

**MONDAY 3.27.23 – John 13:34-35**

Fill in the blank for me: “And they'll know we are Christians by our \_\_\_\_, by our \_\_\_\_, Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our \_\_\_\_”. This is a simple, well-known song that reminds us of today’s scripture. Our scripture mentions the missing word above four times in two versus. Do you think maybe this word is important? Note that the song does not say that they will know we are Christians by our buildings or meals or programs or any kind of works that we do. We are commanded to love one another. “We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord. We will work with each other; we will work side by side. We will guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.” Let us join together, in love, to serve those around us. Together, out of the shared love we have for our Heavenly Father, “we pray that our unity will one day be restored.”

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 3.28.23 – Colossians 4:2**

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

As you reflect on today’s devotional, I want to encourage you to read today’s Scripture in the context of the verses that follow, verses 3-6, and ask yourself what Paul is asking of us. Allow me to make a few observations:

- Vs. 2, Prayer should be your go to, not your last resort.
- Vs. 2, Be on the alert looking for things that call for prayer.
- Vs 2, Believe that God will answer your prayer and thank Him for answering prayer even in advance.
- Vs. 3-4, Pray for the church staff that they will be good and faithful ministers of the Gospel and that God would provide them with opportunities to do so.
- Vs. 5-6, Pray for yourselves that you may be good ambassadors for Christ throughout each day and in every situation, so that you may leave the sweet aroma of Christ lingering everywhere you go.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY – 3.29.23 – John 20:21**

“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” Jesus was commissioned by God, the Father. The Lord sent Jesus into the world as His representative to reveal His words and works. As His representative, Jesus did what the Father would have done and said what the Father would have said (John 5:19). Jesus revealed the Father’s character through the signs that He performed and the mission of redemption that He carried out (1 John 4:14). Now, Jesus passes this commission on to us, His followers. We are His representatives in the world. We speak His message through the proclamation of the gospel (John 3:14-16), and we demonstrate that we belong to Him through the acts of love that we perform to fellow believers (John 13:35).

As Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday approaches, ask God for special opportunities to share the good news of Christ with others.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 3.30.23 – Isaiah 45:22**

“I am the Lord, there is no other.” Isaiah 45 details the Lord’s assertions of omnipotence and total Lordship. Ultimately all will bow before Him (v. 23); yet in verse 22, the Lord makes an incredible invitation to all the world, “Turn to me and be saved all you ends of the earth.” That invitation still stands. John 3:16 tells us God so loved the world that He provided the means for everyone’s salvation – belief in His son Jesus, who sacrificed Himself for our sins.

In Matthew 28:18-19, the resurrected Jesus established His Divine Kingship and reissued this invitation to the world by challenging His disciples and us today, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations . . . .” How can we not obey the Lord of the universe? This is our Great Commission.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY 3.31.23 - Psalm 105:1-2**

This is a special Psalm that helps us understand the basics of evangelism and missions. The import of the opening verses presses home the need to share information with other people. They can be anyone, but clearly our experience claims that family will be the hardest for us. What do we share? His deeds are what we share. What has He done for me? That is what I may share. I do not need to study the encyclopedia or purchase any commentaries. I just tell others what God has done for me and how he continues to work in my own life. Those examples would be His deeds made known among the people.

Lastly, is what He does in my life considered Wonderful? How can miracles, faithfulness, provision, and abundant living be anything other than wonderful? Thus, when I share my life, it is sharing the wonderful deeds He has done.

What a joy it is to be His missionary!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES**

**SUNDAY MORNINGS – 9:40am**

- Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*  
NURSERY (through Age 3)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** SPRING QUARTER BEGINS MARCH 5TH  
LOCATION: B8-10 with Lane Kemler  
**Explore the Bible** - *John, chapters 12-21*  
LOCATION: B11 with David Hamilton  
**Masterwork** - *Unfailing Love in Uncertain Times, a study of 1 John by J. Ryan Wicker*  
LOCATION: B1-2 with Barry Wills  
**God Owns it All** - *A 6-week study of financial principles that are affirmed by the authority of scripture and tested by the marketplace by author, Ron Blue*  
LOCATION: Rm 2 (next to office) with Irene Hess  
**Share Your Story** - *This 4-week study for ladies will help you share your faith by recognizing God's presence in your life, identifying, and sharing your story and living out your faith*

**SUNDAY EVENINGS – 6:00pm**

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Kid's Wing on the Lower Level
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)  
*5th–8th Grade meet downstairs*  
*9th–12th Grade meet upstairs*
- Adults** DIVE DEEPER WITH DOUG  
LOCATION: Worship Center

**EVENING E2 STUDIES** - Beginning the week of 3/20

- He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado**
- Wednesdays** LOCATION: Rm B8-10 - 6:30pm
- Thursdays** LOCATION: Vance Home, Orangeville

**WOMEN'S STUDIES**

- Thursdays** LOCATION: YAC 9:00am - 11am - Beginning 3/16  
**Jude, by Jackie Hill Perry**
- Mondays** LOCATION: B8-10 - 6:30 - 8:30pm - Beginning 3/27  
**Decluttering by Faith, by D. Madsen & D. Kokku**

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY GROUPS OR CLASSES, PLEASE USE THE CONNECT CARD IN YOUR BULLETIN. THANK YOU!

Quarterly Missions Speaker  
Dr. George Collins  
Executive Director for  
Indian Subcontinent  
and GAP Ministries  
ABWE

Global Access Partnerships (GAP Ministries) has been in existence since 1994 with the primary purpose of establishing strategic links with churches here in North America and ministry partners around the globe. To date, we are involved in more than two dozen countries where we assist visionary and missions-minded leaders as they launch initiatives to deepen the faith of those in their communities and to reach out into new territory with the Gospel message.

Sermon Notes

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**E2 Edifying and Equipping Every Day**

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



**March 27<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>**

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:

We welcome Dr. George Collins, with ABWE as our quarterly missions speaker today. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on 4.2.23, The King's Visit: The Triumphant entry of Jesus with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE: "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified." Acts 20:32