

Let's Visit

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Jesus' Walks Bring Peace

One of the most exciting walks of Jesus was on the water. There are few stories from His life that have such power to still the hearts of fretful people.

The story is told in Matthew 14:22 through 33. There was a storm that night on Galilee. The disciples of Jesus were terrified so he left in quiet meditation to go to their aid. He walked as calmly across the sea as he would anywhere.

Can you imagine the surprise and fear of the disciples? Yet, again, Jesus is quick to feel their need. "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Big impulsive Simon was always the first to respond. He told Jesus to bid him come to Him on the water. This was a high moment of faith no one else ever reached. Peter walked on the waves himself.

Well, he walked until he forgot to keep his eyes of faith on Jesus. Forgetting Jesus and His power, Peter realized what he was doing. He realized what a strange thing it was. He thought of the danger in it. He concentrated on the danger instead of Jesus. That's when he quit walking and went swimming.

We are so quick to criticize Peter for his brashness and his lack of faith in taking his eyes off of Jesus. Yet, is that not similar to the way we live today? We sink in dismay amid the problems that storm around us. Yet, the help to walk through serenely is as near as our hand. The RSV translates "be of good cheer" as "take heart". Jesus is obviously trying to implant within their hearts peace. A peace which knows the solution to every storm of life is there. It is available to them. They probably thought it was strange to be told to "be of good cheer" during a black stormy night at sea. But that is exactly what Jesus meant. Jesus wanted to give them the cheer or joy that comes only to the heart at peace.

There is another storm at sea recorded in Mark chapter 4. There we find Jesus waking from sleep

on a little boat. He is called on to calm the waves and hearts of the disciples. They had anxiously cried, "Carest Thou not that we perish?" The answer echoes down through the centuries. It is part of a song, "O yes He cares, I know he cares." He shows it in so many ways. He showed it, He proved it by His death. That night he rebuked the winds and the sea. He said, "Peace, be still".

In John 14, Jesus has just eaten the Passover with His disciples. He has given them a lesson in humility by washing their feet. He told them the badge of discipleship is love for each other. He has told them he is going away. He also said He is preparing them a place with the Father. Then in verse 27 is a beautiful passage. Jesus told them, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you." This was Christ's last will and testament. It was His only legacy. Being the poorest of the poor, he had nowhere to lay his head. He had nothing else to leave. He had no material possessions to give to those he loved.

Does the idea of having peace today appeal to us? Of course it does. Yet, why do we find it difficult to relax? Why are there those days when nothing seems to go right? Days when work is a burden and people are exasperating? Times when life is all worry and fret? Whatever storm is blowing in your life today, Jesus can calm that storm. Life can sometimes be harsh and difficult, it may deny our dreams and half starve our hopes, but in Jesus Christ we can find peace.

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"The Optimistic Christian"

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth in II Corinthians 2:1 and told them as he was planning a second trip there that he was not going to come in heaviness this time. He promises them he will have a different attitude.

indicates they do not like my preaching, I am a bit inclined to admire their judgment.

Yet, Paul says we are to live peaceably with others as much as possible. That means we are to understand the Body of Christ, the Church is bigger than any individual and more important than any individual. That means we are to put aside personalities and prejudices and join hands and hearts to build up the kingdom. That means we must turn loose of the idea that "it's all about me" and realize it's all about the Lord. Until we do that, we will never please the Lord and the Church will never thrive and prosper the way the Lord wants it to.

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For The Pantry. . .

Dried Pasta

Playing Well With Others

There is a very significant passage of scripture from the pen of the Apostle Paul in Romans chapter 12. Paul enumerates how we should treat our fellowman. He tells us to be kindly affectioned toward each other, to bless them that persecute us, to rejoice with those that rejoice and weep with those who are weeping. He then writes this very meaningful statement in verse 18, "if it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Have you ever thought, really thought about that verse? Paul wants us to understand there will be people we can't get along with. There will be people we can't be popular with. There will be people who just plain do not like us.

If we are honest, this should not come as a great shock to us. You see, to be truthful, none of us completely likes everything about the way we are. Perhaps that's one of the great tragedies of all our electronic gadgetry in the 21st century, at least it is for me personally. With the internet, it is relatively easy for me to listen to myself preach. Listening to myself, I have to admit that I have heard preachers that I would rather listen to. So, when someone

On The Lighter Side. . .



