

MONDAY 9.30.24 - John 20:21

After the crucifixion, the grief-stricken, frightened disciples were startled and amazed at the appearance of the risen Jesus, who immediately allayed their fears with a blessing of peace upon them. He then breathed on them and reaffirmed what their purpose was to be: to serve as He had served; to spread the good news of salvation; to seek and to save the lost; and to restore fellowship with God (Mark 10:45). But what does their commission mean to us? Because of Jesus's sacrifice, salvation is free to all and does not require works on our part to earn it. However, once we accept this free salvation, we are to serve the Lord and obey His commands (John 14:15; I John 5:2). Just as Jesus breathed His spirit on His disciples to empower them for their mission, we have received the Holy Spirit and the armor of God to continue that mission with the peace of God in our hearts.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 10:1.24 - Revelation 22:17

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

I checked; at the click of my mouse, I have access to over 60 English translations of the Bible. Did you know that there are 3,640 languages that have no Bible. Shiloh is a mission minded church that is involved helping support and pray for over 20 missionaries. What about you, are you mission minded? Let me share with you some ways you can get more involved:

- Take some missionaries pray cards from the rack at church and commit to pray for those missionaries.
- Consider giving a small part of what the Lord has given you to help support a missionary.
- Write a word of encouragement to a missionary. I can tell you from experience that those notes mean a lot
- Consider going on a mission's trip or even becoming a missionary.

Ask God today how you can get more involved in the lives of the Shiloh missionaries and then walk through whatever door God opens for you to do so.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 10:2.24 - John 12:27-50

In John 12, some Greeks approached Philip, asking to speak with Jesus. Both Andrew and Philip shared this request with the Lord. In turn, Jesus made a startling statement: "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified!" Using the illustration of a seed, Jesus then explained the impact His death would have on all people. A seed, once planted, will grow, transform, and produce fruit. Jesus would lay down His life on the cross, but through that sacrifice He would draw people from around the globe to Himself (vv 32-33). Jesus' death on the cross paved the way for all to have a relationship with God. This is good news! Take time today to praise Him and thank Him for this indescribable gift. If you haven't yet put your faith in Christ for eternal life, this is a great time to come to Him as your Savior.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 10:3.24 - Isaiah 6:8-10

The cross has been the central part of the saving of the world since the beginning of time. It was Eve who was told that one of her descendants would break the back of the serpent. Of course, it is Jesus who was planned for from the beginning. But we humans do desire to find and make our own way.

That was part of why the first Adam and Eve were willing to disobey God's command about the tree and eat. We do not find ourselves much different after all the progress we have seen.

Today's verses explain that God has planned a way, the only way to redemption. Our human eyes are blinded, and our ears are stopped from hearing and understanding the truth, until the Spirit of the Living God opens them and points us from ourselves to Him, our saving grace, hanging on a cross.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 10:5.24 - Psalm 22:16-19

This Psalm opens with the most anguished cry in human history! The depth of our Lord's suffering on the cross was, indeed, unique as the perfect Son of God offered up Himself for our sins. With these words, first uttered by the beloved psalmist, David was speaking for all of God's people! If we are honest, we sometimes wonder how our Heavenly Father can stand by idly when we are in our distress.

Yet the very cross which gave rise to such suffering gave us our **only** hope! Though we may find ourselves often where we cannot sing the praises we read as the Psalm closes, we can and do find refuge in knowing our Father can help and is our strength! We must never stop praying, even in our deepest distress. He who gave His only Son for us, **hears** (1 John 5:14-15). Amen!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION
