

Missionary Messenger

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Unseen Vs Temporary

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, yet our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory that is far beyond comparison. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. ~2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (BSB)

We have been studying the book of 2 Corinthians on Sunday morning here at NMMC. It has been a great series with a lot to think about and process. We are currently in chapter 4. Paul speaks of the “unseen” versus the “temporary”. The “unseen” is what we have to look forward to as children of God. This includes an eternity in the ultimate paradise. He uses words such as “eternal weight of glory” to describe our eternal destination. The “temporary” are our daily struggles. This includes disappointment in others, our own body failing, and all of the other heartaches that life throws at us. He uses words like “wasting away”, “temporary”, and “momentary affliction”.

I did not have the best childhood. Things have been hard for me at times. However, I have never experienced the struggles that Paul went through. I have never had to be led around by the hand because I was blind. I have never been shipwrecked and had to spend a long time floating in the sea. I have never been beaten by rods, by a cat of nine tails whip, or been stoned and left for dead. He definitely had it worse than I have had it. However, he doesn't complain about it, instead he rejoices in what he has suffered. This is a good example for me. May I try to see my daily struggles as light and momentary. May I fix my eyes on the promises of God that it gets so much better. May I truly gaze at the eternal glory that awaits me and endure this life with this constantly on my mind.

In Christ, Pastor Ken



Welcome to Kids Kingdom

The kids' area has had a makeover!
Thanks Amanda for your painting skills.



Suddenly One Morning: The Shopkeeper's Story (An Easter Narrative)

By Charles R Swindoll



Suddenly One Morning takes place during the first Holy Week through the eyes of a Jewish shopkeeper. Through him we "view the mysterious happenings that turn a simple parade into a mob murder on the hill of horrors known as Golgotha.

"The story begins as our shopkeeper notices a crowd gathering outside his shop. Stepping outside his door, he looks down the street, expecting to see a Roman legion marching past or a group of haughty Pharisees walking along in their religious garb, praying aloud. But all he sees is an ordinary young Jewish man on a donkey. The man looks familiar. This is the same young carpenter from Nazareth who had helped his father remodel the shop a few years ago. But why are the people calling him a prophet? . . ."

"Come along with a simple shopkeeper in Jerusalem and experience the mystifying, life-changing events of a week that begins with a parade and ends in an empty grave."

(from the inside flap and back cover)

Memory Verse of the Month!



2 Corinthians 4:17

For our light and momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory that is far beyond comparison.

~ 2 Corinthians 4:17 (BSB) ~

Who Are We?

Pastor: Ken Sistrunk 260-229-5949 (cell)

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Elders: Dave Jackson (vice-chairman),

Tim Baker, Jon Gnagy

Directors:

Outreach: Sue Howard

Prayer: Debby Gatchel

Stewardship: Tim Baker

Worship: Jon Gnagy

Secretary: Joanne Sistrunk

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CONNECTION NOTES:

Easter or Valentines?

Sometimes I get forgetful! Like forgetting to put the milk back in the refrigerator; or coming home and realizing I have left my bathroom light on all day; or taking something from the bottom of my freezer and later that day finding a thawed loaf of bread that I moved to get to the other item. My mind just forgets. My heart can be the same way. I spend time reading devotions and my Bible then walk away and forget to apply what I have read.

Forgetting with my mind is annoying. Forgetting with my heart is damaging. It damages my walk with God and my devotion to Christ. It affects the spiritual growth I can attain. Because of this there are times that my faith seems small, times I doubt where I stand with God, and times I don't feel loved by Christ.

It is in those times I know that I need a renewal of faith, a fresh revival of my spirit, and a new direction to my steps. In Revelations 2:4-5, Paul relays a message to the church of Ephesus. He tells them that they have forgotten their first love. He tells them to rekindle the things they did when they first discovered faith in Christ. In other words they are told: Love the Lord, our God, with ALL.

I am currently going through this process. I am remembering where I was before I accepted what Christ did for me. I am remembering what my life was like, both before and after. I am seeking joy in all that He has done and is doing. Remembering is good! It fills my heart fresh with the joy of being so loved that One would die for me. It reminds me that, though I failed God, He never gave up on me! He has a good plan for my life. He has tenderly helped me to grow in knowledge of Him. He has brought me so

far from my start. As the saying goes, "I ain't what I should be, but I sure ain't what I was". That is ONLY because of the blood that Christ shed for me. Amen and Amen!

I desire that my love be rekindled, made new, for my Savior. I cannot think of a better time! So this month I will joyously celebrate Easter and Valentines together. Because if it weren't for Love (the person of Love), I wouldn't be here!

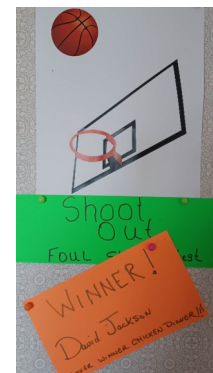
Have a joyous and love filled Easter! While you are at it - spread it around.

Sue

CONNECTION ACTIVITIES:

- It's done! Our Free Throw Shoot Out is done. And the winner is....David Jackson. He beat Rocky Burns in a free throw shoot off.

NAME	# of free throws
Ken	4
Sue	0
Sheila	3
Amanda	-
Rocky	6+5
David	6+7



•April 9th is Easter Sunday.

We will have breakfast during Sunday School time. Please invite someone for breakfast and also for church service.

Breakfast starts at 9:00 and concludes at 9:45.

Let's celebrate what our gracious and loving Lord has done for us!

After the service we will have an **Easter Egg Hunt** for the children.

•Looking ahead: May 9th is the Sunday we shower our Manchester University student Sarah Eberly with treats to finish out her semester and to prepare for finals. Please bring a treat to give her and to show our love. While you are at it, please pray for her finals to go well.

