**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, September 27, 2015**

**Sermon Title: Vision: Grow in Christ, Go for Christ**

**Scripture: John 17:20-26 *(New International Version)***

20“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. 25“Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 26I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

**Luke 5:4-11 *(New International Version)***

4When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” 5Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” 6When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” 9For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” 11So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only) – Psalm 19**

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim his handiwork.

**People: One day gushes the news to the next, and one night informs the other.**

Leader: Their voice goes out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.

**People: Praise the name of the LORD.**

**Basic Theme: *Without a vision, people perish. Without a mission, people flounder. After valuable input from Hillsiders, hard work, and many prayers, the Vision Team has arrived at a Vision and a Mission for Hillside United Methodist Church.***

***Vision: Hillside is a center of hope in our community as we reflect the love of Jesus.***

***Mission: Hillside is called to LOVE God, SERVE others, GROW in Christ & GO live out our faith.***

***Our Vision and Mission are anchored by four key words: LOVE – SERVE – GROW – GO!***

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): Jesus’ prayer was that all believers would become unified under this new covenant and experience a oneness only know by Father, Son and Spirit. That as we grow in Christ, our lives will be a testimony of the love of God which dwells in us through Jesus. We are then called to go and live out our contagious faith in our world.**

**So What? Will you buy into the vision? Will you be a part of the mission? What is your role in achieving the mission and making the vision a reality? Are there changes that need to take place in your life and priorities that need to be adjusted so that you can fully participate in what God is doing in and through Hillside?**