFFECTS OF AN EXISTENTIAL VACUUM IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW? THINK ABOUT TIMES YOU HAVE FELT BORED, LONELY, OR ISOLATED.

IN THE PAST, HOW HAS YOUR VACUUM BEEN FILLED? HOW HAVE YOU MANEUVERED YOURSELF OUT OF EXISTENTIAL CRISIS?

**OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: ECCLESIASTES I**

- 1 The words of the Teacher,<sup>[a]</sup> the son of David, king in Jerusalem.
- 2 Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,<sup>[b]</sup> vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
- 3 What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun?
- 4 A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains for ever.
- 5 The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises.
- 6 The wind blows to the south, and goes round to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.
- 7 All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow.
- 8 All things<sup>[c]</sup> are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing.
- 9 What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun.
- 10 Is there a thing of which it is said,

‘See, this is new’?  
It has already been,  
in the ages before us.  
11 The people of long ago are not remembered,  
nor will there be any remembrance  
of people yet to come  
by those who come after them.

**The Futility of Seeking Wisdom**  
12 I, the Teacher,<sup>[d]</sup> when king over Israel in Jerusalem, 13 applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. 14 I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.<sup>[e]</sup>  
15 What is crooked cannot be made straight, and what is lacking cannot be counted.  
16 I said to myself, ‘I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me; and my mind has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.’ 17 And I applied my mind to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a chasing after wind.<sup>[f]</sup>  
18 For in much wisdom is much vexation, and those who increase knowledge increase sorrow.

## LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM VIKTOR FRANKL (PG. III)

**The Meaning of Love & Suffering ...** Frankl says “love is the only way to grasp another human being in the innermost core of [their] personality.” He says when we love we don’t just see the person as they are, we also see their potential. He notes that many psychologists have focused on the interrelated nature of love and sex. In logotherapy, sex is not primary but a byproduct of love. And so, in logotherapy love is a mix of accepting and grasping another just as they are and illuminating what they have yet to be. Love is deeply spiritual and an inner-feeling.

Unexpectedly, another way Frankl believes we find meaning is by facing a hopeless situation. He knows this firsthand through his own time in the Holocaust Concentration Camps. He proposes that when we’re faced with an unchangeable situation like a prison camp, diagnosis, inoperable cancer... the only thing left to change is ourselves. We are all faced with the universal unchangeable situation – the passage of time! The inner change and quest for meaning becomes the purpose that keeps us going in the face of the impossible or that which we cannot conquer.

**WHO IN YOUR LIFE HAS KNOWN THE INNERMOST CORE OF YOU?**

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**WHO IN PAST OR PRESENT HAS HELPED YOU SEE YOUR POTENTIAL?**

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**WHAT HOPELESS/UNCHANGEABLE SITUATIONS HAVE YOU FACED IN LIFE? ARE YOU CURRENTLY FACING ONE?**

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IN WHAT WAYS HAS AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION CAUSED INNER CHANGE AND ATTITUDE CHANGE OR INSPIRED NEW PURPOSE FOR YOU?

OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: I CORINTHIANS 13

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, [a] but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly,[b] but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.



JEFF HEIDBREDER

FITNESS SERVICES LEADER, MEADOWLARK

Jeff Heidbreder grew up in Bottineau, North Dakota, where an early love for sports and an active lifestyle helped shape his future. He went on to earn a degree in Human Performance & Fitness from North Dakota State University, laying the foundation for his passion for health and well-being. Jeff is married to his wife, Brianne, and together they have a daughter, Elliot.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Jeff continues to enjoy golf and running, and he’s always up for traveling or spending time with friends. He believes strongly in maintaining a healthy balance in life—one that blends work, hobbies, and personal interests to support overall fulfillment and happiness.

MARCH 18



## ERIN FREIDLINE

### DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RILEY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Erin Freidline joined the Riley County Police Department in 2000. She served in several capacities working various patrol shifts, serving as a detective and task force officer. She promoted through the ranks, spending time in both patrol and investigations as a supervisor. In 2018, Erin was promoted to Major and served as the Commander of the Support Division before transferring to Investigations where she supervised all the investigative units in addition to the victim advocacy program. In October of 2024 Erin was selected as the Deputy Director for the Riley County Police Department and continues to oversee daily operations of the agency. She further aids in budget development, human resources oversight, and fiscal management for agency funds.

