

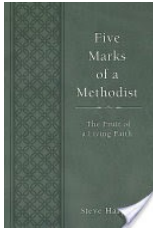
**The Next Six Day Challenge  
STAY CONNECTED**

Please download our APP titled "MTOCharge," which can be downloaded for "FREE" from the App store. Be sure to visit us on the web at [www.mtolivet.org](http://www.mtolivet.org), and please like us on Facebook @mtolivetcharge. **Please check-in @ church on social media today!**

**\*Reminders:**

- *If you are a visitor/guest, please complete the connection card that is attached to the bulletin, detach it and then place it in the offering plate when it comes around, we would love to connect and stay in touch with you.*
- Valentine's Youth Event: February 10, please RSVP, \$25 per couple (Contact Dana Reid)
- Sign-up to join a small group for our Lenten Study, or to Host a group. (See Clipboard)
- Pastor Harold and Suzie Long will host a group on Thursday nights, starting at 7:00 p.m., at Mt. Olivet. The Lenten Study starts for this group on Thursday, February 22, 2018. The Study will run from through Thursday, 03/29/2018 "Maundy Thursday."

**Please be sure to order these two book(s) for our Lenten Study: Five Marks of a Methodist-The Fruit of a Living Faith (Steven Harper) ISBN 13: 9781501800597 & Five Marks of a Methodist: Participant Character Guide (Wesley Discipleship Path Series) ISBN-13: 978-1501820267 Please See Clipboard to order, or purchase on your own.**



**\*The Next Six Day Challenge  
\*First Things First  
Today is National...**

- SUPER BOWL SUNDAY (Patriots vs Eagles) (Pastor Harold Predicts Patriot's Win 31-27)
- Rosa Parks Day
- World Cancer Day
- USO Day  
Homemade Soup Day

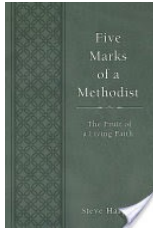
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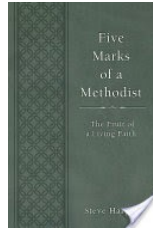
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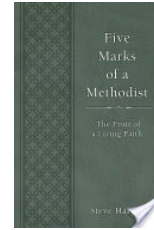
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### **\*Getting Started**

According to Edward Andrews, Christian missionaries were initially portrayed as "visible saints, exemplars of ideal piety in a sea of persistent savagery". However, by the time the colonial era drew to a close in the last half of the twentieth century, missionaries became viewed as "ideological shock troops for colonial invasion whose zealotry blinded them" colonialism's "agent, scribe and moral alibi."

### **\*Digging Deeper**

Christianity is targeted by critics of colonialism because the tenets of the religion were used to justify the actions of the colonists. For example, Toyin Falola asserts that there were some missionaries who believed that "the agenda of colonialism in Africa was similar to that of Christianity". Falola cites Jan H. Boer of the Sudan United Mission as saying, "Colonialism is a form of imperialism based on a divine mandate and designed to bring liberation - spiritual, cultural, economic and political - by sharing the blessings of the Christ-inspired civilization of the West with a people suffering under satanic oppression, ignorance and disease, effected by a combination of political, economic and religious forces that cooperate under a regime seeking the benefit of both ruler and ruled."

According to Jake Meador, "some Christians have tried to make sense of post-colonial Christianity by renouncing practically everything about the Christianity of the colonizers. They reason that if the colonialists' understanding of Christianity could be used to justify rape, murder, theft, and empire then their understanding of Christianity is completely wrong.

**\*Memory Verse:** Matthew 6:21 (NIV) *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

**\*UMC Lesson of the Week:** John Wesley coined the term "agree to disagree." Over the years, Wesley had serious theological differences with another popular pastor named George Whitefield. Though they both argued passionately, Wesley reflected on these differences in a memorial sermon for Whitefield by saying: "There are many doctrines of a less essential nature. ... In these, we may think and let think; we may 'agree to disagree.' But, meantime, let us hold fast the essentials. ..." This appears to be the first recorded use of the term. It was a hallmark of Wesley's way of holding to his convictions while remaining in connection with those with whom he disagreed.

**\*Further Study:** Colonization and Christianity: A Popular History of the Treatment of the Natives by the Europeans in All Their Colonies. ISBN-13 9781498105699  
**Today's Spiritual Challenge Question(s):** What "WILL" you do, starting today, that will help bring about peace and reconciliation from the damage caused by the church?

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