

## MONDAY 4.1.24 - Psalm 16:8-11

From the time our children took their first breath, their mother and my desire was for them to not only know Christ as their Savior, but also as their Lord. We conveyed to them, both through our words and actions, that whatever life might throw at them, if they would but keep the Lord in the center of it, they would be okay. How about you? Do you know Jesus not only as Savior, but also as Lord of your life? Are you keeping Him in the center of whatever life throws at you? If not, you are probably experiencing fear and anxiety. If so, you are probably experiencing peace. Peace that the world cannot offer, but that comes from God alone. Keep God in the center of whatever life throws at you, and you will be alright. I am sure of this because God has promised it.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## TUESDAY 4.2.24 - 1 Corinthians 15:14-18

Have you ever considered the reason for SO many criticisms of our Lord's resurrection from the grave? There are those who call it a myth. Some say the disciples spirited His body away at night. Others proposed that He did not really die but fainted and the coolness of the tomb revived him. All of these 'theories' have been debunked by *many* others.

If Christ was not raised, then His death did not pay for our sins and there is no hope for life with God in heaven! We remain in our sins to face the just judgement of a holy God! Our faith is futile!

But thanks be to Him, our faith and hope rests upon the surety of our Lord's resurrection! It is the proof that God accepted His sacrifice for our sins on our behalf.

He is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## WEDNESDAY 4.3.24 - John 4:15-26

Worship is a response of praise to the character of God that can be manifested in many ways. We can glorify God throughout our entire day. Worship can happen anywhere you are and in whatever you're doing, assuming it is not sinful or against God's Word. When you are in a posture of gratitude and reverence to God, everything you do can be used to praise Him.

A few of the many ways to worship God include singing (Psalm 98:1), prayer (1 Chronicles 29:10-13), serving others (1 Peter 4:10), reading His Word (1 Timothy 4:13), fasting (Luke 2:37), and obedience (1 Samuel 15:22).

God can truly be glorified in everything we say and do, so this list represents just a fraction of the ways you can exalt Him. Whatever you do, do it for Him. Honor Him in all that you say and do, and the Lord will be praised.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## THURSDAY 4.4.24 - Mark 14:22-24

Gods always seem to want to be worshipped, or else we just know innately that we ought to worship them. We perceive that they are greater than we are and want to appease them. Appeasement is the strongest form of worship for false gods throughout the world and in known history. The gods would be angry with men and required some form of appeasement. Men's actions were attempts to mollify the angry gods.

But the Lord God, El Shaddai, met with his people and gave them instructions on how to worship Him. They need only have a reverent fear of Him, obey His words and commands, and He promised to bless them. He continues to say that He will show steadfast love to those who love Him.

Ours is a God worthy of worship and He loves us enough to tell us how to do that. Do it with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## FRIDAY 4.5.24.24 - Psalm 99:1-5

More than any other word, the Bible calls God Holy. Pastor Lyon has told us repeatedly that "to be Holy," is to be "set apart." To call God "Holy" acknowledges that God is unlike anything in the universe that he has created. He exists far beyond time and our imagination. As Spurgeon pondered these five verses, he wrote, *"Saints quiver with devout emotion, and sinners quiver with terror when the rule of Jehovah is fully perceived and felt."*

As we consider the Lord reigning and the nations and earth shaking at HIS mighty power and love for justice and equity; our response must be to praise his great and awesome name. Verse 5 sums it all up by directing us to exalt the Lord and worship at his footstool. We are directed to 'kneel in praise' and are told once again that He is HOLY.

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 Spoelstra  
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

## **Matthew 28:1-20** **News You Can Use**

### What does the resurrection tell us about Jesus?

1. Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ He declares (vv 1-10, 16-17)

Jesus declared He's equal to God because He is God! Only God is worthy of worship. That's why the resurrected Christ accepted the worship of His followers.

2. Jesus possesses the \_\_\_\_\_ He claims (v 18)

No one forced Jesus to die. The Romans put Him to death, but He willingly laid down His life. The grave couldn't keep Him. He willingly rose again from the dead. He had the ability to do both.

3. Jesus keeps the \_\_\_\_\_ He makes (vv 5-6)


Jesus predicted His resurrection. He told His disciples that He would rise from the dead (Matthew 16:21, 17:22-23, 20:18-19).

### What's the news you can use?

- Your past can be \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ephesians 1:7
  
- Your present can be \_\_\_\_\_
  - Philippians 4:13
  
- Your future can be \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hebrews 9:27
  - John 3:16
  - Philippians 3:20-21

*"Lord. I know I'm a sinner. I know my sin deserves to be punished. I believe that Jesus died for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Jesus alone to forgive my sin. Thank you for the eternal life I now have. Amen."*

"Because I live, you will live also" ~ Jesus

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



## April 1st - April 5th

### 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, "News You Can Use" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on April 7<sup>th</sup>, "What God is Looking For" 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