Erin is a graduate of the 264th session of the FBI National Academy and is a LEADS (Law Enforcement Advancing Data & Science) scholar through the National Institute of Justice. She was a recipient of the 40 Under 40 award from the IACP because of her leadership and commitment to the policing profession. She received the Young Alumni award from Kansas State University for her service to the community. In 2025 she received the officer of the year award from the Manhattan Optimist Club for her leadership with the community and within the agency.

Erin was raised on a farm in Illinois and then attended Kansas State University and was on the Track & Field team. She earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Criminology. She later earned a master's degree in executive leadership from Liberty University. She holds a certificate from the University of Kansas Public Management Center with the Certified Public Manager program. Additionally, Erin received a certificate from the Central States Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (CSLEEDS).

Erin stays close to her rural roots and enjoys working on her hobby farm and spending time with her husband and three children.

## LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM VIKTOR FRANKL (PG. 119)

**Surrendering to Super Meaning ...** By now, we know we ought to quest for meaning and purpose. Surely, we can become perfect in this task and reach the finish line of understanding! Not so fast! We have the dilemma of “super meaning.” Here, Frankl suggests that there is meaning that defies our intellect and logic. Ultimate understanding of our purpose, reason for being alive right now and cause for suffering are beyond our human brain and earthly grasp.

It reminds me of when, in the Jewish and Christian sacred text The Book of Job, humans wail to God wondering why bad things happen to good people. God eventually responds (after 37 chapters of wailing, mind you) “where were you when I created the universe?” God responds to this often-asked question with that question. Today, we are plagued with the same pondering.

Counterintuitively, Frankl’s search for meaning reminds us that part of our quest will always be in vain. Whether we believe in a higher power or not, we understand we cannot answer all of our burning questions with intellect and logic. How did the world begin? Who made God? What’s the deal with dinosaurs? Why do horrible things happen? How long will I live? Why did humans create a 5-day workweek instead of a 3-day workweek? We may never know!

### HOW DO YOU COPE WITH LIFE’S UNANSWERED QUESTIONS?

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### WHAT TOUGH QUESTION OF LIFE AND/OR THE WORLD UPSETS YOU THE MOST?

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### IF YOU HAVE A FAITH, HOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND SUPER MEANING IN LIGHT OF YOUR FAITH OR RELIGION?

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**OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: JOB 38**

38 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:  
2 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?  
3 Gird up your loins like a man,  
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.  
4 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.  
5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know!  
Or who stretched the line upon it?  
6 On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone  
7 when the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings<sup>[a]</sup> shouted for joy?  
8 'Or who shut in the sea with doors  
when it burst out from the womb?—  
9 when I made the clouds its garment,  
and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
10 and prescribed bounds for it,  
and set bars and doors,  
11 and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?  
12 'Have you commanded the morning since your days began,  
and caused the dawn to know its place,  
13 so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,  
and the wicked be shaken out of it?  
14 It is changed like clay under the seal,  
and it is dyed<sup>[b]</sup> like a garment.  
15 Light is withheld from the wicked,  
and their uplifted arm is broken.  
16 'Have you entered into the springs of the sea,  
or walked in the recesses of the deep?  
17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you,  
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?  
18 Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?  
Declare, if you know all this.  
19 'Where is the way to the dwelling of light,  
and where is the place of darkness,  
20 that you may take it to its territory  
and that you may discern the paths to its home?  
21 Surely you know, for you were born then,  
and the number of your days is great!



<sup>22</sup> 'Have you entered the storehouses of the snow,  
or have you seen the storehouses of the hail,  
<sup>23</sup> which I have reserved for the time of trouble,  
for the day of battle and war?  
<sup>24</sup> What is the way to the place where the light is  
distributed,  
or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth?  
<sup>25</sup> 'Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain,  
and a way for the thunderbolt,  
<sup>26</sup> to bring rain on a land where no one lives,  
on the desert, which is empty of human life,  
<sup>27</sup> to satisfy the waste and desolate land,  
and to make the ground put forth grass?  
<sup>28</sup> 'Has the rain a father,  
or who has begotten the drops of dew?  
<sup>29</sup> From whose womb did the ice come forth,  
and who has given birth to the hoar-frost of heaven?  
<sup>30</sup> The waters become hard like stone,  
and the face of the deep is frozen.  
<sup>31</sup> 'Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades,  
or loose the cords of Orion?  
<sup>32</sup> Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season,  
or can you guide the Bear with its children?  
<sup>33</sup> Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?  
Can you establish their rule on the earth?  
<sup>34</sup> 'Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,  
so that a flood of waters may cover you?  
<sup>35</sup> Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go  
and say to you, "Here we are"?  
<sup>36</sup> Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,<sup>[c]</sup>  
or given understanding to the mind?<sup>[d]</sup>  
<sup>37</sup> Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?  
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,  
<sup>38</sup> when the dust runs into a mass  
and the clods cling together?  
<sup>39</sup> 'Can you hunt the prey for the lion,  
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,  
<sup>40</sup> when they crouch in their dens,  
or lie in wait in their covert?  
<sup>41</sup> Who provides for the raven its prey,  
when its young ones cry to God,  
and wander about for lack of food?

## LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM VIKTOR FRANKL (PG. 139)

**Contracting “Give-Up-Itis”** ... In the concentration camps, Frankl noticed the phenomenon of “give-up-itis.” He watched as some would eventually refuse to get up in the morning - instead staying in their soiled straw bed. He recounts “at that moment we knew that for the next forty-eight hours or so, we would watch them dying. Meaning orientation had subsided.” They had simply given up.

Our situations where we “throw in the towel” are certainly less dramatic – but impactful all the same. I’ll never forget when I was a Chaplain intern at Bethany Methodist Retirement Community and Hospital in Chicago, when one of our residents, Rose, was hit with a bad case of “give-up-it-is.” I was called-in to help assess for intention of suicide. Rose was a gem. She had been a faithful Christian, devoted mother and dedicated spouse all her life. She would often be seen helping and participating in the community with a joyful heart and warm smile. Her husband had died years prior and her kids had scattered across the nation for jobs. Rose decided she was “done.” She had completed her life task and was ready to die. There was just one small hitch in her plan. Rose really had nothing physically wrong with her... not one thing. In her early nineties her medication consisted of the occasional sleeping pill. Rose was essentially in existential crisis but perfect health. Her only ailment was give-up-itis.

My time with Rose became impactful and distressing. My classes and training had taught me how to help someone die, but it proved more challenging to help someone desire to live. Today, deaths of despair (deaths related to depression-related behaviors or habits) are at an all-time high.

To help Rose work through her despair, verses like our scripture for this week were comforting. To know that Psalmists, prophets like Jonah and even Jesus struggled with despair normalizes and gives breath to these very real and intense feelings. For Frankl, fighting “give-up-it is” in the camps looked like remembering his wife, imagining continuing his professional career after the camps, and envisioning purpose beyond the immediate suffering.

### WHAT KEEPS YOUR DESIRE TO LIVE AFLAME?

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### WHEN HAVE YOU FELT “GIVE-UP-IT IS” IN YOUR LIFE?

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WRITE DOWN THREE NAMES OF PEOPLE YOU CAN CONNECT WITH THIS WEEK WHO ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO “GIVE-UP-IT IS.”

OPTIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: JONAH 4

4 But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. 2 He prayed to the Lord and said, ‘O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. 3 And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ 4 And the Lord said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ 5 Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. 6 The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. 7 But when dawn came up the next day, God

appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. 8 When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’

Jonah Is Reproved

9 But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ 10 Then the Lord said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. 11 And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’



MARCH 25

ALI GOSS & MATT GOSS

OWNERS & FOUNDERS  
ENAMORED BY ALI & SYNDICATE TATTOO

Matt and Ali Goss are a husband-and-wife tattoo artist team and longtime residents of Manhattan, Kansas. Matt, tattooing since 2005, is a U.S. Army veteran and the owner of Syndicate Tattoo, where he specializes in geometric, floral, and transformative cover-up work, including paramedical tattooing. Ali is a licensed cosmetic tattoo artist and the owner of Enamored by Ali, known for natural-looking permanent makeup such as nano-brows and lip blushing. She also offers areola reconstruction for breast cancer survivors. Together, they blend artistry with community-driven healing, working with nonprofits while raising their family here in the Little Apple.

MARCH 29

**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP**

*A commemoration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.*

10 a.m. & 11 a.m. / Community Room/Chapel at Meadowlark  
*Also available on Meadowlark Channel 1960.*

APRIL 1



**PATRICK SCHUTTER**

**PRESIDENT, BHS CONSTRUCTION**

Patrick is a native Kansan whose construction roots go back to boyhood 4-H projects. He graduated from Flint Hills Vo Tech College (currently Manhattan Area Technical College) in Construction Technology, and went on to obtain a degree in Construction Science and Management from Kansas State University. Patrick graduated from the Leadership Manhattan 2015 Class. He has been active in the Flint Hills Area Builders Association and was President in 2013. He is currently serving on the Wabaunsee Township Volunteer Fire Department, AGC of Kansas Board, a member of the City of Manhattan Code of Appeals Board and served on the KSU Construction Science Advisory Council. Patrick is a 2020 Leadership Kansas Graduate and currently sits on the board of MATC Build and the Manhattan Retirement Foundation. Patrick leads through example with his dedicated work ethic and a genuine passion for his job.

