

## How Do I Move On?

Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh, "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house." The name of the second he called Ephraim, "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." (Genesis 41:51-52)

It's so easy to focus on the negative. There were plenty of negatives in Joseph's life. Even after Pharaoh elevated him to his right hand in the kingdom, there were still scars left on Joseph's heart. How could he forget the pain of being sold by his brothers. How could he forget the grief of being separated from his father?

But Joseph did exactly this, and he did it because he chose to do so. When you experience tragedy in life, there comes a point where you have a choice to make. You can choose to live in the past. You can continue to feel sorry for yourself. You can choose to dwell on what could have been but will never be. Or you can choose to move on.

But how do you move on?

Listen to these words from the apostle Paul (who also had a lot of heartbreak in life): "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication WITH THANKSGIVING let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

The births of Joseph's sons did not remove the scars from his heart. What these births did is remind Joseph of God's blessings in the midst of his afflictions, and Joseph CHOSE to focus on the blessings and not the scars.

That is the secret. ~David Maxson

### Kennewick Church of Christ

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#### Meeting Times::

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

#### Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; [cbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:cbotts@hotmail.com)

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; [Vern.engelke@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.engelke@gmail.com)

#### Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449

[billgreg67@gmail.com](mailto:billgreg67@gmail.com)

Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

Attendance 01/10: 31

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 01/10: \$2482.00

January 17, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### Lessons in Light

On the road to Damascus, Paul saw a light that was brighter than the noontime sun as Jesus spoke to him (Acts 22:6). It was that light that blinded him on the road (Acts 22:11). There are many passages that refer to Christ and the Father as light. From those passages there are lessons to be learned.

John opens his gospel with discussion of Jesus as light. "There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man" (John 1:9). "The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (John 1:5). Jesus stands as a stark contrast to darkness. The word "comprehend" in verse 5 is not a word that speaks to understanding. It refers more to the fact that darkness could not overtake or apprehend the light. Later in the gospel letter, John writes [Jesus' words], "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12). And, "I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness" (John 12:46). This light is life and frees us from the darkness that is in this world.

Not only does His light liberate us, but it also exposes the deeds of men. "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God" (John 3:19-21). Those that will not step into the light choose not to so that their evil deeds will not be exposed. If we are doing those deeds that glorify God, then we should not be ashamed. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).

Our relationship with God and His Son is described in terms of light and darkness. "This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John. 1:5-7). I am in a right relationship with God in the light. I come in contact with the blood of Christ in the light. Why would I wander into darkness?

May these passages serve as a reminder "so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Pet. 2:9) ~Josh Blackmer

**Lord teach me how to pray that I might see. Lord, teach me what to say and set me free; That I may ever go at your command. Lord teach me how to walk and hold your hand.**  
(J.D. Sumner)

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>January Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>		
<p>Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.</p> <p>Sandy Gray has volunteered to put out an informational email during the week to update the church of immediate prayer needs or information that needs to be disseminated before/in-between our scheduled meeting times. If you wish to be on this list, please contact her and give her your email information.</p>	Linda Lafferty 1/8 Holden Minor 1/15 Norm Hubbard 1/17 Henry Walker 1/18 Larry Moore 1/19 Mary Beth Walker 1/22 Eddie & Eunice Petross 1/24 Shirley Childers 1/24		Loretta Slettene 1/26 Mary Lewis 1/27 Jasmine Lafferty 1/27 Hannah Mendoza 1/29
<b>Bible Studies</b>			
<b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p -James Wed p - John	<b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room	<b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a	
<b>Ongoing Health issues:</b> Pansy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis, Sandy Gray, Fran Henniger, Linda Lafferty, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Lupe Mendoza, Shannon Mendoza,, Tami Pennington, Eunice Petros, Helen Pierce, Bill & Linda Lafferty's daughter-in-law, Michael Stimson			



In Our Prayers

**Connie Stecker** as she travels later this month to be with her brother, Richard, as he undergoes treatment for cancer.  
Doris Pennington is still struggling with some breathing problems and lack of stamina. She appreciates your prayers and hopes that you will continue to remember her in your prayers..



15Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, not can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20Thus, you will recognize them by their fruits. (Matt. 7:15-20)

**Our Ministries**

**Mountain States Children's Home**

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

**Peru Ministry** - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

**Food Pantry** - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

**Many Will Seek to Enter and Will Not Be Able**

Jesus "went through the cities and villages" and was "teaching," while He was "journeying toward Jerusalem" for the last time (Luke 13:22). There were many things He needed to share with the people in these closing weeks of His life.

One message that resonated with "one" of His hearers was when Jesus spoke of "few" who would be "saved" (13:23). Perhaps this follower heard Jesus say, "Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are **few** who find it" (Matt. 7:14). Perhaps He heard Jesus say, "For many are called, but **few** chosen" (Matt. 20:16). The response of Jesus is striking when the man asked, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" Jesus did not say, "No! What are you talking about?" In fact, Jesus emphasized the point even more.

The words of Jesus in Luke 13:24 are sobering! He answered the querist intensely, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able." Jesus emphasized that the way to salvation is "narrow" (i.e., difficult to navigate), and that one must "strive" (Greek word is *agonizomai*) or "agonize" in every way to enter that narrow door. So, the first part of Jesus' response to the man is affirmative: "Few will be saved!"

The second part of Jesus' response in this verse is just as affirmative. Jesus plays off of the word "few" who will be saved and focuses on the "many" who will not. Consider carefully what Jesus says: "Many (not a few!), I say to you (not someone else!) will seek to enter (a true desire and endeavor) and will not be able." How sad! How tragic! How sobering! Many will seek to enter into heaven but will not. Why not?

Some seekers will not enter heaven because they have been deceived by human doctrines and are following manmade religion (Mark 7:6-13). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they do not have a love for the truth and have instead believed a lie (2 Thess. 2:10-12). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they think that their own goodness or the goodness of their family will secure their entrance (John 8:31-59). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they are led astray by the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches (Matt. 13:22). Some seekers will not enter heaven because they are gradually hardened by the deceitfulness of sin in their lives and don't even realize it (Heb. 3:7-18).

This is no joking matter! This is no "the preacher is too strict" matter! This is an eternal matter that caught a man's attention to ask, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" Jesus said, "Many will seek to enter and will not be able!" ~David Sproule

13The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works. 14The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. 15The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. 16You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. 17The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. 18The LORD is near to all who call on him; to all who call on him in truth. 19He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. 20The LORD preserves all who love him; but all the wicked he will destroy. (Ps. 145:13-20)