

FROM THE PREACHERS DESK

Learn & Remember

Holy Scripture does us absolutely no good whatsoever if we do not learn and remember the lessons that it teaches us.

One of the most important lessons that God teaches us that we must learn and remember is found in the words of the Lord in Isaiah 55:8-9

“...My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹ “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Why is this teaching so important? Because things in life rarely turn out the way we want them to. Things don't happen the way that we think they should. If we don't have a faith built upon the belief that God's ways are higher and better than ours, we won't have a faith at all.

For instance, it's very interesting to me that some people can accept that Jesus had to unjustly suffer and die the terrible death of a criminal, yet accept no amount of suffering whatsoever themselves.

I've even heard the false teaching, “Jesus suffered so we don't have to.” That's true in the sense of eternal suffering in hell, but false in every other regard.

Jesus Himself taught in John 15:18, ***“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.”*** And the disciples rejoiced in Acts 5:41, ***...that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.*** And the Lord said to Ananias regarding Paul in Acts 9:16, ***...I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake.*** And then Paul taught the Church in Rome in 8:16-17 that, ***The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*** And the Church at Philippi Paul taught in Philippians 1:29, ***For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,*** and the Church at Thessalonica in 2 Thessalonians 1:5, ***This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering.***
(continued)→

And Peter taught in 1 Peter 3:14, ***if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed.***

This is but a small sampling of New Testament teaching regarding the suffering that Christians are told they will endure. Why share that? I have a couple of reasons.

First, I share this teaching because many people who call themselves by the name “Christian” today reject it and teach the rejection of suffering. To do so is to ignore or rewrite the teaching of the Bible.

Second, I share this teaching because it doesn't make sense. A part of the reason, not the only, but a part of the reason why Christians suffer is to test our genuineness. It's one thing to accept the teaching when things are going well for us. After all, in our estimation, when things are going well, we believe that things are going exactly as they should. However, when hard times come in any variety of ways, we learn what we *really* believe.

In hard times we either believe that God's ways are higher than our ways or we reject God. In hard times we either believe Romans 8:28, ***God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose,*** or we reject God.

If we truly believe that God is good and that His ways are ways that are better than mine, even if those ways involve personal pain and suffering, then we can rest assured that our faith is real.

Let us learn and remember that thing that made the least sense in all of human history, Jesus suffering and dying on the cross, was the better and higher way of God.

His suffering was not in vain; Through Christ's suffering, He gained the greatest of victories. Your suffering is also not in vain. Though you cannot understand it, you can trust that it is for your ultimate good.

Much Love!

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com

*Not having children in your church
is a far more deafening sound than the noisiest child.
Be thankful you have children in your church!*

PRAYER LIST

Gene Deffenbaugh—tested positive for Covid and is in isolation. He is showing some signs of improvement. Please pray for his strength.

Kevin Hunt—son of Carol Norris, continues to have health issues and has been moved to a care home in Wichita. Please keep Kevin as well as Carol in your prayers.

Hailee Moyer—daughter of Maria Moyer and granddaughter of Marsha Dugan, was in a bad car accident and needs prayers for healing. She will need many surgeries to repair a lot of damage. Hailee attended our youth group on and off over the last several years. She graduated this year.

Melinda Miller—wife of Chris Miller, was diagnosed with breast cancer. She is recovering from surgery and would appreciate prayers on her behalf. Her address is Melinda Miller, 14 LaCrumbre Close, Tauranga 3110, New Zealand. Remember there is extra postage for cards sent out of the US.

Dorothy Lauterbach—is ill and needs our prayers. She is in Botkin Care Home. Their address is 102 W. Botkin, Wellington KS 67152.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lila Francisco—14th Craig Bradbury—15th Aaron Hines—15th
Bobbi Newberry—16th John Rayl—17th Victoria Sandoval—17th

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

December

Dec 13 Lynette Turney

Dec 20 Linda Wartick

Dec 27 Kaylee Jenkins

January

Jan 03 Jill DeJarnett

Jan 10 Lynette Turney

Jan 17 Linda Wartick

Jan 24 Kaylee Jenkins

Jan 31 Darlene Cooney

February

Feb 07 **NEED A VOLUNTEER**

Feb 14 Lynette Turney

Feb 21 Linda Wartick

Feb 28 Kaylee Jenkins

See Sarah or Darlene if you can help!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We tend to forget that HAPPINESS doesn't come
as a result of getting something we don't have,
but rather of recognizing and
appreciating what we do have.



Royal Revelations, Part V: Jesus Reveals God's Plan
Matthew 16:21-23

4 Stages of Strategy

Jesus Must :

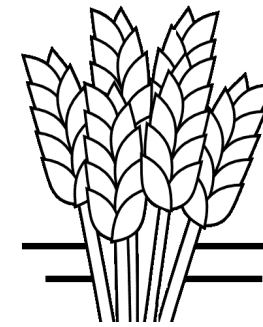
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Notes:

THOSE WHO SERVE			
SUNDAY A.M.	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec
Elder in Charge	T. Norris	T. Norris	T. Norris
Opening Prayer	L. Lewis	A. Shields	W. Pierce
Song Leader	D. Pierce	D. Pierce	D. Pierce
Communion Prayer	E. Newberry	T. Norris	R. Harris
Contribution Prayer & Collection	A. Hines J. DeJarnett	A. Hines J. DeJarnett	A. Hines J. DeJarnett
Ushers	J. Willson L. Turney	J. Willson L. Turney	J. Willson L. Turney
Closing Prayer	T. Norris	T. Norris	T. Norris
Deacon in Charge	A. Shields	A. Shields	A. Shields
SUNDAY A.M.	03-Jan 2021	10-Jan 2021	17-Jan 2021
Elder in Charge	R. Harris	R. Harris	R. Harris
Opening Prayer	D. Pierce	A. Shields	B. Turney
Song Leader	K. Dodds	K. Dodds	K. Dodds
Communion Prayer	M. Kline	E. Newberry	T. Norris
Contribution Prayer & Collection	N. Bradbury P. Dodds	N. Bradbury P. Dodds	N. Bradbury P. Dodds
Ushers	J. Rayl J. Church	J. Rayl J. Church	J. Rayl J. Church
Closing Prayer	R. Harris	R. Harris	R. Harris
Deacon in Charge	K. Dodds	K. Dodds	K. Dodds

Note concerning COVID-19: During this month we are asking all public non-speaking participants to wear a face covering while performing their duties. This applies to ushers and to the men collecting our contribution. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment for any reason, please call the Deacon in Charge.

ELDERS	Marvin Kline	DEACONS	Kevin Dodds	Aaron Hines
Rex Harris	Tom Norris	Leroy Lewis	Mike Neal	
Ed Newberry		David Pierce	Alan Shields	
MINISTER				
Wes LeFlore				



*"Reaching Inward, Outward
Upward, Downward"*

Wellington Church of Christ

217 W. 13th St. Wellington, KS 67152 620-326-7511

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 13, 2020

Call to Worship

Prayer

Song #123 "The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

Song #288 "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Song "In Christ Alone"

Communion Prayers

Contribution Prayer

Contribution Collection

Lesson

Song #528 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

Closing Prayer

Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children's Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the study for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.