

The Good Word

*"Exalting the Savior, Equipping the Saints,
Evangelizing the Sinner"*

March, April & May 2017

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I read of a man who was crossing the North Atlantic in a ship. When he woke up one morning, he looked out his porthole and saw one of the blackest clouds he had ever seen. He was certain that they were headed for a terrible storm. As his breakfast arrived at his room, he spoke to the steward about the storm. The steward said, "Oh, we've already come through that storm. It is behind us."

There is a lot to be said about what is behind us. When I read this story, I thought that I am nearly two years removed from colon cancer surgery. It was a very dark time in my life...one that I never want to experience again. Also, one that I hope no one has to journey through, although I could name at least 20 right now who are in the midst of that storm. I cannot begin to describe the battle, and if I did...many would still not understand the loneliness of that black cloud. However, it was also one of the most important, growing times of my life. I still see the cloud, but can honestly say, "Oh, we've already come through that storm. It is behind us."

It also brought me to this thought: If we are believers in Jesus Christ, we have already come through the storm of judgement. It happened on the Cross. We shall never understand the extent of God's love in Christ at the Cross until we understand that we shall never have to stand before the judgement of God for our sins. ALL our sins, without exception, were placed on Christ, and He took the judgement we deserve. He finished the work of redemption. Don't be bound by your guilt or your fears any longer, but realize sin's penalty has already been paid by Christ.

Completely and Fully Redeemed,

Pastor Jeremy

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Q & A

Question: "Eternal Security—is it Biblical?"

Answer: When people come to know Christ as their Savior, they are brought into a relationship with God that guarantees their eternal security. Jude 24 declares, "To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy." God's power is able to keep the believer from falling. It is up to Him, not us, to present us before His glorious presence. Our eternal security is a result of God keeping us, not us maintaining our own salvation.

The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand (John 10:28-29b). Both Jesus and the Father have us firmly grasped in their hand. Who could possibly separate us from the grip of both the Father and the Son?"

Ephesians 4:30 tells us that believers are "sealed for the day of redemption." If believers did not have eternal security, the sealing could not truly be unto the day of redemption, but only to the day of sinning, apostasy, or disbelief. John 3:15-16 tells us that whoever believes in Jesus Christ will "have eternal life." If a person were to be promised eternal life, but then have it taken away, it was never "eternal" to begin with. If eternal security is not true, the promises of eternal life in the Bible would be in error.

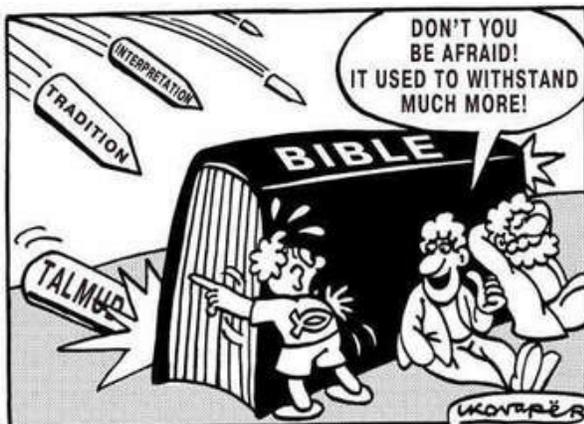
The most powerful argument for eternal security is Romans 8:38-39, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, not any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Our eternal security is based on God's love for those whom He has redeemed. Our eternal security is purchased by Christ, promised by the Father, and sealed by the Holy Spirit.

Records

	Dec	Jan	Feb
Sunday School Average Per Wk	255	240	258*
AM Worship Average Per Wk	367	335	354*
PM Worship Average Per Wk	241	94	101*
Total Income Average Per Wk	\$6,702	\$7,002	\$4,522*

N/A: Not Available

* : Incomplete
Information



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Thanks to Dan Berggren (Dan Berggren)

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OUR RESOLUTION LAST YEAR COULD HAVE BEEN
"LESS FRUIT", BUT NO ... WE WENT WITH
"TRUST PEOPLE MORE"

WARRIORS FOR CHRIST

“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong”

1 Corinthians 16:13

Song of Solomon 5:16 – This is my beloved, this is my friend

As I was preparing for our Warrior's for Christ marriage study, I was reminded of a saying from earlier in my marriage. We were living in Manhattan, KS and our Sunday School teachers, also marriage counselors, often talked about pursuing your wife. The husband, Stan, would tell us “Guys when you were dating your wife, you pursued her like hunters do large game. You knew when she was awake, when she went to class or work, what she liked to eat, who her friends were, what flowers she liked, and when she had to be home.” (Borderline stalkers!) He went on to tell us, “but then you got married, had your trophy, and quickly gave up on pursuing her.” Guys, I know many of you are avid, maybe even a little obsessed with hunting and put that kind of effort into your pursuits. But, I wonder what our marriages could be if we put that effort into pursuing our wife. In the study, “A Man and His Marriage” the authors give 5 great characteristics of marriages where the man is pursuing his bride. The first characteristic is that of the man initiating TIME TOGETHER. Guys, remember when we were dating and would drive an hour to spend 15 minutes with our then girlfriend. Do we still make it a priority to spend time with our wife? The second characteristic is MUTUAL CURIOSITY. There was a time we wanted to know everything about our wife. Do we still take time to seek to know her? Just as we have changed since marriage, our wives will change as well. The third characteristic is MUTUAL TRUST. Men, do our wives know that we will be faithful to them always? Do they have the trust to confide in us their dreams, worries and fears? The fourth characteristic is GRACE. Let's face it, we will always have short comings and problems. But does our wife hear from us, “it's ok, let's start over”? And the last characteristic, ONENESS. We are all familiar with the verse “the two will become one flesh.” However, are we still living that out? Does our wife know that we are striving to make decisions that are the best for everyone? As I look around our church, I am blessed to see many strong marriages and families. However, I challenge you to continue to pursue your wife. Let her see you investing time and energy into her and your marriage. Guys let's not just put our trophy on the wall, but continue to study and love her.