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APRIL 2

**MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP**

*A remembrance of the Last Supper*

1 p.m. / Event Center at Meadowlark

APRIL 3

**GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP**

*A walk-through of Jesus' final moments on Earth.*

1 p.m. / Community Room/Chapel at Meadowlark

**APRIL 4**

**HOLY SATURDAY JOURNALING**

Holy Saturday is traditionally a day of prayer, reflection, and sitting in Good Friday grief. Take this day to think of how it may have felt to truly believe Jesus died. Remember, at this point, the disciples do not know he'll rise again. They sit in the discomfort of thinking it is really the end of the story.

**REFLECT ON YOUR LIFE. WHEN HAVE YOU HAD TO SIT IN GRIEF?**

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**DO YOU TEND TO WANT TO “RUSH JOY?!” SOMETIMES WE TEND TO WANT TO GO STRAIGHT FROM THE LAST SUPPER TO EASTER. THE PAIN OF GOOD FRIDAY AND THE UNCERTAINTY OF HOLY SATURDAY ARE SYMBOLICALLY PART OF LIFE.**

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**HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT UNCERTAINTY OF THE UNKNOWN?**

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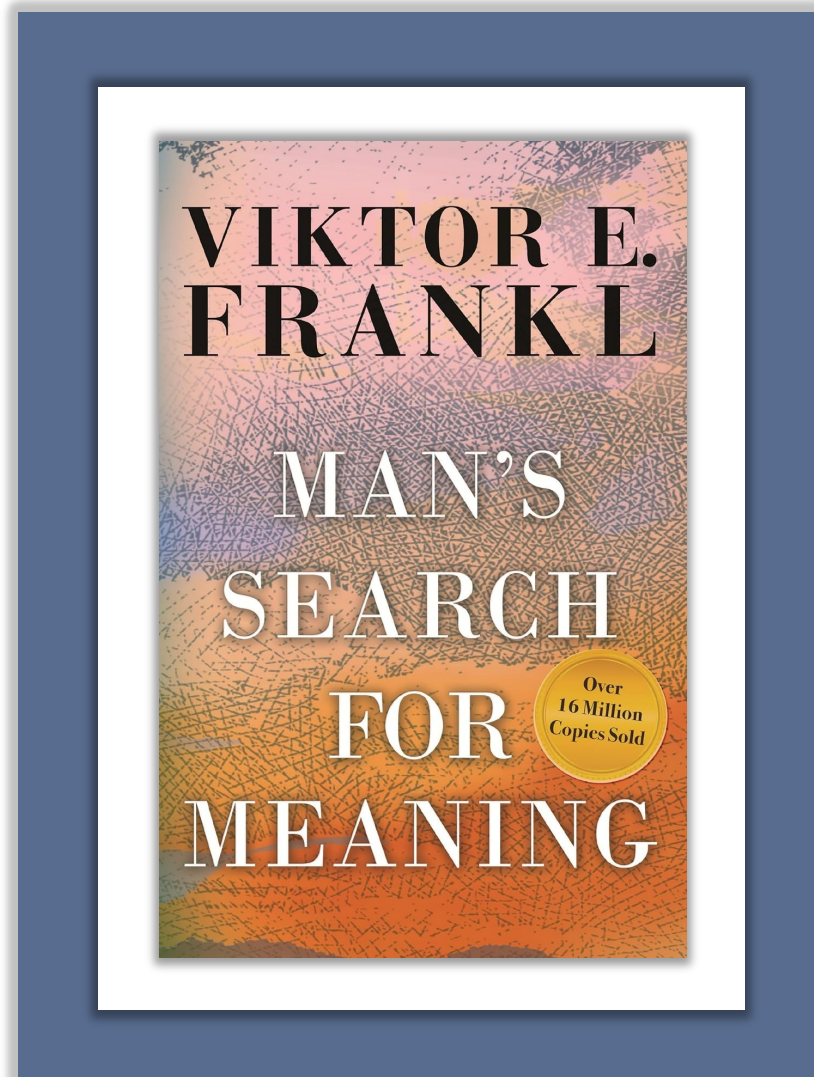
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**APRIL 5**

**EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP**

*A celebration of the Resurrection.*

10 a.m. & 11 a.m. / Community Room/Chapel at Meadowlark  
*Also available on Meadowlark Channel 1960.*



*\*Optional scripture education from New Revised Standard Version.*



**Spiritual Life**

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