

MONDAY 8.26.24 - John 5:24

“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.”

As we read today’s Scripture, we see that salvation is a two-part process. First, you must hear the gospel. Simply put, that Christ paid a debt that you could not pay so that you can have a new life in Christ that you otherwise could not have. Second, you must believe, accept by faith, that Christ did this for you. Once you have believed you are saved, and your eternal destiny is secure.

When we think about these two steps, step number two is the part you played in your salvation, but step number one was the part someone else played. People cannot believe in what they have not heard. As a believer, it is our responsibility to share the gospel so that others may believe, experience salvation, and know they have eternal life. Do your part. Ask God to give you the opportunity to share the gospel with someone today.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 8.27.24 - Romans 8:31-34

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

It is difficult to navigate life while feeling anxious, fearful, and insecure. Billions of dollars are spent each year on products designed to make us feel safe and secure. But in these verses, Paul is developing his closing arguments to assure us that we can possess a different type of security - Eternal Security. He is posing questions that lead us to acknowledge the truth that a believer’s eternal salvation is completely *secure* in God’s hands.

“What shall we then say to these things?” “Hallelujah”

“If God be for us, who can be against us?”

God is the only one that could bring charges against us, and Christ intercedes on our behalf. “We are washed white as snow.”

“ . . . how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”

Meditate on the security we have in Christ.

That is TRULY safety and security freely given.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 8.28.24 - John 11:1-57

I just received a text message from a friend of mine who is a pastor in Canada. He informed me that his father-in-law went home to be with the Lord today. We rejoice that the man is with the Lord, but we sorrow for the family members who have lost a loved one. Death is like an unwelcome visitor who enters without being invited, interrupts without pardon, takes without asking, and leaves without remorse. Jesus experienced the grief and reality of death firsthand, weeping at the Lazarus’ tomb (John 11:35). Death may be an unwelcome visitor, but Jesus is a permanent resident in the life of the believer. Through His resurrection, Jesus defeated death once and for all! Until we get to heaven, God can use death and the losses we encounter to increase our faith. No matter what we face, He walks with us through the valley of death and loss.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 8.29.24 - Isaiah 41:10

Because of their rebellion against the Lord, the nation of Judah was taken captive to Babylon for 70 years. As the Jewish remnant faced the challenge of the long journey home and the

difficult task of rebuilding, they could think of many causes for fear. However, there was one big reason not to be afraid—the Lord was with them and would give them comfort. God seeks to calm their fears by assuring them that He is going before them and working on their behalf. God desires to comfort Judah with the fact that He is greater than their fears. In this section of Isaiah, the Lord seven times says, “Do not fear!” (41:10, 13, 14; 43:1, 5; 44:2, 8), and He says, “Do not fear!” to us today.

When, like Israel of old, you face a difficult task and an impossible tomorrow, do what they did and remind yourself of the greatness of God.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 8.30.24 - Psalm 119:76

God’s comfort is unlike any that we can get from our worldly relationships. Our life experiences confirm that even those we love most and hold most dear still bring frustration and sometimes even pain. We are broken people, all of us, and despite our best efforts we sin and press hard on meeting our own desires. This is what often causes hurts and disagreements among us.

Yet God is not broken. He does not sin and is unblemished from it. God acts completely and consistently in all His traits without losing control. He is balanced in both retribution and justice, punishment and mercy, anger and patience. Yet He has promised to love us with an everlasting love. The Jews call it “Hesed”. It is a love full, long lasting, deep, true as only God can do. It is faithful, reliable and comes to the rescue. This Hesed is what today’s verse offers to comfort us.

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** **FALL QUARTER** – begins September 1st

LOCATION: B8-10 - Lane Kemler - begins Sept.1st.
Explore the Bible - Acts 13-28. As we study the missionary movement of the early church, we're reminded of our own call to share the gospel - our own responsibility to fulfill the Great Commission.

LOCATION: B11 - David Hamilton - begins Sept.1st.
Bible Studies for Life - Thrive: Living on a Purpose. See how life takes on a meaning and richness the world cannot offer when we discover our purpose in Christ.

LOCATION: B1-2 - Begins Sept.1st.
God Never Gives Up On You: What Jacob's Story Teaches Us About Grace, Mercy, and God's Relentless Love. By Max Lucado. God enacts His perfect plan through imperfect people - including you and me.

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
*** Summer Break* Resumes in the fall**
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
5th–8th Grade meet downstairs.
9th–12th Grade meet upstairs.
*** Summer Break* Resumes in the fall**
- Adults** Summer Sunday Special Speakers
LOCATION: Worship Center

E2 FALL SMALL GROUPS

- Evening E2 Ladies Study** - Begins Aug. 8th at 6:30pm in Rm. 2.
Luke in the Land, Walking with Jesus in His First-Century World by Kristi McLelland with Elizabeth Williams.
Beginning Oct. 3rd at 9:00am in Rm. B 8-10 with Brenda Ross.
- Wed. Evening Study** - Begins Sept. 4th at 6:30pm in Rm. B8-10.
Philippians - Rejoice in the Lord, by Juan Sanchez. Learn the joy of partnership for the sake of the Gospel. With Barry Wills.

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

John 10:22-42 **Maximum Security**

The New Testament portrays Jesus as a shepherd in three ways.

- In Hebrews 13, Jesus is called the Great Shepherd, stressing His *present* ministry of _____ for His sheep.
- In 1 Peter 5, Jesus is called the Chief Shepherd, stressing His *future* ministry of _____ for His sheep.
- In John 10, Jesus is called the Good Shepherd, stressing His *past* ministry of _____ for His sheep.

Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd who died for the sheep, and John 10 points out three facts concerning His death.

- ✓ It is _____ (vv 11, 18)
- ✓ It is _____ (v 11)
- ✓ It is _____ (v 17)

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus makes three promises to His sheep regarding eternal life. In verse 28, we discover that eternal life is:

1. _____—"I give them eternal life."

Jesus gives eternal life to those who place their faith in Him for it. It's a present possession. It doesn't start when you die. Eternal life starts the moment you trust in Jesus Christ for it.


2. _____—"and they shall never perish."

The word translated "*never*" is two Greek words—*ou me*. It's a double negative—"not, not." Literally it reads: "And not, not shall they perish." That's a positive promise!

3. _____—"no one can snatch them out of my hand."

Jesus holds believers cupped in the palm of His hand, and no one can remove them. A believer is eternally secure, and that transaction can never be reversed.

Don't doubt the promise of God!

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



August 26th – August 30th

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 on August 25th, "Maximum Security" with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on September 1st, "Back from Beyond" with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
John 10:10