

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, December 21, 2008

BIBLE STUDY. 10 a.m.
"Gospel of Luke"

MORNING WORSHIP. 11 a.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

EVENING SERVICE. 6 p.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING. 7 p.m.
"Compass: A Thematic Trek
Through The Word of God"

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

The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;
The world and all its fullness, You have founded them.
The north and the south, You have created them;
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Your name.
You have a mighty arm; Strong is Your hand, and high is Your right hand.
Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.
Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance.

In Your name they rejoice all day long,
And in Your righteousness they are exalted.
For You are the glory of their strength,
And in Your favor our horn is exalted.
For our shield belongs to the LORD,
And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Psalm 89:11-18

Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Forgive our foolish ways
Reclothe us in our rightful mind
In purer lives thy service find
In deeper reverence praise

Frederick C. Maker

News & Notes

WELCOME VISITORS! If you are a visitor in our congregation today we welcome you and invite you to stay for a while after service so we can get to know you.

Many of our members are away or will be travelling over the holidays: **Dema Franklin, Matt & Jana Wells, Meredith & Daniel Hoskins** (leaving this week), **Yedid Minjares, Sam & Vicki Barton** and **Jason Henderson**. Please keep them in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for **Martha Holloway, Doris Harmon, Jeanne Lynn** (Adams' daughter) Benjamin Hoskins and Chuck Holloway.

Don't forget to pray for those of our members who are in the military and their families: **Ernest Peeples, Mark Harris** and **Logan Harper**.

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

ITTAI

Brian Carter

Matthew 5:11

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

John 17:14

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

Hebrews 13:10-16

We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

During the reign of David, his popularity took a huge hit. Using tactics that would have made a modern mudslinger proud, David's own son, Absalom, stole the kingdom right from under him. It was standard procedure to kill your predecessor along with anyone on his side. So David and all the people connected with him had to run for their lives.

Just as they were exiting the royal property, he came upon a group of about 600 people led by a man named Ittai (See **2 Samuel 15:13-22**). Ittai was a Philistine who had just arrived in this volatile empire. They had just unpacked and now they were packing again and making a quick exit. David tried to discourage him from coming with him. He offered him several 'outs'. But, Ittai was not interested in excuses. He replied, "*As the Lord lives, and as my lord the king lives, surely wherever my lord the king may be, whether for death or for life, there also your servant will be*" (verse 21).

Just like Ittai, we have reasons not to follow the King. You will be insulted and persecuted (**Matthew 5:11**). The world will hate you (**John 17:14**). You will not be popular. There are many reasons not to follow the King.

But, our King has left the city and we are called on to join Him (**Hebrews 13:10-16**). We know that no matter how hard the road gets, it leads to glory. We should be willing to leave anything behind. There is no room for excuses. We know what Ittai knew: If you are smart, you will follow the true King.