

Where is Our Faith?

There have always been challenges that have faced God's people. This latest round of trials over the last year is nothing new for our Lord (c. Eccl. 1:9). One question that we must ask ourselves is, "Where is our faith?"

This is the same question that Jesus asked His disciples in Luke 8:25, when they were being tossed and drenched by the great windstorm on the Sea of Galilee and came to Jesus under great distress. He took care of the storm and then said, "Where is your faith?"

Friends, in what have we placed our faith? Is it possible (just thinking here) that we have put our faith in our government, in a particular political party, in a particular presidential leadership, in a particular infectious disease expert, in a particular medical treatment, in a particular news outlet, in a particular social movement, etc., etc.? When Jesus asked the question, the purpose was to get His disciples to REFOCUS their faith exclusively IN HIM. Where is our faith? ~David Sproule

Constant in Prayer

From the time that Nehemiah set out to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, there was opposition, namely from some neighboring officials named, Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem (Neh. 2:19-20). At every step of the way, they tried to interfere and stop the rebuilding. In chapter 6, they attempted a variety of devious and dishonest methods of discouraging and impeding Nehemiah. It's no wonder that in the middle of these stressful encounters that Nehemiah prayed this short petition, "But now, O God, strengthen my hands" (6:9).

Think about that prayer. It was not long. It was not filled with big words. It was not lofty and grandiose. It was simple. It was to-the-point. It was sincere. It was urgent. It was trusting. As you read through Nehemiah, that describes most of the times that he burst into prayer.

Think about your prayers. Nehemiah seemed to pray short prayers throughout his day, whenever He needed to talk to his God. That's not a bad practice. ~David Sproule

Kennewick Church of Christ

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Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: kenncoc@gmail.com

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; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; Vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449
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 02/28: 44

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 02/28: \$7651.50

March 7, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



The New Reality

Inevitably there will come in one's life what we might call a showstopper, an event that is so overpowering that it can neither be ignored nor set aside. Life as one knows it comes to the proverbial screeching halt. Nothing else can happen or interfere until the showstopper is acknowledged and appropriately addressed. We are talking about a crisis in a person's life that eclipses every other untoward situation previously experienced. If it hasn't happened yet in your life, it will.

In those prolonged, slow-motion moments, maybe encompassing days, weeks, months or even years, every familiar thing in one's life is subjected to analysis and to evaluation. This is the time when a person reluctantly facing personal tragedy begins to involuntarily sort out in his or her mind the things in this life that really do not matter from what really matters. Some things are so temporal and fickle that honestly, they never really mattered. On the other hand, it becomes increasingly clear that some things have always mattered, they do matter, they will matter tomorrow, they will matter a hundred years from now, and they will matter eternally.

Of course, what has always mattered and what will always matter are things spiritual and eternal in nature in contrast to everything in this physical universe (Matthew 16:26). Especially as one contemplated Judgment (Hebrews 9:27) and the eternal disposition of his or her soul, it becomes obvious that only spiritual things really matter (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelations 20:12-15).

Spiritual awareness and recognition of the frailty of the human existence (James 4:13-16) is the new reality. Actually, though, irrespective of whether previously realized, reality has always been the same, but we may have been desensitized to it amidst worldly pleasures, human philosophies and other earthly distractions. The true reason for human habitation on this world is the opportunity to make preparation to meet God (Amos 4:12).

During the time intervening between the present and when we may pass away or the Lord returns again, each of us needs "to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). Spiritual treasures banked in heaven need to characterize our pursuits. "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). Christian service, complemented by faithful Christian living, must become the thrust of our lives as Christians. "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time..." (Ephesians 5:15-16). ~Louis Rushmore

Keep These Dates in Mind	February Birthdays and Anniversaries					
<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>	<p>Sammie Engelke 3/7 Tom & Thelma Gritzan 3/14 Doris Pennington 3/15 Faye Henry 3/17 Pansy Caywood 3/20 Fran Gregory 3/20 Lucy Larsen 3/23</p>					
<p>Ongoing Health issues: 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 Michael Stimson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bible Studies</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td data-bbox="522 392 777 556"> <p>Adult Bible Classes Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John</p> </td> <td data-bbox="777 392 980 556"> <p>Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room</p> </td> <td data-bbox="980 392 1235 556"> <p>Ladies Class Thursday 10:00 a</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>Adult Bible Classes Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John</p>	<p>Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room</p>	<p>Ladies Class Thursday 10:00 a</p>
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In Our Prayers

Jim Preston continues to struggle with his migraines keep him in your prayers as he struggles with the pain and tries to find ways to control them.

Barbara Harmon is now in hospice and is not doing well. Please keep the Bob and the Tipps family in your prayers as they enter into this stage of life with Barbara.

Wanda Danley had same day surgery on Friday and appears to have come through it well.

Michael Stimson is now allowed to drive and is working short days from home.

Jack Danley's mother has been diagnosed with cancer in her lung and brain.

Ron Stephens is still in the hospital. Ila has asked for continued prayers that he can return home soon.

The McCown's are the proud parents of a baby girl Addison Rae, who came into the world on March 3rd.

Linda Lafferty is having trouble with her back.

There is a potluck after morning services this morning. Please come and fellowship with us as we share lunch with each other.

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)

In Memory of Him

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

And they divided His garments and cast lots. And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself." And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save Yourself and us." But the other answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'Into Your hands I commit My spirit.'" Having said this, He breathed His last (Luke 23:33-46).

As the disciples looked upon this dark scene on this, seemingly the darkest day in the history and the future of mankind, what do you think they saw? Scripture reveals to us, through their subsequent actions, that they saw doom and defeat. They saw blood dripping from the Lord's hands where the nails had been driven. They saw blood dripping from His feet where the nails had been driven.

These men had followed Jesus of Nazareth for the better part of three years of their lives, and now it comes to this. Their leader, the one they had hoped would restore the glory of Israel, was dying on a Roman cross. They had forgotten the faith they were to have in Him, no matter the consequences. What about us? As we partake of this bread which represents the body through which the nails were driven, and this wine which represents the blood that dripped from His hands and feet, what do we see?

~Bo Surrell

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the Glory of God.

(Romans 15:1-7)