

Los Altos Church of Christ

*"...being of the same mind, maintaining the same love,
united in spirit, intent on one purpose." Philippians 2:2*

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This Sunday...The Amazing Race

This week we going on a journey with a young man who's life looked like an Amazing Race. Like the contestants on that show, he was provided clues and followed them down the paths he thought he should be taking but there were times he had to wondering if he interpreted the clues properly. This week Mike Broux sits us down to binge watch the life of Joseph.



Wednesday Night Fellowship...Dinner at Terrie's 6:30 and at 7:00 the video series, "Actions Speak Louder".

PRAYERS *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7*

Continue to pray for Allan Rogers...Marla's aunt...Terry Arnett-Cowen...Jill's recovery...Jennifer and John... Judy McClure... Patti...Amber's step-father and sister...Lu... Peggy Spivey's back problems...Autumn and Brooke...Christine's mother... Berry... Barbara... Gwen and her son Caleb... City of Children... Healing Hands International... Japhet's work in Zimbabwe...and New Hope Uganda.

Thought for the week...

We often yearn for the acceptance of the crowd. We want others to notice us as significant. Many of us want our moment of fame. Jesus didn't operate in that fashion. He knew that those who would cry "Praise God!" ("Hosanna!" in Greek and some English translations) and welcome him as their king later in his ministry could then cry out "Crucify him!" after just another week.^[1] So Jesus did his ministry based on God's timing and his own heart of obedience. He submitted to the Father and honored him at great personal cost. Why? Because his primary objective wasn't to try to please the crowd. Instead, he was willing to pay any price so the fickle masses — and we — could find a real Savior and not another power-hungry tinhorn pseudo-messiah. - Heartlight devotional

*****No Bulletin Next Week*****

First Praise

By Matthew West

For Christmas, I surprised my family with a new puppy and was immediately hit with the harsh reality that puppies need to go potty several times a day and even a couple of times at night. Someone would take the 3rd shift while everyone else slept. Guess who that job fell to? Yours truly! Every night for the past six weeks, you could find me in pajamas and slippers at 4 am, shivering outside in the cold and praying for Rocky the puppy to hurry up and go potty. At first, I had a terrible attitude about the late night potty shift. I was grumpy, sleepy, impatient, and grumbling the entire time. But then, the words to an old hymn began coming to mind each time I stood outside and looked up at the stars.

*Holy, holy holy, Lord God almighty
Early in the morning my song will rise to thee*

I'm not an early riser by choice. I'm a musician and musicians prefer late nights on the tour bus after concerts with pizza. Lots of pizza. We like being creative into the late hours of the evening and then sleeping in until the late hours of the morning. But now there I was, standing outside in my pajamas, smiling to think that this night owl has become an early bird.

My grumbling has given way to praise as I've found myself singing the words to that old hymn in the quiet of the early morning before the moon gives way to the sun. *Early in the morning my song will rise to thee.*

What does your first praise look like? Do you play a worship song in the car while driving the kids to school? Is it a written prayer in a journal with that first cup of coffee? Maybe, it's a whispered prayer thanking God for another day before you even get out of bed. You don't have to get a puppy to discover what a beautiful thing it is to give God your first praise. Let's make Psalm 59:16 our commitment to bring God our first praise, "Each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love."

Time For A Laugh:

"What's wrong, Butch?" asked the pastor. "I need you to pray for my hearing," said Butch. The pastor put his hands on Butch's ears and prayed. When he was done, he asked, "So how's your hearing?" "I don't know," said Butch. "It isn't until next Tuesday."