
Graphics and Audio Notes

- There **will** be a sermon starter video.
- There **will** be several videos to show on screen during the sermon.



Key Questions

What is this sermon about?

This sermon is about our identity in Christ and some of the basics of the Christian faith, as illustrated by The Peanuts Movie.

Why is this sermon important?

It is important because our identity in Christ has an impact in every area of our life.

What is the context of this sermon?

This sermon is preached the Sunday after we showed The Peanuts Movie as a free outdoor movie. It is the day before our Vacation Bible School begins. It is part of a two week series which is acting as an intermission between the Five Marks of a Methodist series.

What are the next action steps?

Look forward, toward Christ.
Treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you.
When you have a choice about which path to take, choose life.
Know that you are a child of God.
Live that way.

What is the good news? What is the bottom line?

The good news is that God sees the truth about us. We are all children of God.

What are other key takeaways?

For social media

- [text here]

Metadata

Topics

- Change Lives

10th Sunday after Pentecost
At the Movies 2016 - The Peanuts Movie
First United Methodist Church of El Dorado
Text Online at <http://bit.ly/2ajDZqw>

July 17, 2016
Galatians 3:26-28
Preaching Target Word Count: 1,850
Audio Online at: <http://bit.ly/2a3wbda>

- Make Disciples

Sermon Books of the Bible

- Deuteronomy
- Galatians
- Matthew
- Philipians

Tags

sermon, worship, church, Methodist, UnitedMethodist, UnitedMethodistChurch, FirstUnitedMethodistChurch, ElDorado, Kansas, GreatPlains, AnnualConference, GreatPlainsAnnualConference, Peanuts, Snoopy, CharlieBrown, identity, Christ

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Connection to Life

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15

Next Step

All are One in Christ

10

Introduction to Video

Scene Description

Connection to Life

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: Galatians 3:26–28

Next Step

Conclusion

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Good News

Call to Action

Invitation

Closing Prayer

Galatians 3:26-28, CEB

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Response to Scripture

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Introduction

Sermon Starter Video

Play sermon starter video.

Series Review

Summer blockbusters are here. In this series we will look for themes of faith in some excellent movies.

Listen for God's Word

I invite you to listen for God's word today.

Place for Notes

You can find a place in your bulletin to take notes or, if you prefer, in the event for this worship service in the Bible app on your mobile device

Tool for Spiritual Growth

When you learn something new, have a question, make a connection with your life or hear anything that will help you live as a disciple of Jesus Christ as you worship, grow, give, serve and share, write it down.

Then, use these notes as a tool to help you grow in your faith in the days ahead.

Prayer

Will you pray with me?

O God, use these words to speak good news, so that, as a as individuals and as a congregation, we will fear nothing but sin, desire nothing but you, and live as part of your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

The Peanuts Movie

Context and Plot

The Peanuts Movie was released in the theaters last year. It is based on Charles M. Schulz's comic strip Peanuts. It is the fifth full-length Peanuts film. It commemorated

the 65th anniversary of the comic strip and the 50th anniversary of the TV special A Charlie Brown Christmas.

The film sees Charlie Brown trying to improve his odds with the Little Red-Haired Girl. Meanwhile, Snoopy writes a book about the World War I Flying Ace, as he imagines himself as a legend trying to save his love interest and fellow pilot, Fifi, from the Red Baron and his army.¹

Sermon Outline

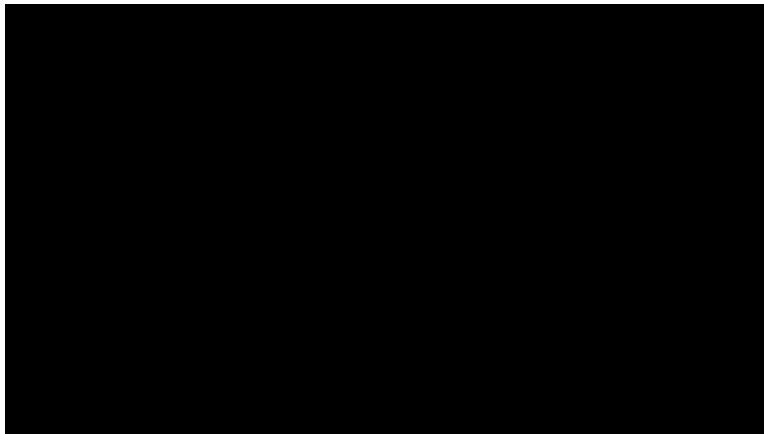
We will take a look at several clips from the movie to help us understand more about God and our life of faith.

