

MONDAY 3.24.25 - Luke 6:27-31

The Lord’s teachings are true and last forever. The teachings represent, and are in their very essence, God Himself. Surely Jesus is the Word, and as 1 Peter 1:25 states, the Word of God lasts forever. Jesus, incarnate, came into a world that hated him, scorned him and put him to death. Yet, God so loved the world that He gave His only Son for us. That loving us, a world of creation so at odds with Him, so hate filled and against Him, is the core message of today’s scripture.

If we be His, we should treat others as we wish to be treated. That way is good in the face of evil, food for the starving, water for the thirsty, praying for the persecutors, good turns to the haters. If God could give goodness while here, then we should give goodness while we are here. What a message that sends.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 3.25.25 - Romans 12:17-10

Romans 12:17-19, ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

The world says hate, hurt, and avenge. God says love, love, love. You say, how can I do what God wants when all I feel is hurt, hate and a desire for revenge. You need to realize two things. First, love is not a feeling, but a choice you must make. Secondly, God is love and He is alive and active within you. God can love anyone through you, even if you are not feeling the love, so long as you are willing to submit to His will for your life. Do you have people in your life that have hurt you and, as a result, you are finding it very hard to show them love. Why not ask God to love them for you and through you. If you do this, you will find that it is healing for you and perhaps life changing for the person who is the focus of God’s love flowing through you.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 3.26.25 - John 19:1-6

The six trials of Jesus have concluded. The apostles are nowhere to be found. Where are you when the Lord’s reputation hangs in the balance? Do you duck down another conversational alley and hide? Do you join in with whatever the crowd is saying and doing? Or do you wash your hands of the whole matter, refusing to confess Him? It’s challenging and difficult at times to take a stand for Jesus. Yet, He will never leave you or forsake you, and He will never allow anything or anyone to come between your relationship with Him. Paul assures us “that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons ... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39). Strange allies form around the cross—those standing *for* Jesus and those standing *against* Him. Where do you stand?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 3.27.25 - Job 23:12

As I read this verse I am reminded of my children when they were small singing from the back of my minivan “How MUCH do you love, how MUCH do you love, how MUCH do you love my Jesus?!” How much DO I love Jesus? How much do YOU love Jesus? If I am honest, I don’t always love Jesus as Job exhibits love for God in this scripture. I am a fickle, weak sinner who longs to love my Savior as Job loved God: to not depart from His commandments, and to treasure the words of His mouth more than my portion of food.

As we navigate the challenges of this earthly life, it is getting to know Christ through the study of God’s word and communicating with Him through prayer that fuels our loyalty to Him. His love for US is steadfast and never fails.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 3.28.25 - Psalm 78:7-8

We have been blessed by the Lord with a quiver full of grandchildren! The psalmist here exhorts us to teach our children and their children, something that is dear to us.

Why should we teach them God’s precepts found in His Word?

So that they would put their trust in God. So that they would not forget His deeds. So that they would keep his commands!

As we often find in the psalms, they are contrasted with those that do NOT know God’s precepts! They are stubborn and rebellious. Their hearts wander, not loyal to God. Their spirits are not faithful to Him.

It seems that the choice is pretty obvious, doesn’t it? How can we ever justify unfaithfulness to a God who is always faithful to 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** **SPRING QUARTER** - began March 2nd.
LOCATION: B8-10 - Lane Kemler- began March 2nd.
EXPLORE THE BIBLE - 1,2 Peter & Jude - These books were written primarily to address suffering caused by persecution and to combat false teachings.
LOCATION: B11 - Dave Delcamp - began March 2nd.
BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE - part 1
All Signs Point to Jesus - The Gospel of John points to many signs that highlight who Jesus is, and as we look at these signs you will be drawn to a renewed awe and worship of Jesus Christ.
LOCATION: B1&2 - Chris Domenico - began March 2nd.
EVERYDAY EVANGELISM
Pursuing Hearts, Not Arguments - This six-week study will equip you with practical, effective ways to share the gospel. The way to do that is by engaging others with love, respect, and truth.

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)
- Adults** LOCATION: Worship Center

WINTER E2 SMALL GROUPS

MEN'S BREAKFAST: April 12th - 7:00am in the YAC
Sign up at the Information Tables.

REVELATION - WOMENS STUDY: "Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom", by Jen Wilkin. Thursday Mornings at 9:00am in B8-10. Started February 20th.

UPCOMING EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday Baptism Service- April 13th 6:00pm, refreshments to follow
Family Communion- April 17th 6:00pm-8:00pm
Good Friday- April 18th 7:00pm
Easter Sunday- April 20th 8:20am, 9:40am, and 11:00am

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

John 18:28-40 **Pilate Before Christ**

Jesus did not undergo only one trial. He endured six trials. The first three were before Jewish officials—Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin. The last three trials were before Roman officials, beginning with Pilate. A Roman trial had four essential parts, and each part is presented in John chapter 18.

Part 1—The _____ (vv 28-32)

Part 2—The _____ (vv 33-35)

Part 3—The _____ (vv 36-38a)

Part 4—The _____ (vv 38b-40)

Life Application:

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

~ 1 Peter 2:21


How to respond to unfair treatment:

❖ Do Not _____ (1 Peter 2:22-23a)

That does not mean that you cannot defend yourself. That does not mean that you cannot tell your side of the story or answer your accusers, but what it does mean is that you do not seek revenge against those who have harmed you. You do not gossip against them, or slander them, or threaten them, or try to harm them.

❖ _____ Yourself to God (1 Peter 23b)

When you are treated unfairly, take the matter to the Lord in prayer. Do what you can to rectify the situation, but do not seek revenge.

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



March 24 - March 28

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 from, March 23rd, "Pilate Before Christ", with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on March 30th, "The Evil of Expediency", with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
John 15:12