

### Who Is My Neighbor?

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus taught us how to love our neighbors. A lawyer asked, "Who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29). However, Jesus chose to emphasize being a good neighbor instead. He wanted the lawyer to ask himself. "Am I a good neighbor?"

In Christ, we will journey as far as it takes to find people who are hurting and show them compassion. Like the Messiah, we should "bind up the brokenhearted." We should do whatever it takes to care for others. Christians make good neighbors!

Jesus asked the lawyer this vital question. "Which of these proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?" "The one who showed him mercy", he responded. Jesus said,, "You go, and do likewise," Jesus explained.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40).

No matter their race, nationality, or background we must view others as being made in the image of God and treat them in a neighborly way. In Christ we can do no less! ~ John Kar

The word sin is outdated according to the postmodern narrative. Yet, in reality, the word still describes attitudes and activities that pack a powerful punch. Its original meaning is "to miss the mark." There is a Creator, and He wants us to behave a certain way so that we can have the best life possible. When we miss that mark, often by our own outright rebellion – because we think we know better – it is called sin. Sin destroys. It destroys individual lives temporally and in eternity. When it becomes rampant, it brings down entire cultures. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). Nobody is perfect; everybody sins. However, in the person of Christ Jesus, there is redemption from those eternal consequences of it. (Robison's Rubies)

#### Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336  
509-783-4013

Website: [www.Kennewickcofc.com](http://www.Kennewickcofc.com)

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: [kenncoc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ccbotts@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)

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 11/29: 36

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 11/29: \$1730.00

December 6, 2020

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



#### A Choice, A Path and a Reward

**A Choice to Make** (Joshua 24:14-15) – *Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*

Joshua called upon people to make a choice – serve the Lord or don't; be faithful or not; return to the gods of Egypt or choose to serve the LORD. We all have a choice to make in our lives. We can serve the Lord or we can serve Satan. We can choose righteousness or we can select depravity. Psalms 106:3 reads, "Blessed are those who keep justice, And he who does righteousness at all times!" Serving righteousness and making a choice to be righteous is not a one-time decision, but it is a path, a journey and a way of life that is chosen day after day.

**A Path to Follow** (Proverbs 1:1a, 2,6) – *Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly...But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.*

Every day when we awake and face a new sunrise, we determine our path. Are we walking down Heaven's road or are we following a well-paved path to Hell? We can choose righteousness or we can choose the easy way. "Easy Street" is calling; the path of the simple is available, but no one makes the choice for us. We choose. We have the power of choice.

God is watching as a hopeful father watches his child take his first steps, knowing he will not do it perfectly, but hoping he will keep getting back up and trying again. Every day, we need to continue steadfastly on a path of righteousness. Psalm 37:23 says, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way."

**A Reward for Eternity** (Psalm 37:18) – *The LORD knows the days of the upright, And their inheritance shall be forever.*

An inheritance awaits the righteous – the eternal abode of those who know God and love His appearing. Jesus said eternal life is to know God and Christ His Son (John 17:3). There is a reward awaiting those who fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

As you make your choices, determine your path and seek your reward. May you always remember to walk according to the guidance of the Father, seek the counsel of the godly and chart your course by the light that shines from above. ~Aaron Cozort

***You can't go back and change the beginning,  
But you can start from where you are and change the ending  
(C.S. Lewis)***

### Keep These Dates in Mind

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.

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.

### November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Pat Lindsay 11/1  
 Sallie Winstead 11/7  
 Mike & Cindy Manning 11/9  
 Gary & Linda Bills 11/10  
 Lupe Mendoza 11/21  
 Holly Preston 11/29  
 Connie Stecker 11/30

*The first step to getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are*  
*(J.P. Morgan)*

### Bible Studies

#### Adult Bible Classes

Sunday a - O.T.  
 Sunday p -James  
 Wed p -Thessalonians

#### Youth Classes

Classroom Wing  
**Teen Class** -  
 Teen Room

#### Ladies Class

Thursday 10:00 a

**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, Bill & Linda Lafferty's daughter-in-law, Michael Stimson



In Our Prayers

**Jonni Marcotte** is scheduled to have open heart surgery December 14

**Fran Henniger** is scheduled for surgery December 17 to have her kidney stone removed

**Betty Van Voorst** has tested positive for Covid -19 and is showing signs of congestion.

**Sandi Gray's** cardiologist and kidney doctors said she is able to have surgery, so she is planning on having it after the first of the year..

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**The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land. O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; You will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed., so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more. (Psalm 10:16-18)**

### 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)

### Looking Forward to Going Home

"Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come" (2 Thessalonians 2:1-2).

There is something special about going home. With my job I travel out of state a couple of days per week and I always look forward to the day I come home to my family. Once a year, I typically make it a point to travel to Georgia where I grew up to see my dad and my siblings. Home is a special place!

As Christians, we should look forward to going to our Heavenly Home to be with God and our fellow saints. Just before He left them, Jesus told His disciples, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2-3). It is fitting for those who follow Christ to look forward to the time when He will come again to take us home!

However, can one spend too much time, energy, and effort in looking forward to going to our Heavenly Home? As strange as it may sound, the answer is "yes". Perhaps, because of all the persecution they faced (cf. 1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2:14), the Christians at the church at Thessalonica placed a heavy emphasis upon going to their Heavenly Home. In fact, some of them had quit their jobs in anticipation of the Lord coming again at any moment to take them home (cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:7-10, 11). Furthermore, there were some that were falsely teaching that the Lord had come already (cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2).

With the 2 letters he writes to the church at Thessalonica, the apostle Paul takes time to teach them regarding the Lord's Second Coming. He teaches them that the Lord's coming will come suddenly without notice or warning as a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:1-3). Jesus' coming was not imminent because there would be a falling away first and the son of perdition would be revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:3-10). When Christ comes, the trumpet of the Lord will sound, the dead in Christ will rise first, and those faithful Christians who remain on earth will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. Paul writes, "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Thinking about going home to be with the Lord is a source of great comfort to Christians (1 Thessalonians 4:18). It is a time when we receive from the Lord the rest which He has promised to us who faithfully follow Him (2 Thessalonians 1:6-10). We are to be watchful and be ready so that the Second Coming of the Lord does not take us by surprise (1 Thessalonians 5:4-8). However, we are not to consume ourselves with looking for "signs" of His coming, but rather are to devote ourselves to faithfully serving Him and glorifying Him by our lives (Mark 10:43-45; Matthew 5:13-16). While others may look for signs of Jesus' 2nd coming as they look at the latest headlines in the news, I will be watchful of the Lord's Second Coming by continuing in faithful service to Him. Jesus said, "Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes" (Luke 12:43).

~ Daily Devo – Susquehanna Valley Church of Christ