

May 10, 2026

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Come and See, He is Not Here

“He is not here” were the words spoken to the women by the heavenly messenger outside the tomb of Jesus. The truth behind these words is the focal point of the eternal plan of God to save the world. If there is no empty tomb, there is no redemption, no salvation and the gates of heaven are closed to us forever and ever.

I vividly remember these words when they were spoken at the Holy Land Experience Theme Park in Orlando just a few years ago. While that park closed its doors during Covid and has since been demolished, the force of these Biblical words still impacts my soul.

They were spoken at the reenactment of the events surrounding Jesus’ death. He walked toward Golgotha carrying His cross and was lifted up on the cross. At the park, his tomb was below the cross. As the story developed, the time frame shifted to early Sunday morning and the arrival of the empty sepulture. As the program ended, the narrator pointed toward the tomb and invited the audience to come and look inside. As I entered the tomb, it was as I knew it would be, but the force of the words I had heard really impacted me. “Come and see, He is not here.” Profound truth in four words—He is not here!

I do not know if Annas and Caiaphas ever passed by that tomb, but they knew the truth. They had lied about Him and given Him a mockery of a trial, but the truth remained—He is not here. I do not know if those soldiers who were paid to accuse the apostles as being grave robbers ever went by that tomb and knew what they had discovered—He is not here. I do not know how many in that mob who cried out for Him to be crucified ever passed the tomb, but the truth remains—He is not here.

If He were still in the tomb, then death is more powerful than God! There is no salvation and there is no resurrection. There is no hope and life is just a miserable journey ending in annihilation. Life is meaningless, and the Epicureans were right when they said, “Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we shall die.” Satisfy every fleshly desire, have no compassion on others and live your own life to the fullest. There is no tomorrow. You are an animal, and there is no God.

“He is not here” changes all of this self-centered philosophy of many Americans today. God is. God is love. God is deeply concerned about us. He is always with us and will never forsake us. He loves us so much He gave His only Son to remove the consequences of sin. He loves us so much he opens the gates of heaven and eternal joy and happiness await us. How can we know this? The answer is, “He is not here.” ~Dan Jenkins

Keep these Dates in Mind	Birthdays and Anniversaries	
05/03 Monthly Potluck 05/07 Ladies Class Luncheon 05/09 Men's Business Mtg. 05/11 Hand & Foot Get Together	Lynette Jones 5/4 Bill Lafferty 5/8 Jonni Marcotte 5/22 Kurtis Rau 5/26	
5th Sunday Singings	Bible Studies	
May 31 – Pendleton Aug 30 – Hermiston Nov 29 - Kennewick	Adult Bible Classes (Fellowship Hall) Sunday am (9:30a) – 2nd Timothy Wed pm (6:00p) – Amos	Ladies Class Ladies class - Last class is May 7 Classes begin again in September

For us to remember:

- **Annie Phom, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Tami Pennington, Jim Preston, Sandi Gray, Shannon Mendoza, Bill Lafferty, Linda Lafferty, Lyn Gigar, Queca Woods, Paul Mays, Shauna** (Ila Stevens granddaughter), **Jonni Marcotte, Joe Marcotte, Freddie Garza** (Danny's cousin), **Terry Brown, Lupe Mendoza, Jackson Ward** (Josh Mendoza's friend), **Tamara Zog, Doreen Martinez**
- **Lupe Mendoza** as she continues to heal.
- **Pat Lindsay** is home and continues to heal.
- **Jim Preston** has a lung infection that requires antibiotic infusions. The side effects are worse than expected. Keep Jim and Holly in your prayers.
- **Teens Rally on the Rocks** is coming. May 15-17. If you are interested in going, see Delina Woodward
- Also, if you are interested in going to camp this year see Shannon Mendoza or Delina Woodward

Date	Opening Prayer	Song Leader	Communion Thought (Devotional)	Lord's Supper	Closing Prayer
This week	K. Winstead	K. McCown	J. Wilson	J. Danley L. Moore	H. Jones
Next Week	J. Danley	L. Moore	G. Keever	J. Danley D. Mendoza	D. McLaughlin

Does Anyone Understand?

It is hard growing up. In the short time leading to adulthood, a child can experience a wide variety of issues, tragedies, heartbreaks, losses, mistakes and disappointments. And, in the world teens are living in today, these challenges are compounded in ways that are hard for older generations to comprehend.

Sometimes, when children are experiencing the trials of life, the only thing that helps is knowing someone understands how they are feeling. Dealing with hurt can feel isolating and oppressive. In other words, it feels like the entire world is out to get them. So, hearing a word of advice or encouragement from someone that has been in their shoes can do wonders for making them feel normal and accepted.

Teens need to know that help is found in the adults in their lives at home and at church. Parents, grandparents, preachers, elders, and older men and women at church have valuable things to say to teenagers. There is no doubt that today's particular challenges are very different from what they had to deal with. But, that fact was still true when they were teenagers. The 60-year-old sister who has been married for 40 years was living in a world just as different from her elders as it is today. The Bible tells us in Ecclesiastes 1:9, "...That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun." While the names and forms of issues change, their core causes stay the same.

Any teen reading this should know that while their elders never had to deal with online bullying or influencer culture, they understand what it is like to be ashamed, embarrassed, mocked, ridiculed or unloved. These feelings have always been present, and our seniors already learned to overcome them. Imagine what they can share with you to help you with your challenges. "My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck" (Prov. 1:8-9).

Likewise, any older Christians reading this must accept their responsibility to give sound advice to the teens in their lives (cf. Tit. 2:6-8). If we are finding it difficult to relate, then look at the example of our Lord Jesus who did everything He needed to do in order to reach us. "Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:17). You can relate if you're willing to try.

God understands our needs. And He has given us the church to guide the youth through any trial they face. ~Robert Lupo

Wednesday Night Devotional

Date	Song leader	Devotional	Date	Song leader	Devotional
04/29	D. Mendoza	L. Moore	05/27	J. Mendoza	D. McLaughlin
05/06	J. Mendoza	J. Wilson	06/03	L. Moore	B. Lafferty
05/13	D. Mendoza	H. Jones	06/10	D. Mendoza	J. Mendoza
05/20	L. Moore	D. Mendoza	06/17	J. Mendoza	J. Danley

