

MONDAY 9.16.24 - Matthew 20:26-28

²⁶Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus seemed to do everything backwards to our way of thinking. We say, “hate your enemies”. Jesus says, “love your enemies”. We say, “unclean get away”. Jesus says, “come to me and I will make you clean”. We say, “I must be good”. Jesus says, “no one is good, but believe in me and your sins will be forgiven”. We say, “me first”. Jesus says, “put the needs of others before your own”. These are hard concepts for us living in a society that says look out for number one. Jesus never said, follow me and your life will be easy. He did say follow me and you will be fishers of men. It is not easy to put the needs of others before your own, but it is what we are called to do if we are going to be a true follower of Jesus. Jesus is calling us to follow Him, not because it will be easy, but because we love Him enough to do it anyway.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 9.17.24 - Galatians 5:13

Freedom is a cherished commodity for us as Americans. In our times, much has been tossed under the heading of ‘Freedoms’. God’s Word, though, speaks of a much different freedom. Indeed, all of creation is in bondage to corruption and **only** the children of God, saved by grace and faith, are truly free (Romans 8:21)! In this verse, using our freedom in Christ for the flesh is set against using the freedom we have to serve. Christ’s church is not immune to those seeking position, to jealousy, to anger, to pride! We are exhorted NOT to pursue such things. In the very next verse, we are to love our neighbor as ourselves (a topic we discussed in August). Isn’t it interesting that Paul here tells us to love one **by serving**. We need to pray that God will open our eyes to serving others from the smallest act to the largest sacrifice!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 9.18.24 - Matthew 28:18-20

It’s possible for a church to conduct a multitude of programs and every kind of activity imaginable—and yet accomplish nothing of eternal value. A church must know its mission and design its ministries to fulfill that mission. What is the mission of Shiloh Bible Church? What are we supposed to be doing as a local church? We don’t need to survey our congregation or take a vote of our membership to discover the answer. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave the Church its mission—“make disciples” (Matthew 28:19). How is that accomplished? The answer is two-fold: by evangelizing unbelievers (“Therefore, go ...”) and edifying believers (“... baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”). Pray that Shiloh would be faithful in fulfilling the mission that God has entrusted to us.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 9.19.24 - 1 Chronicles 16:24-27

Evangelism simply defined is the spreading of God’s Word. The act of evangelism is a direct command from Jesus. Obedience to this command terrifies many, but shouldn’t; for the Holy Spirit is with us every step of the way. We can start with passive evangelism—living our lives in such a way that Christ is evident in our thoughts, words, and deeds (Matthew 5:16). Further, evangelism should be personal. We don’t have to be great theologians to talk about the Lord. We have our personal testimonies of what the Lord has done for us

and will do for any who call upon His name as Lord and Savior. In addition, we have the splendors and mysteries of creation all around us that testify to the power and majesty of Almighty God. Talking about why we believe should be as natural as breathing and spreading the Gospel should be a joy.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 9.20.24 - Psalm 22:27

David and Soloman were kings at the height of Israel’s days. Yet here, in the midst of national Jewish days, we find a call to international evangelism. The entire chapter is heavily prophetic of Jesus suffering for His people, both the Jews and for the entire world. These words pour out the deep pain and specific hurt put upon him, all told centuries before the Incarnate appeared. When present, He told the Jews that not all who were Abraham’s seed were His followers. There would be others from outside the fold. (John 10:16)

Praise God that these verses conclude with a call to all families of the nation’s worshipping Him. His followers include people from every nation, tribe and tongue. God’s evangelism plan for the world has been since the beginning and happens all in His good time. When God calls, and as John 10 states, we know His voice. This is true evangelism.

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** – began September 1st
- LOCATION: B8-10 - Lane Kemler - began 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 - began 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 – Randy & Treva Hutchison – This 6-week class begins Oct.13th.
Parenting: Getting it Right. This study helps parents of children from newborn through high school identify and embrace their *IT*; their win as parents. Offered at 9:40 & 11:00. Childcare is provided for Nursery to grade 4.

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

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

E2 FALL SMALL GROUPS

- Evening Study** – Began Wed. Sept. 4th at 6:30pm in Rm. B8-10.
Philippians – Rejoice in the Lord, with Barry Wills.
- Morning E2 Ladies Study** – Begins Oct. 3rd at 9am in Rm. B8-10.
Luke in the Land, Walking with Jesus, with Brenda Ross.
- Evening Study** – Begins Tues. Oct. 15th at 6:00pm at the YAC.
The Titus Ten, Foundations for Godly Manhood, with Vince Diloretto & Mike Williams.

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

John 12:12-26 **Seeing Jesus**

In John 12, we read of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It was like a big parade. This event occurred on Sunday, March 29, AD 33.

In verse 15, John quotes Zechariah 9:9– “Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt.” Zechariah is a post-exilic prophet. He ministered 500 years before the birth of Jesus. He prophesied that the Messiah would enter Jerusalem seated on a donkey. A king would normally ride on either a horse or a donkey. If a king comes riding to you on a horse, it means he is bent on war. If he comes riding a donkey, it means he is coming in peace. So, by riding a donkey into Jerusalem, Jesus is presenting Himself as the King of Israel—the Prince of Peace.

Some Greeks arrive on the scene, desiring to see Jesus. They want to experience Him. But how? How can you experience Jesus? In two ways:

1. S_____ (vv 23-24)

Jesus came—not to head up a parade—but to die on a cross. Jesus died so you could live forever. All you need to do is trust Him for it. The moment you put your faith alone in Jesus alone for the forgiveness of your sin, He gives you eternal life. If you have never done so before, trust Him today with your eternal destiny.

2. S_____ (vv 25-26)

One commentator explains this paradox: “Thus, a martyr for the cause of Christ has certainly lost his life in a temporal sense. But the life laid down for God is not *really* lost. Indeed, such a life achieves a kind of immortality. Its value and impact are unending, as is also the glory it gains for the Christian who has made such a sacrifice. On the other hand, to shrink from the pathway of obedient suffering may be temporally self-preserving. But the life thus selfishly held back is lost in terms of enduring eternal worth.”

This is where real success and honor are found.

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



September 16 – September 20

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 September 15th, “Seeing Jesus” with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on September 22nd, Jim Kline will be sharing at 9:00am at Shiloh. Pastor Doug Lyon will give the message at 10:00am the Fair Bandshell.

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