

The background is a watercolor wash with soft, blended colors. On the left side, there are shades of teal and light green. On the right side, there are shades of pink and light red. The colors blend into each other, creating a soft, ethereal atmosphere. The edges of the watercolor are slightly irregular and feathered.

# Choosing What Matters

A mindset, and a mission



People are complicated

People are awesome

People are flawed

People are inspirational

People are hurting

People are beautiful

People need people

People need GOD

A decorative horizontal band at the top of the slide features a watercolor-style background with blended shades of red, pink, and teal. Below this band, the main text is centered on a light teal background.

We will either spend our lives resisting and  
retracting...

... or we will spend our lives REACHING  
OUT and in RELATIONSHIPS.



What is your  
*daily mission?*



## Your mission(s) might be...

- ✓ *Survive*
- ✓ *Stay healthy / Get better*
- ✓ *Make money / Provide*
- ✓ *Stay warm / Stay cool*
- ✓ *Get ahead / Catch up*
- ✓ *Not do/say anything stupid*
- ✓ *Have fun*



# What do I **NEED** each day?

(Food, water, shelter aside...)

What do I need from other people?



# My list of daily needs

*Peace, energy, encouragement,  
provision, grace, forgiveness,  
unconditional love*



# A simple statement of faith

*“God is in control, and I am not. He is meeting my needs, and he reaches out to show His love for me every day. So then, I am called to love others as he has loved me.”*



Matthew 24:37

*“<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’*

*<sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment.*

*<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*



*1 John 4:19 – “We love because he first loved us”*

*John 15:12: “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you”.*

John 13:35

“By this everyone will know that you  
are my disciples, if you love one  
another”

...by our LOVE, people are brought closer to  
getting a glimpse of what God is like...

# Who is your *Dennis*?

How do we view these people? Do we see them at all?

How do we get BACK to the  
place of choosing to love  
those around us?

*How do we stay on mission?*



# My list of daily needs

*Peace, energy, encouragement,  
provision, grace, forgiveness,  
unconditional love*

**1 Peter 4:8** *“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”*

**Lamentations 3:22-23** *“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassion never fails. They (his mercies) are new every morning: great is your faithfulness.”*

**Matthew 6:34** *“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”*

**Isaiah 40:31** *“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will mount up with wings like eagles: they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and grow faint”.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:9** *“But He says to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness”.*

**Zechariah 1:3** *“Return to me, declares the Lord, and I will return to you”.*



Romans 3:23-24 *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”*

*There are none of us that are worthy of  
God’s provision... none worthy of his  
grace... but in spite of that, God says to  
US....*

“Love me, love people around you, these are the two greatest things I’m asking of you... today. *(unconditional love)* Don’t worry about tomorrow *(peace, provision)*... and when you wake up and when you have doubts, my mercies are new every morning. *(forgiveness, energy)*. When you feel weak, when you feel powerless, when you feel disconnected... my power is made perfect in your weakness *(encouragement)*. When you feel far away, when you’re making choices that are for yourself and you aren’t loving well as I have loved you... return to me. My Grace is sufficient for you... be patient, put your hope in me and I will renew your strength...” *(Energy, grace)*

*God is speaking TRUTH into every day. through His promises!*

This is a DAILY cycle!

God says, “Return to me...”

There is still time...today

# So, therefore... now what?

- What choices do you need to make, today, in order to reach out to your “Dennis”? (Who has needs, or who have you built space between?)
- What habits do you need to break, and what habits do you need to make in order to be ready to give others a daily glimpse of the love the god?
- What do you need to GIVE UP, or surrender today, in order to refocus on God’s promises and his calling to love others, ‘above all else’?