would like to invite you to the local marriage retreat “Growing Together”. We have a guest couple coming from Abilene, TX that Katie and I got to know this summer. They will be offering a great weekend of practical ideas to grow your marriage and family. We encourage you to sign-up. For only \$100 you will get a room at the Clearlight Inn, a catered dinner, breakfast delivered to your room, a BBQ lunch, as well as sessions and fun activities on marriage and family. Please take this weekend as an opportunity to pursue your wife and continue to build a strong family.

God Bless!

John

WARRIORS FOR CHRIST SPRING ACTIVITIES

Growing Together

Couples Retreat

Be the man and ask your wife to come away with you for this weekend to “grow together”!

Registration Forms on the main bulletin board. Turn in to the office by March 26th.



Warriors for Christ

Men's Bible Study

“A Man and His Marriage”

Every 1st & 3rd Thursdays
Through April 6th

6:00 a.m.— 6:45 a.m.

Breakfast Provided

Women's Ministry

Are you a helper?

- KATIE MURPHY

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper as his complement." — Genesis 2:18 (HCSB)

In the world today our God-given role of helper can often be lost in our marriages amidst the cries to "stand up for your own rights," "make time for your self," or "think about your own career." Though there is nothing wrong with an occasional girls night out, or pursuing a God-honoring professional life, it is easy to pursue self and forget that God made us to be a helper to the husband he has blessed us with.

So I have compiled some ways to remind you how you can "help" your mate...

- **Spend time with Him.** Seek out ways that you can work along side him or just be with him while he works. Plan regular dates together. He loves that you desire to spend time with Him.
- **Respect Him.** Whether you think he deserves it at the moment or not. God has commanded us to respect our husbands (Ephesians 5: 33). Place yourself under his authority, protection, & provision. Speak highly of him, to his face and to others. Tell him "I respect you" by your words and your actions.
- **Seek to Meet His Needs.** You are the only women who can! Fulfill & enjoy meeting his God-designed need for physical intimacy.
- **Build Him Up.** Be his biggest cheerleader. Encourage him, instead of tear him down. The world is hard enough on your man. Be a safe place for him to come home to.
- **Thank Him.** When was the last time you appreciated how hard he works for your family? Thank him for working that extra hour to provide for you (of course he would rather be home too!).
- **Support His Ministry** How is God using your husband for the Kingdom? Joyfully, do whatever it takes to help him fulfill His calling in Christ.
- **Pray for Him!** Ask God to guard him from the snares of the devil, to renew his mind daily, to work in his life and use Him in a mighty way! And while you are talking to God, ask Him to help you fulfill your calling of being the "helper" your husband needs.

Did you notice I didn't mention to "love" your husband. Of course you will love him, and by being a helper to him he will know that you do!

I encourage you to prioritize your husband and say "yes" to a weekend away from the home "Growing Together" on April 21 & 22nd.

Embrace the Day Conference

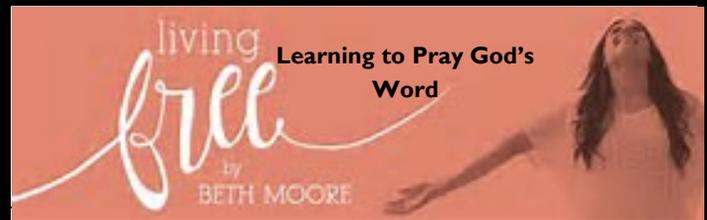
March 10-11th Sedalia, MO

Friday Group will be leaving at 6:00 pm from the church.
Saturday only group will be leaving at 7:00 am from the church.
We will all return to church by about 4:30 pm on Saturday.

There will be a short transportation and t-shirt pass-out meeting after the morning worship service on March 5th in the choir room for all ladies registered or who purchased shirts.

Whatever is Lovely

Finally, brothers, whatever is **true**, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **commendable**, if there is any **excellence**, if there is anything **worthy of praise**, **think about these things.**



JoySeekers Bible Study
March 21st–April 25th.
Tuesday Mornings
8:30 a.m.-10:00 am
Breakfast Fellowship & Study

Childcare is provided,
Please sign up on the main bulletin board for
childcare & book (\$13)

March 14th– JoySeekers Outreach:
Visiting Senior Ladies Meet at Church at 8:30 am
May 2nd– Joyseekers Lunch Outing
Meet at church at 10 am (no childcare)

All ladies available are welcome to join us!