Forgetting What is Past

Introduction to Video

We begin with a clip which shows Charlie Brown considering the possibilities of a new neighbor. Let's take a look...

[Play Peanuts Clip 1]



Scene Description

“All the kids in the neighborhood are excited to see a moving van pull into an empty home. They gather at the fence to peer at the possessions being unloaded.

Each child hopes the new kid will share their interest, but Charlie's hopes are simpler: “I just hope this new kid has never heard of me.” Charlie, remembering all his faults and foibles: “He would know nothing of my past imperfections. It's not often you get the opportunity to start over with a clean slate.” Charlie smiles broadly, full of hope in his new identity: “This time, things will be different!” Suddenly, Charlie slips, crashing into

¹ Wikipedia contributors, "The Peanuts Movie," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The_Peanuts_Movie&oldid=730139221 (accessed July 17, 2016).

the fence. Like a train of dominoes, every board falls to the ground. All the kids point immediately at Charlie: "He did it!" Humiliated, Charlie runs away."²

Connection to Life

Do you ever feel like that?

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: *Philippians 3:13-14*

"Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus."³

Next Step

.....
Look forward, toward Christ.
.....

Do to Others

Introduction to Video

As it turns out, Charlie Browns new neighbor is the Little Red-Haired girl and Charlie Brown is in love. He has been trying to figure out a way to impress her. There is a talent show coming up at school and he has been working hard on a magic act. The day of the talent show is here and Charlie Brown's little sister is up before him. Let's take a look...

[Play Peanuts Clip 2]



² <https://www.screenvue.com/MovieDetails.aspx?idMovie=a0fbedee-3a70-4a57-b50e-0671774184c5>

³ Philippians 3:12-14, CEB.

Scene Description

“It is the day of the talent show and Charlie Brown is waiting in the wings to perform his magic act. Onstage, his little sister, Sally, is failing miserably. The audience is bored by her attempts to rope a cardboard box, and the stage manager is about to bring down the curtain on her act. Charlie looks at his sister's tearful face and his eyes fill with compassion. The audience begins to laugh at Sally and Franklin shakes his head: “Sorry, Charlie Brown. This has gone on long enough. Drop the curtain!” Charlie, concerned for his sister's feelings: “Don't do that! She said she has a big finish!” Franklin: “Well, it's either your act or hers. We can't hold forever.” Charlie looks at his sister's tearful face. He looks out at the audience, where the Little Red-Haired girl sits. (He had hoped to impress her with his magic act). Charlie makes a decision. Moving quickly, he dresses up as a bull and goes out on stage, telling Sally to rope him. Sally, thrilled, mounts Snoopy and begins an exciting chase around the theater. The audience adores her act, throwing roses onstage at the finale. Sally, beaming, whispers to Charlie: “Thanks, Big Brother.” Charlie smiles.”⁴

Connection to Life

Charlie Brown has a decision to make...

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: Matthew 7:12

“Therefore, you should treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you; this is the Law and the Prophets.”⁵

Next Step

.....
Treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you.
.....

Choose between Life and Death

Introduction to Video

Charlie Brown is being recognized for a perfect score on a recent achievement test. While he is surprised at the results, he has been enjoying new found popularity. There is a school assembly called in his honor. When he is on stage, he realizes that the perfect test score was not really his. Let's take a look...

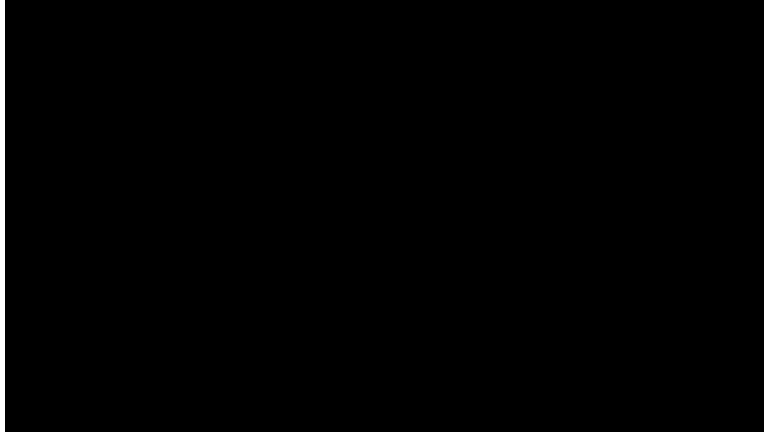
[Play Peanuts Clip 3]

⁴ <https://www.screenvue.com/MovieDetails.aspx?idMovie=a0fbedee-3a70-4a57-b50e-0671774184c5>

⁵ Matthew 7:12, CEB.

