

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, February 10, 2008

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

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
“But I Say Unto You”
Ron Adams

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

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
“Misused Proverb (Ezekiel 18)”

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

I waited patiently for the LORD;
He inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the pit of
destruction, out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.

He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.

Blessed is the man
who makes the LORD his trust,
who does not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after a lie!

You have multiplied,
O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts
toward us;
none can compare with you!

I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than can be told.

Psalm 40:1-5 (ESV)

The Lord will give strength to His people; the
Lord will bless His people with peace.

Psalm 29:11 (NKJ)

News & Notes

A meeting with the men of the congregation will be held today February 10, 2008 after the morning service.

Please keep the **Covalt family** in your prayers especially **Hunter** who has been ill with migraine headaches.

Handouts for the **Wednesday class**, Topic: *Misused Proverbs – Ezekiel 18*, are on the back cabinet.

Lodema Franklin is still visiting with her family in Northern California.

Last Chance to make changes to the member pages for the personal Member Directory before the 2008 publication. The New Directory will be printed and distributed next week.

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

Peace Like a River

by David Posey

(excerpted from *Focus Magazine*, February 6, 2008)

We are a people seeking peace. The popularity of a Thomas Kinkade painting – a cottage or a bridge or a gazebo in an exquisitely peaceful setting – is one piece of evidence. One look at the picture and we are transported into another world where nothing can trouble us and all is well. Perhaps your vision of peace comes from a quiet walk in the woods or standing on the banks of a river or lake or ocean or listening to soft music. Wherever our search might lead us, we all want peace. We tend to look for peace in the wrong places though, sometimes literally. Travel agencies profit from the search as people seek the perfect vacation, to "get away from it all." Others seek peace in reading or in watching TV or movies as less expensive ways to "escape" everyday problems or the drudgery of life. Still others are so torn up inside that they'll use liquor or drugs for the ultimate "escape." Finding no real peace, many slip into a deep depression; and some even commit suicide, ignorantly, and sadly, hurling themselves into an eternal abyss of conflict and discord.

Even as we seek peace in things and places, we know deep down that peace is not really dependant on external factors. Even if a Kinkade painting came to life and became my home, it would be meaningless if my marriage was a wreck, or my kids were in trouble, or my conscience was bothering me. We know all too well that the peace that comes through external means is destroyed by external means. The person sitting in one of those Kinkade gazeboes can contract a melanoma cancer just like a person in the city. And then what becomes of his "peace"?

We're not going to find any true, lasting peace in the things of the world. It's just not there. But, oddly enough, the real secret to peace is found on every Kinkade painting. Near where he signs his name, Mr. Kinkade always puts "John 3:16." The familiar text reads: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here's the clue to real, lasting peace.

A group of us sang a hymn recently that goes like this: "Peace like a river, flows through my soul... I've been forgiven, cleansed and made whole... Peace gently flowing, sweet and divine, gives the assurance, Jesus is mine..." There is the only path to pure peace: *Jesus*, the "only begotten Son." When we are right with God, we are right with everything else. It doesn't matter what kind of house we live in, or how it is "decked out." It doesn't matter where we spend our vacations because they are for relaxation and re-creation, not an attempt to "get away from it all"; movies, TV and music are for entertainment, not for "escape." And if Jesus is in our heart and we value the peace He gives, we will choose for our entertainment those programs that are most conducive to keeping Him there. Choosing fare that is base and vulgar will only shake our peace, because it will assault the conscience – unless, God forbid, our conscience becomes "seared" (1 Tim. 4:2).

Peace is a product of being right with God. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7). This peace cannot be explained in human terms, because it comes from God. Yet, we know it when we have it. And when we have it, conflict and stress ("anxiety") tend to fade. We may still be under job pressure or face problems with our children or even have "deep concern" for the church (cf. 2 Cor. 11:28). But it doesn't rock you deep down. Deep down, you know the "peace that passes understanding."