The preacher's sermon is going a bit long again this morning I see!

Points to ponder. . .

*A determined man with a rusty wrench
can do more than a loafer
with a chest full of shiny new tools.*

*Love never asks how much must I do or
how much must I give, but
how much can I do and how much can I give.*

*Real problems can be overcome; it is only the
imaginary ones that are unconquerable.*

Miscellaneous

Save The Date!



**September
11th**

**Begin right now to pray for this to
be a great day, invite your friends
and neighbors to come and plan to
be here!**

* * * * *

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING – This morning, June 12th immediately following services in the church offices. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

**"This present age is so
flippant that if a man
loves the Savior he is
styled a fanatic, and if he
hates the powers of evil
he is named a bigot."**

Charles Spurgeon



Those To Remember In Prayer

Betty Willis has been moved to Holiday Nursing Home to rehab following her surgery. She is in room 105.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, **Gene Bradshaw**, **Martha Jean Golden**, **Geneva Graves**, **Alice Hall**, **Thelma Hinton**, **Ted and Joyce Holt**, **Debra Pate**, **Jerry Pate**, **Wayne Sims**, **Betty Willis**

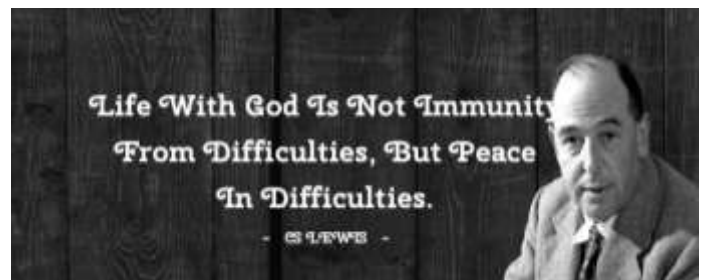
"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother) **Ana Blair** (friend of Debra Pate) **Donna Boullion** (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) **Gil Boullion** (Ted and Joyce Holt's nephew) back surgery **Becky Chance** (friend of LaResa Livingston) **Gayle Foster** (Cancer) **Dalton Hendrix** (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) **Sandra Hogan** (friend of Roxie Bostick) **Suzie Hogan** (Roxie Bostick's sister) **Laurie King** (Co-worker of Mike O'Brien,) cancer : **Bruce Ligon** (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) **Liam Martinez** (11 months old) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; **Katilyn Tate** (Roxie Bostick's daughter-in-law) **Jared and Natalie Bostick** (Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) **Marc Tate** (Jana O'Brien's brother) **Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's mother) **Tina Vaughn** - cancer

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE
Amanda Bradshaw, **Leland Bradshaw**, **Michele Bradshaw**
Jeremiah Soape and **Lucas Tate**

**If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill
out a card and put it in the offering plate.**

Each One Bring One!
52 in '22
Invite Someone Each Week!





Across The Preacher's Desk

I can remember as a small boy, often hearing people close their prayers with the phrase, "In Christ's name and for his sake we pray". What are we saying with that expression? We are asking God to look upon the face of his son and to deal with us on the merit of our suffering substitute. However, this is only one side of the equation. God wants us to look upon the face of his son and for Christ's sake suffer, serve and glorify the father.

If you remember, for the sake of 10 righteous souls, God was willing to spare Sodom. David showed Mephibosheth kindness for the sake of Jonathan (II Samuel 9:7). God did not take the kingdom from Solomon during his lifetime for the sake of David his father (I Kings 11:12). Moreover, the Bible instructs us to do certain things for "Christ's sake".

For "Christ's Sake" we are to forgive. "Forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). God has forgiven us for Christ's sake and therefore for His sake we should forgive one another. To be sure, it is imperative that we forgive one another if we are to be forgiven. Our own forgiveness is pre-conditioned on this in the sermon on the mount (Matthew 6:14-15 and in the model prayer (Matthew 6:12). If you recall, Peter went on to say we should follow in the steps of Jesus. It is so Christ like to have compassion. What are we willing to do "for Christ's sake"?

it's something to think about. . . .tlp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
52 in '22!**