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Scene Description

“A special school assembly is being held in Charlie Brown's honor in order to reward him for earning a perfect score on the recent achievement test. With his entire school applauding from the stands, Charlie is called up on stage to receive a medal. Honored, Charlie smiles out at the adoring audience. Many hold balloons in the shape of Charlie's face, others wear Charlie Brown shirts, and Charlie's sister, Sally, waves proudly. A further honor is bestowed when Marcie announces that, from this day forward, this date will be known as “Charlie Brown Day.” Charlie, with a gold star pinned to his shirt, smiles at the cheering crowd. Cameras flash and Franklin pats Charlie on the back: “You're the star of the school now!” Marcie hands Charlie his award-winning test. Charlie looks down at the paper and realizes, with horror, that it isn't his test after all. (He had accidentally switched tests with Peppermint Patty.) Charlie looks back at the crowd, seeing the faces of his friends, his sister, and Peppermint Patty. He looks back down at the test, making a decision. Clearing his throat, he steps up to the microphone: “You have all been so kind. It's not often that I get this sort of recognition. But...um...there's been a mistake.” Immediately, the audience is silent. Charlie, holding up the paper: “This is not my test.” He unpins the medal from his shirt, his head hanging: “Therefore, I cannot accept this honor.” Sally leans close to her seatmate, whispering: “Can a brother and sister get a divorce?” Charlie hands the test to Marcie: “I think this belongs to Peppermint Patty. She's the real genius.” Head hanging and shoulders sagging, Charlie leaves the building.”⁶

Connection to Life

Again, Charlie Brown has a decision to make...

⁶ <https://www.screenvue.com/MovieDetails.aspx?idMovie=a0fbedee-3a70-4a57-b50e-0671774184c5>

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15

“Look here! Today I’ve set before you life and what’s good versus death and what’s wrong.”⁷

Next Step

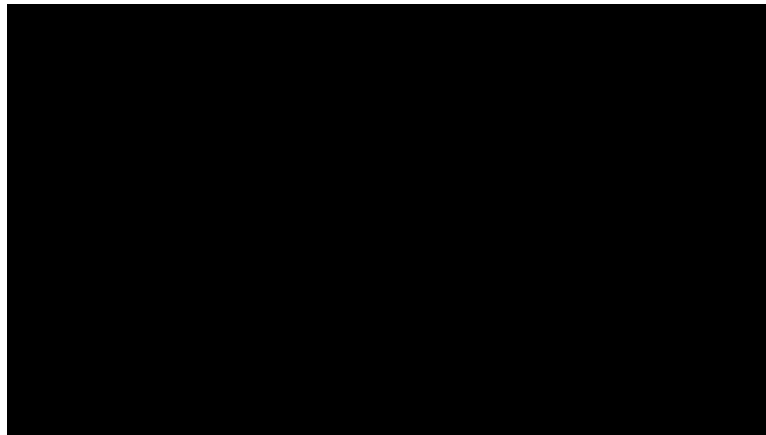
.....
When you have a choice about which path to take, choose life.
.....

All are One in Christ

Introduction to Video

Through a series of unlikely circumstances, Charlie Brown is finally face to face with the Little Red-Haired Girl. She has chosen her to be summer pen pals and Charlie Brown just can’t see why. Let’s take a look...

[Play Peanuts Clip 4]



Scene Description

“Charlie, having raced to catch the Little Red-Haired Girl before she left for camp, approaches her with the question that has been weighing on his mind: “Why, out of all the kids in our class, would you want to be partners with me?” LRHG, smiling: “That’s easy. Because I’ve seen the type of person you are.” Charlie, confused: “An insecure, wishy-washy failure?” LRHG: “That’s not who you are at all. I liked the compassion you showed for your sister at the talent show. The honesty you had at the assembly. And at the dance, you were brave, and funny. And what you did for me...doing the book report

⁷ Deuteronomy 30:15, CEB.

while I was away, was so sweet of you. So when I look at you, I don't see a failure at all. You have all the qualities that I admire." A huge smile spreads across Charlie's face.

Connection to Life

This is the way that God sees us.

Connection to Scripture

Key Scripture: Galatians 3:26–28

"You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."⁸

Next Step

.....
Know that you are a child of God. Live that way.
.....

Conclusion

Good News

The good news is that God sees the truth about us. We are all children of God.

Call to Action

Look forward, toward Christ.

Treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you.

When you have a choice about which path to take, choose life.

Invitation

Know that you are a child of God.

Live that way.

Closing Prayer

⁸ Galatians 3:26-28, CEB.