

MONDAY 2.12.24 - John 17:18-21

The essence of missions is to be sent. Missionaries are those going throughout the world, covered by mission boards and living far away in ancient lands. But here, in John 17, Jesus is praying to his Father, and ours, in what has been captioned ‘the High Priestly Prayer.’ He shares that the Father has ‘sent’ him into the world. Then he proceeds to ‘send’ his disciples out into the world in a fashion similar to his own visit to this world.

But the words of Jesus reach more than only foreign missionaries. It speaks to believers of all ages. Jesus desires consecration and sanctification for all people. These follow the spreading of the Gospel message, the good news Jesus died to bring. New Believers join in unity with all believers, a unity with Jesus and also with the Father. That all may be one, as the Father and Jesus are one. What a blessing to be a missionary to a neighbor.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 2.13.24 - Romans 10:14-15

¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!
It has been my experience, much to my dismay, that our country is experiencing a level of Biblical illiteracy that has not been seen for a long time. When I speak to people outside of the church, they often do not even know who Jesus is let alone why He came to earth and what He has to offer them. These are often the parents of children and if Mom and Dad have no clue who Jesus is how they will ever pass the good news on to their children? We hear this and shake our heads but is it possible that we are partly responsible.

Did you miss an opportunity to talk about Jesus with someone last week? Are you prepared to share Jesus when the opportunity presents itself? Ask God for the opportunity and the courage to talk about Jesus this week. We need to share Jesus with the people we interact with each day. It is just that simple.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 2.14.24 - John2:1-11

Pastor Tim Quinn was stumped. His old Macintosh laptop would not run his Mac Bible software anymore. Though he had worked with it for hours, nothing he did would fix the problem. Finally, Tim gave in and called the Mac Bible corporation. A friendly voice on the other end of the line was none other than the man who wrote the Mac Bible software. He gave Tim a brief set of instructions. Tim wrote them down and hung up the phone. In minutes, his computer software program was up and running. He just had to go to the man who wrote the program. All too often, people try to work out their problems in their own power. Then, finally, when all else has failed, they go to the One who designed them. Call out to Jesus for the power to help you in your time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 2.15.24 - Joel 2:13

The people of Judah rebelled against the Lord by breaking the commands of His covenant. In response to the nation’s disobedience, God sent devastating swarms of locusts across the land to devour its crops.

God also sent the Prophet Joel to His people. Joel warned the Jews of additional judgments from God unless they turned from their wickedness. Joel encouraged the people to “rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God.” Then, Joel gave the reason why Judah should respond to God in repentance. The Lord God is gracious. He is compassionate, loving, and slow to anger. This was true in Old Testament times; and it is true today as well. God can discipline believers who disobey Him (Hebrews 12:4-6). However, the Lord is gracious and compassionate. He will forgive our transgressions and restore us to fellowship when we confess our sin to Him (1 John 1:9).

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 2.16.24 - Psalm 22:27-28

At the beginning of Psalm 139, David writes about the omniscience of God in watching over every aspect of his life: all his thoughts and actions. He praises God for the fact of His perpetual, complete love, care, and protection. At the end of the Psalm, he verbalizes his desire for God to continue this total scrutiny. Unlike Adam and Eve, who, because of their sin and disobedience, hid when they normally fellowshiped with God, David welcomes this intense knowledge of himself. He desires God’s shining the light on him so that he can be led in the “way everlasting.” Our challenge is to remember that even though God knows all and sees all, we need to desire his cleansing and forgiveness so that we can stand before Him. We don’t want to be like Adam and Eve, willfully separating ourselves from God rather than confessing our sins and being restored.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

- Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** **WINTER QUARTER** - Dec. 3rd - Feb. 25th
LOCATION: B8-10 with Gene Steinruck
Explore the Bible - *Genesis 1-19*
LOCATION: B11 with Lane Kemler
Bible Studies for Life "Owning a Faith That Matters"
LOCATION: ROOM B1-2 with Joel Day
Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table
begins Jan. 21st.

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** Dive Deep with Doug
LOCATION: Worship Center

E2 WINTER SMALL GROUPS

- Women's THURSDAY MORNING STUDY** - Jan. 11th - Feb. 22nd
When You Pray by Kelly Minter, Jackie Hill Perry, Jen Wilkin, Jennifer Rothschild, Jada Edwards, and Kristi McLelland - with Christine Knepley 9:00am in B8-10
- Women's THURSDAY EVENING STUDY** - begins March 14th at 6:30pm at Kulp UMC, 1395 Old Reading Road, Catawissa. (Take note of the location) 10-session study of Exodus 19–40, with Elizabeth Williams. Sign up on the Connect Card.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS 2024

Wednesdays beginning January 10th at 6pm

Bring your place settings and come to the FAC for a meal followed by small group studies in the lower-level classrooms. Join author and pastor David Platt in his ten-session series as he examines foundational truths for becoming mature disciples of Christ.

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

Galatians 6:11-18 **Paul's Missionary Manifesto**

Paul's Missionary Manifesto answers the question:
"Why give my life to missionary service?"

1. Because we will not abandon people to The LIE (Gal. 6:12-13)

The lie =

1.1 The Lie is the battlefield of all missionary work (Jn. 8:44; Rom. 1:25)

1.2 The Lie cannot give people what they need most (Gal. 6:13)

1.3 The Lie even invades the Church


2. Because the Cross changes everything (Gal. 6:14)

2.1 The Cross Changes How We See Ourselves (Phil. 3:2-11)

2.2 The Cross confronts us with the love of Jesus

2.3 The Cross resets our values - crucified to the world (6:14)

3. Because only one thing matters (Gal. 6:15, 5:6)

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



February 12th - February 16th

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 Dr. Dale Marshfield, Quarterly Missions Speaker, from Grace Global Ministries. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on 2/18, "Gift for the Bride Groom" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31