

PRAYERS

Chris (Anita’s daughter in law) – She underwent a CT Scan and awaits the results. She is home now and feeling fine but Drs will continue to monitor her.

Anita – Was not feeling well Wednesday.

Suzanne Carter – Suffering from a blood infection and has been placed in a medical coma.

Carmen Meyer – Traveling to the Grand Canyon for a hike into the canyon.

Congregation News:

Potluck is today. Please stay and share a meal and enjoy the fellowship. Plan to stay for the afternoon singing that will follow the meal.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Your willful absence from church is a vote to close its doors.

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

11/18/18

11/25/18

Bible Class	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Announcements	Colby Crawford	Colby Crawford
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Opening Prayer	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Lord's Supper	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Closing Prayer	Colby Crawford	Colby Crawford
Sermon	Colby Crawford	Colby Crawford

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November 22nd – Anissa Crawford

Building Cleanup

Bright

Aberdeen church of Christ

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Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to:

tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

November 18 2018

HOW JESUS SAW THE PEOPLE

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Mt. 9:35-38).

In these few verses, the Holy Spirit, through Matthew, paints a beautiful picture. He presents how Jesus saw the people He encountered as His public ministry gains momentum. How Jesus saw people gives us an example for how we should see them, too.

He saw them as hurting (Mt. 9:35). Their hurts were literal, from sickness to disease. Those hurts mattered to Jesus, and He took action. He helped the hurting. We need to approach people the same way, sensitive to the hurts they harbor. The hurts may be physical, but as often they are social and emotional. We cannot, as Christians, be callous and unfeeling to their hurts. Instead, we must treat them as we would wish others to treat us (Matthew 7:12).

He saw them as hopeless (Matt. 9:36). He did not see them as a lost cause, but rather as people in search of a hope that eluded them. They were weary, scattered, and “shepherdless.” Yet, this condition drew Jesus’ concern. He wanted to give them guidance and assistance. He still wants that for the multitudes today, but He works through us. We need to understand the hopelessness and lack of direction of the multitudes. It should draw our concern.

He saw them as a harvest (Matt. 9:37-38). They were not just a number, but they provided plentiful opportunity. Jesus wanted His disciples dispatched to minister to that multitude. His concern has not abated today. He wants us in the harvest fields, reaching the hopeless and hurting. Recently, I made a most unusual “benevolence call.” Let me just say “his” name was Mary. As I went to meet him at the door, my first reaction was

repulsion. Then, I felt pity. What causes a young man to become so confused or hurt to act out in such a way? What hope did he have? What opportunity did I have to reach him? Who knows how his story will end, but my hope and prayer is that something was done or said that will lead him to Christ at some point. You will not likely meet someone so apparently in need of Jesus today, but most of all you encounter are lost. That means they are in need. Let us see people like Jesus did!

The Devil's Beatitudes

Whew...talk about the hot seat!!!! This one should make us stop and shudder! If the devil were to write his beatitudes, they would probably go something like this:

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend a few hours a week with their fellow Christians – they are my best work.

Blessed are those church members who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them.

Blessed are the touchy who stop attending worship services -- they are my missionaries.

Blessed are the troublemakers – they shall be called my children.

Blessed are the complainers – I'm all ears to them.

Blessed are those who are bored with the preacher's mannerisms and mistakes – for they get nothing out of his sermons.

Blessed is the church member who expects to be invited to his home congregation – for he is a part of the problem instead of the solution.

Blessed are those who gossip – for they shall cause strife and divisions that please me.

Blessed are those who are easily offended – for they will soon get angry and quit.

Blessed are those who do not give their contributions to carry on God's work— for they are my helpers.

Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister-- for he shall be with me forever.

Blessed are you who, when you read this, think it is about other people and not yourself -- I've got you too!

WE NEED TO OPEN OUR EYES

The prophet Elisha and his servant awakened one morning to find themselves and the whole city of Dothan surrounded by the Syrian army. “Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel? And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber. and he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about. And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha” (2 Kings 6:11-17).

It is certainly true that human conditions can be distressing and depressing! We may face problems that seem insurmountable. We may face losses that are overwhelming. Just because we trust in the Lord does not mean that we are to deny the reality of unhappy experiences. There are, however, other realities which override every tragedy and threat. Whatever the circumstances, the Christian is encircled by the presence, love and protection of God. “And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28). God’s chariots surround us in much the way they did Elisha and his servant. That is a fact. We may not profit fully from this fact, due to our inability to recognize His presence! If we are to avoid despair, the need is not for a greater supply of protection or of power. But the need is simply for greater faith in order to see that which is already there, waiting to comfort, to reassure, to sustain those whose eyes are open! Say, dear reader, are **your** eyes open?