

# IT'S HARD NOT TO

**It's Hard Not To...Wonder.** You may wonder if that is a true assertion or not, but that just proves the point. There is nothing so certain that you don't wonder about it. People who don't like your wondering call it doubt, but it's all the same. It's the crack in the walls of certainty, the possibility that there is more to whatever it is. The bigger the question the harder it is to make a formula work, and what could be bigger than your spirituality. Let's face it, it's hard not to wonder. I wonder why?

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### We're glad you're here

Music with Chris Tripolino and the Fabric Band

Welcome

Say Hi and some music

Message -- Greg Meyer

Connecting with and supporting Fabric & more music

Closing Thoughts for kids and adults

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SANTAFLIX - 10:30am, 11/26-12/10

Kids Christmas Production - 10:30am on 12/17

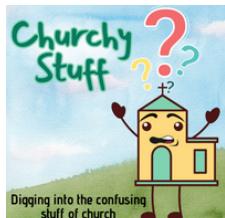
Christmas Eve - 10:30am (Field) & 9pm (Outside)

Chili Cook-Off - 11:30am on 12/31

**Learn more at [FabricMpls.com](http://FabricMpls.com)**

Miss a week or want to hear the message again?

Check our podcast [fabricmpls.podbean.com](http://fabricmpls.podbean.com)



**Kids - What's Happening Today:** **BIBLE** - Facts? Fairy tales? Or Something that helps us to be deeply woven? Come get to know this book a little better and how it is filled with stories of people who are trying to figure out what living a life woven deeply is all about. We will learn some tools that help us to use this book as a source of wisdom and to catch a glimpse the heart of God. More at [fabricmpls.com/kids-current](http://fabricmpls.com/kids-current)

## COMING UP AND MORE



**Next Sunday - It's Hard Not to Practice.** After all, you are practicing all sorts of things all the time already. If it's on purpose, it's called a skill. If it's not on purpose, it's called a rut. Practices that keep your spiritual life fit aren't any harder than all the things you are doing already. More at [fabricmpls.com/current](http://fabricmpls.com/current)



**Mpls neighbors connect around food and generosity - December 31, 11:30-1:00pm.** We're looking for you! Join us to showcase your top chili skills. Email [melissa@fabricmpls.com](mailto:melissa@fabricmpls.com) to pitch your chili along with the local non-profit you'd like to cook for!



**What's Next with Fabric?** The Search Team has been hard at work. Visit [fabricmpls.com/transition](http://fabricmpls.com/transition) to read the latest update from November 9. Please reach out to the team with any questions or comments at [NEXT@fabricmpls.com](mailto:NEXT@fabricmpls.com) or in person.



**Where we are and the story of our land matters.** Most of us live in, and we gather in land that was part of the Dakota people for centuries, but from which they were forcibly and dishonorably removed by the US government. It is an honor and a responsibility for us to live on and care for this land today.



What is this a picture of? We often miss what is really before us because of something else that got plunked down right in front of us. Together we are trying to see past that to the bigger reality everywhere else. Not necessarily the thing that is easy to see, but what's actually hard not to see.

**Spiritual Growth is the process of aligning your whole self with the Image of God within you.**

To be spiritual does not mean to be some superhuman or transcendent version of yourself, but being what you are.

To grow means to CHANGE.

It's tempting to be CERTAIN. But it's hard not to WONDER.

**CERTAINTY uses COERCION to assure CONFORMITY**

Certainty sees wonder as DOUBT.

**CONVICTION is COMPELLING and engenders CONVERSATION**

Conviction sees doubt as a TOOL of faith and life, not a DEFECT.

Human beings are perhaps the most amazing creatures on this planet, yet so limited. And that is OKAY.

We crave certainty because...

We want to be RIGHT. There is no other way to do, see, experience things than our way.

We want to KNOW EVERYTHING. No surprises! Be in control!

*One sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, 'Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?' And Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.' Then he said to them, 'The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the son of man is lord even of the sabbath.'* Mark 2.23-28

"Don't think I came to abolish the law or the prophets. I came to fulfill, not abolish."

Jesus, Matthew 5.17

We want to avoid COMPLEXITY. It's too messy, too hard, too uncomfortable.



**HOMEWORK** - It's okay to be certain about some things. Like 2+2=4 or whether you have enough gas or electrons in your car to get where you're going. But watch for places your certainty may divide, judge, limit relationships and possibilities. Search for what you are convicted about and lean on that. See how others respond. Let your heart speak along with your head, expect to get a little uncomfortable.

**ROAM (Read, Observe, Apply, Meditate) through these readings this week.**

Mark 2.21-28, Psalm 8, and just for fun Job 38.1-18 then jump to 40.3-5

And spend some time watching birds flying and landing, clouds coming and going, and wonder about what you don't know.