

NOTE SCHEDULES

Fall Festival Today: 4-6 PM at The Lakefront Campus, 3100 Executive Dr.

Sunday, November 2, Joint Worship - The Lakefront Campus - 10:00 AM

Sunday, November 2 - No Activities at the Downtown Campus

Sunday, November 9, GRAND WELCOMING - The Lakefront Campus - 9:30 am

November 9, Connection Classes, 9:45 and Worship, 11:00, Miami Ave Campus

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*"Who Tells You What To Do" - The Comparison Trap*

First Baptist Church and The Lakefront Church - Venice, Florida

One Church - Two Locations

October 26, 2025

People subconsciously measure their *worth or happiness* against the "highlight reels" of others. This pattern of living is not good because it is not real!

Genesis 3:5 (CSB) "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God,"

From the beginning, the enemy has tempted us to compare—trying to make us want someone else's life, calling, or blessing.

Yet what God has for you is unique to you.

### 1. Blind Man

Mark 8:22-26 (CSB) *They came to Bethsaida. They brought a blind man to Him and begged Him to touch him.* <sup>23</sup>*He took the blind man by the hand and brought him out of the village. Spitting on his eyes and laying His hands on him, He asked him, "Do you see anything?"* <sup>24</sup>*He looked up and said, "I see people—they look like trees walking."* <sup>25</sup>*Again Jesus placed His hands on the man's eyes. The man looked intently and his sight was restored and he saw everything clearly.*

### 2. Man Born Blind

John 9:6-7 (CSB) *After He said these things He spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes.* <sup>7</sup>*"Go," He told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he left, washed, and came back seeing.*

### 3. Two Blind Men At Jericho

Matthew 20:34 (CSB) *Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they could see, and they followed Him.*

2 Chronicles 18 - King Jehoshaphat (Judah), King Ahab (Israel), and Prophet Micaiah.

Jehoshaphat sought the truth—but Ahab surrounded himself with voices that told him what he *wanted* to hear. When you seek direction, whose voice do you trust? God's—or the crowd's? Who tells you what to do?

1 Chronicles 21:2ff (CSB) *So David said to Joab and the commanders of the troops, "Go and count Israel from Beer-sheba to Dan and bring a report to me so I can know their number."*

<sup>3</sup>*Joab replied, "May the Lord multiply the number of his people a hundred times over! My lord*

*the king, aren't they all my lord's servants? Why does my lord want to do this? Why should he bring guilt on Israel?"*

John 5 *After this, a Jewish festival took place, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda in Aramaic, which has five colonnades.<sup>3</sup> Within these lay a large number of the disabled—blind, lame, and paralyzed.<sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been disabled for thirty-eight years.<sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and realized he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to get well?"<sup>7</sup> "Sir," the disabled man answered, "I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I'm coming, someone goes down ahead of me."<sup>8</sup> "Get up," Jesus told him, "pick up your mat and walk."<sup>9</sup> Instantly the man got well, picked up his mat, and started to walk. Now that day was the Sabbath,<sup>10</sup> and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "This is the Sabbath. The law prohibits you from picking up your mat."<sup>11</sup> He replied, "The man who made me well told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"*

- Who tells you what to do?

Matthew 25 - Parable of the 'employees'.

When God calls you to serve in some capacity in His Church, do you make an excuse: not enough time, not enough energy, will do it when more convenient?

Or when God calls you to serve, do you look at someone else and let the enemy tell you, you are not as gifted as someone else?

John 16:13 (CSB) *When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak whatever He hears. He will also declare to you what is to come.*

2 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT) *We will not boast about things done outside our area of authority. We will boast only about what has happened within the boundaries of the work God has given us, which includes our working with you.*

Luke 12:48b (CSB) *...From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be expected.*

Do not let the enemy convince you that now is not a good time to serve God or that you are not as qualified as someone else!

Who tells you what to do?