

**MONDAY 10.2.23 - John 20:21**

J. Vernon McGee observes this about John 20:21... I do not think the Lord is just repeating Himself. I think this is a different peace here. In verse 19, it was the peace of redemption - peace *with* God. Redemption is now complete. This is the peace described in Matthew 11:28: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." This is the rest of redemption. There is another peace. It is the peace of those who are in fellowship with God and are doing His will. This is the peace described in Matthew 11:29: "Take my Yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto you souls." Redemption is now accomplished. Now Christ sends them out as the Father had sent Him into the world. He had previously mentioned this in His prayer, "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world" (John 17:18).

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**TUESDAY 10.3.23 - Revelation 22:17**

*'The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"* Earlier in Revelation the bride is shown to be New Jerusalem, but the church itself is often referred to as the bride of Christ (*Ephesians 5:22-23*). Filled with the Spirit, the mission of the church in the world is to call men and women to come to God through Jesus Christ. We are the bearers of the good news of God's love for lost mankind. Jesus commissioned us to go into all the world and preach this good news to every creature, so that those who believe and are baptized, might be saved. Once you have heard the message of God's love for you through Jesus Christ, you are then to go out and share the good news and invite others to come. Come partake of this gift. A gift unlike no other. A gift that will change your life now and forever.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**WEDNESDAY - 10:4.23 - Galatians 5:22-23**

Jesus says, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). The center of joy for a Christian is Christ. The joy is Christ's joy. It is simply the life of the Lord Jesus Christ being lived out by a believer. Christian joy is letting Christ live His life out through you so that what He is, you become. There are other kinds of joy found in other places in the world, but there is no place where you can find Christian joy except in Christ. He is the source of that joy. One follower of Jesus expressed it in these words: "Joy is the flag that is flown over the castle of your heart when the King is in residence." Are you experiencing joy today? Is Jesus at home in your life?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**THURSDAY 10.5.23 - Nehemiah 8:10**

I find we often look at the world through the lens of disappointment and sadness that more people aren't seeking the Lord. I think if we do this too much we are missing out on so much of the beauty and happiness God wishes to share with us. Take time to celebrate the people, things, and events that bring you joy as you walk with God. A new believer, no matter how immature their walk may be. A church plant, even though you wish your church was growing faster.

A worshipful song, even if it is not your favorite style. So much to celebrate! So much to be joyful for! Let us celebrate and share our joy with others. For the joy of the Lord is our strength!!!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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**FRIDAY- 10.6.23 - Psalm 16:8-11**

Let's face it: life can be tough! The Psalmist experienced this more than most of us. Yet, his heart was glad and his whole being rejoiced! How is this possible? David shares with us two answers. In this *present* time, the **now**, he set the Lord always before him. He lived *coram Deo* - **before the face of God!** This gave him a foundation that would not be shaken. And, in looking toward the *future*, he knew there was fullness of joy in God's presence and at His right hand forevermore! When David met violence and wickedness, he purposed to live before the face of God, for His smile and he purposed to walk the path of life that would lead him to pleasures forevermore! Christian, live before Him *now*, and look forward to His pleasures forevermore! Let your joy be full for in Christ, you have everything!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

**Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)  
 LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*  
 NURSERY (through Age 3)  
 LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level  
*available during the 9:40 service*

**Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
 LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

**Adults** FALL QUARTER  
 LOCATION: B11 with Bob Lehman  
**Explore the Bible - Mark's Gospel**  
 LOCATION: B8-10 with Jack Devlin  
**Bible Studies for Life**  
 Begins Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>  
 LOCATION: B1-2 with Chris Domenico & Joel Day  
**Following Jesus in a Digital Age**

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

**Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)  
 LOCATION: Camp Shiloh 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** SUMMER EVENING SPEAKER  
 LOCATION: Worship Center

E2 FALL SMALL GROUP

**Women's TUESDAY EVENING STUDY**

**God of Deliverance** - Study in Exodus 9/5 - 11/28  
 in B8-10- with Denise Whitfield & Elizabeth Williams.

**Men's TUESDAY EVENING STUDY**

**Kingdom Man** - understand your position under God as well  
 as your position over what God has given to you.  
 9/5 - 10/24 in B1-2 with Mike Williams.

**Women's THURSDAY MORNING STUDY**

**Abide** - Study of the letters of 1,2,& 3 John - abide in the  
 truth. 9/7 - 11/30 at 9am in the Youth Activity Center.

**Women's THURSDAY EVENING STUDY**

**Desperate for Hope** - find hope in your pain. Meeting at  
 Kulp Church in Catawissa at 6:30 pm began 9/7.

**Wednesday EVENING SMALL GROUP**

**Carry the Flame** - Learn to obey the Spirit's direction and live  
 out the gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world.  
 Begins October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in B8-10 with Barry Wills.

**NOTES**

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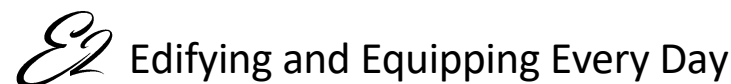
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TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



October 2nd - October 6th

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:

Monday's and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on Sunday's message , "Missions & Evangelism" with Rev. Garrett Lowe, Quarterly Missions Speaker. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on 10.8, "The Fruit of Joy" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

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