

Family & Friends..... April 17, 2024

Does it seem like everything we do these days is a struggle to keep up with the pace? Unexpected events can throw us off course. Many things feel out of control right now. We need to respond calmly and confidently. How do we do that? We have to remember God is with us. He is in control! We need to take refuge in the shelter under His wings, where we are absolutely secure. We are so blessed when we walk trustingly with God through the routines of our day with Him. Let God's Word fill our minds and hearts. We need to stay conscious of God's Loving presence with us in all that we do, and He will direct our steps. Enjoy the sunshine, the birds, the flowers, the trees and skies that remind us of God and praise His name for all He has done for us, as we journey to be with Him. Let the hope of heaven be an encouragement to us that gives us peace and joy! To God Be the Glory!

“So that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.”- Hebrews 6:18

We are always happy to see our visitors: Brad Bryant (Gravette), Leighton & Kasey and Ludden & Truitt, Richard & Kristina Curry (Pineville, MO), Kapten & Ashley Kasischke (Rocky Comfort, MO), Logan & Chassteen Wichert (Pea Ridge), Jeanne Melton (Bentonville), and Ted Irby (BV).

Those on our prayer list: Our deepest heartfelt sympathies go to the family of Lou Rue Crawford, who passed away last week. Please keep the family in your prayers. John Bowman had his surgery for a pacemaker and all went well. Bill Evans biopsy came back negative for cancer. Mark Tucker's mother fell and broke her shoulder and pelvis. Susan Duffy's nerve stimulator surgery went well. I will have my heart procedure next Monday April 22. Continue to remember and pray for Janlyn Brewer, Amy Rooney, Kacie & Lyndsay White.

Fair Haven Children's Home: Canned Chicken & tuna, Jello, paper plates, jellies, Toothpaste. Food Pantry: Canned vegetables, pinto beans, diced tomatoes, Syrup, pop tarts, raisins, sugar, Hamburger Helper, cereal, Vienna Sausages, Spam, macaroni, snacks for kids, peanut butter, and instant & canned potatoes. God can be trusted to guide us. Love you, stay safe.

Karen

ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
John Caylor.....903-520-2131
Perry Johnson913-707-8379
Ray Reiss.....903-908-0203
Jerry Snyder.....479-282-5501

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Leo Bratcher Josh Porter Joe Hott Randall Hunt
Stephen Hunt Mike Martin Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mike Spencer Tyler White

MINISTERS

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
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SUNDAY	8:15 AM
Early Worship	9:30 AM
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM
Worship (Livestreamed)	
WEDNESDAY	9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	7:00 PM
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)	



Looking for Something Different

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." (Acts 2:5-8,12-13 ESV)

This passage from Acts chapter 2 sets up that first sermon preached by Peter on Pentecost. It is a sermon with which many of us are familiar, and certainly is a great place to see the grace of God extended and the response of humanity that God desires. However, there are some things we need to see about what - or more appropriately who - prompted the sermon.

LIFELINES



In the passage above, we see that this sermon was set in motion by the coming of the Holy Spirit. Prior to his ascension, Jesus had promised that the Spirit would come (Acts 1:7-8), and following the coming of the Spirit, the disciples would be effective witnesses for the risen Christ. When the Holy Spirit came, it had a profound effect on the disciples of Jesus; so much so that the people in Jerusalem wondered, "How can this be? What is wrong with these people? Are they drunk?" The work of the Holy Spirit gave Peter the opportunity to testify about the work of God through Jesus. His work gave Peter the words to speak to a receptive audience who, in turn, were convicted of their sin and brought to repentance and baptism and the church took root and began to spread.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.
Acts 1:8

One of the things that is incredibly impressive about the church we find in Acts is the pace at which it grew. It seems that this small group of people who were carrying the message of the redemption made possible by God through Jesus was an unstoppable force. Luke, in Acts, reveals to us that this unstoppable force was based on the power of the

Holy Spirit of God. In fact, throughout the book of Acts, Luke keeps reminding his readers that the Holy Spirit is actively involved in the growth of the Kingdom of God.

As we look at the world around us and see all the conflict, hatred, division, and confusion, we long for peace and for things to be different. We watch as people struggle to find hope, purpose, meaning, and relief from the things that trouble them. They long for life to be different.

The only thing that will bring lasting, meaningful change is the Gospel. What changed the world in the first century was the spread of the Kingdom of God and lives that were transformed by the Spirit of God. What drew the attention to the disciples of Jesus that gave the opportunity to tell the redemption story of God was that they were obviously different from the world around them, and that difference was made by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has promised that the Holy Spirit would dwell within his disciples (John 14:15-24). Peter told the crowd that day that God extends that same promise to those responded to his grace in repentance and baptism. The same Holy Spirit that was poured out on the first disciples now dwells in current disciples. He still can transform us into people that are markedly different than the world around us if we will cooperate and let him lead. Our lives, when led by the Holy Spirit will look differently enough from the world around us that we will find opportunities to be witnesses to those with whom we come in contact.


We can accomplish this by doing what the original disciples did. They were obedient to the instructions of Jesus. When he told them to wait, they waited. When he told them to go, they went. They also looked for the opportunities that God placed in front of them and acted on them. The allowed the Holy Spirit of God to lead them. I believe that when we are obedient to the commands of Jesus, looking for opportunities that God supplies, and will cooperate with the Holy Spirit, we will also be different people. And that will give us the opportunity to be faithful witnesses of Jesus and to allow him to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

-JEFF GRISHAM

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SUNDAY SERVANTS April 21, 2024

First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture	Roger Arnold	Song Leader	Don Butcher
Greeters	Mike Johnson, Roy Barnica, Phil Ward	Communion Scripture & Prayer	Bill Alumbaugh
Closing Prayer.....		Randall Hunt	
Nursery Workers	Brenda Tucker, Alana Tucker		

Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture.....	Mark Sherrod	Song Leader	Matt Grisham
Greeters	Mike Johnson, Eric Gibson, John Bowman	Communion Scripture & Prayer.....	Hershel Ward
Closing Prayer.....		Tracy Bowman	
Nursery Workers	Megan Ballard, Kayla Bishop	Van Driver	Grant Dodson

April Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator	Mike Lunsford	Streaming Coordinator	Aaron Sloan
Audio Coordinator	Homer Makinson	Video Coordinator	Marquis Elliott