

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, March 16, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.
“Gospel of Luke”

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
“Living For Jesus”
Ron Adams

EVENING SERVICE.... 6 p.m.
TBA
Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
“World (Kosmos)”

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16

I offer you my heart, LORD God, and I trust you.
Don't make me ashamed
or let enemies defeat me.

Don't disappoint any of your worshipers, but
disappoint all deceitful liars.

Show me your paths and teach me to follow; guide
me by your truth and instruct me.

You keep me safe, and I always trust you.

Please, LORD, remember,
you have always been patient and kind.

Forget each wrong I did when I was young.

Show how truly kind you are and remember me.

Psalm 25:1-7 (ESV)

News & Notes

Sam Barton will be leaving for a 6 month tour of duty in the Navy and his wife **Vicki** will be moving to Las Vegas while he is way.

Please pray for **Sam's** safe return and for **Logan Harper** who is also deployed in the Middle East.

Please continue to pray for those in our congregation who have recurring ailments and those who are currently recovering.

Thanks to all those who volunteer to help with the work of the church here. We are blessed to have volunteers who clean the building, prepare the communion and teach classes.

Fairest lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature!
O thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodland
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

German Hymn 1677

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where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!

Knowing the Love of God

by Albert Dickson

Understanding the Love of God

Today when we think of love, we usually have the western culture idea. We think love is kissing and hugging. We say we are in love because he or she looks attractive. Or we have this giddy feeling inside and we think this is love. Some have even said, "I have fallen in love."

In spite of our western idea, God expresses true love and teaches us what love is and how to love. Love is caring and giving of something that is precious and dear to us: our life! This is what God did when He gave His Son, Jesus. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

The key words of this passage are "gave and begotten." God gave something or someone to express His love for the world. He gave His Son, the only one of His kind. There was no else like Him, but God gave Him to save a lost and dying world.

Jesus possessing the same Spirit as His Father said, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13) There is no greater than love than to give up one's life for another. When this is done, your love is not greater, but equal to what love is.

The consistency of love is expressed in the marriage relationship. Marriage is the closest relationship that two human beings can have. This relationship depicts the relationship that God has with His people. Paul, guided by the Spirit, instructed the Christian men to love their wives. The standard of their love is the love that Christ has for His church. His love was expressed by giving Himself up for it (Ephesians 5:25). Therefore, for husbands to love their wives, they must give up self. Let this also be a lesson to the young ladies. If a man is unwilling to marry you or give up self for you, he does not love you. Do not give of yourself until he gives up himself for you.

The Love of God Brings Obligations

The apostle John, guided by the Spirit, wrote to a group of Christian to help them understand this important idea about the love of God. He says that we know love by the action of Christ who laid His life for us. By this action, it obligates those who are of God to lay down their lives for one another (1 John 3:16,17). The task of God's people is to emulate their Lord.

Just as our earthly family brings on responsibilities, so does our spiritual family. If a brother lacks anything and we see his needs, we are to meet those needs. We are to do good to all men especially the household of faith (Galatians 6:10). This is an obligation for all Christians.

The Love of God Prompts One to Obey Him

Jesus told His disciples that if they love Him they would keep His commandments (John 14:23). By their actions they would show that they have the love of God. How can this be love you may ask? What, no hugging and kissing? When we have the love of God, it could mean the love that God has or the love we have for God. When it comes to our obedience to Him, it is the love we have for Him. Seeing the love of God in action for sinful man should prompt us to trust and love Him. We know that. He has our best interest in mind.

Our standard of love should be that of God. It is to be our drive shaft. Using faith to put this drive shaft in gear, we will achieve the goal, heaven. In other words, we will be actively obeying the Lord. Understanding the love God will motivate us to do all that we can for Him because He loves us. Paul was motivated to the point of being poured as a drink offering on the altar (2 Timothy 4:6).

Do you know what is the love of God? Are you motivated to give your all for the sake of Christ? If you are not compelled to serve God with all your might, you lack the drive shaft of God's love. You are implored to study your Bible and renew your fervor for the Lord.