

## MONDAY 3.18.24 - Matthew 28:18

The Elders of Shiloh Bible Church recently shared the vision for our assembly. Regarding Scripture, we are to “know the Bible and are compelled or challenged to apply its truth to our daily lives with an emphasis on what and how we were instructed to be Christ’s church (Matthew 28 and 22).” Matthew 28 and 22 reveal the Great Commission and the Great Commandment, respectively. Prior to Christ’s instructions in the Great Commission, He announced to His followers: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (v 18). The entire Gospel of Matthew stresses the authority of Jesus. Since Christ today has all authority (the right to exercise power), we may obey Him without fear. No matter where He leads us, no matter what circumstances we face, He is in control. By His death and resurrection, Jesus defeated all enemies and won for Himself all authority.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## TUESDAY 3.19.24 - Philippians 2:9-11

- 9Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,
- 10that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- 11and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

If you see a therefore in scripture, look and see what it’s, therefore. In Philippians 2:6-8 we see Christ was willing to leave heaven, come to earth as a humble and lowly man, live without sin and ultimately die on the cross. Therefore, God lifted him up to the highest place. Verse 12 also starts off with, “therefore”. As a believer God is at work in your life, not to raise you to the place of honor and glory that is set aside for Christ alone, but to a newness of life that will reflect Christ in all you do. God is at work in you because He desires to see you live this kind of life.

God is giving you the power you need to make the changes He desires to see in you. Are you working with Him or running from Him? Remember the word repent means to turn around and run the opposite way. Are you running in the right direction?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## WEDNESDAY 3.20.24 - John 4:1-4; 39-42

Jesus Christ relates to lost people in the area of their greatest need. For example, as He relaxes by the well, a Samaritan woman comes to draw water, and He asks, “Will you give me a drink?” Since the Jews and Samaritans did not associate with one another, the woman is astounded by His request. Jesus seizes the opportunity to direct her from the subject of physical water to spiritual water. He says, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” Immediately she wonders how and where to obtain that water. Her focus shifts from her empty bucket to her empty life. Needs become a bridge by which we can communicate to people that Christ meets their spiritual needs when they receive His free gift of eternal life.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## THURSDAY 3.21.24 - Isaiah 45:22

Is not assurance what we all truly desire? The inquiry made to me just prior to my conversion was “Do I know I would go to heaven when I die?” Assurance was at the heart of that question.

This verse poses the process of gaining a positive response to the heartfelt question. The context is a speech by God against people seeking to benefit from other wooden idols, or I suppose any idol of the earth. People look to their own efforts to gain salvation as we learn each week.

But here we see that we must turn from using our efforts. Pagans must stop looking to wooden idols. People must admit the failure of their other gods and recognize the surety of the creator God. Stop our efforts at self-sacrifice and find salvation in the God, who has none other besides Him. He is a righteous God and a Savior. Turn to Him for assurance of salvation.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## FRIDAY 3.22.24 - Romans 8:38-39

After asking five questions in verses 31 through 34, Paul asks one other question: Who shall separate us from the love of God?

His answer is an astounding statement of God’s Sovereignty! **Nothing!** Death, life, angels, rulers, things present or to come, height, depth, or **anything in all of His creation!** God gave His Son a people and set His love upon them. **None** of those that the Father has given Him will be lost (John 6). The power of an omnipotent God is at work to keep us! How could God’s infinite love for His Son allow anything to remove us from that love? He is sovereign over all! He, alone, is overall, through all and in all (Ephesians 4)! Rest assured, O, believer! Because of God’s love for His Son, nothing can separate us from His love found in Christ Jesus our Lord!! Nothing!

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  
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** **SPRING QUARTER** - March 3<sup>rd</sup> - May 26<sup>th</sup>  
LOCATION: B8-10 with Dave Decamp  
**Explore the Bible** - Genesis 20-50.  
LOCATION: B11 with Shawn Devlin  
**Bible Studies for Life** - "It's All About Jesus"  
LOCATION: B1-2 with Chris Domenico  
"Kingdom Authority"

### 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)  
5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade meet downstairs.  
9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade meet upstairs.
- Adults** Dive Deep with Doug  
LOCATION: Worship Center

### E2 SPRING SMALL GROUPS

- Women's** THURSDAY MORNING STUDY - Beginning March 14<sup>th</sup>.  
A study on **Isaiah** by Melissa Spooelstra  
with Brenda Ross - at 9:00am in B8-10.
- Women's** THURSDAY EVENING STUDY - begins March 14<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Men's Bible Study** - begins April 16<sup>th</sup>  
Wild at Heart by John Eldredge  
with Vince DiLoretto - at 6:30pm in the YAC.

### EVENING GROUP STUDY

- Wednesday Evening Study** - begins April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Body of Proof by Jeremiah Johnston  
with Barry Wills - at 6:30pm in B8-10.

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

## **John 3:22-36** **He Must Increase**

*He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8*

How to walk humbly with God:

1. Consider God's goodness to \_\_\_\_\_ (v 27)

One of the most destructive things you can do is to compare yourself and your situation to others. If you do, you'll either become \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1 Corinthians 4:7

2. Consider God's goodness to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 22-23)

What did John the Baptist do when Jesus started ministering? He kept doing what God had called him to do. Someone observed, "All Christ-centered, totally committed service ranks equally with God."


3. Consider who \_\_\_\_\_ (v 28)

"It's not about you. The purpose of your life is far greater than your own personal fulfillment, your peace of mind, or even your happiness. It's far greater than your family, your career, or even your wildest dreams and ambitions. If you want to know why you were placed on this planet, you must begin with God." ~ Rick Warren

4. Consider who \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 29-36)

If you have your eyes on other people, you'll always find room for pride or jealousy. No matter how poorly you're doing, you can always find someone who's doing worse—and that leads to pride. No matter how well you're doing, you can always find someone who's doing better—and that leads to jealousy.

*He must become greater; I must become less ~ v 30*

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



## March 18th - March 22nd

### 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, "He Must Increase" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on March 24<sup>th</sup>, "Living Water" 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