

From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

Where Will You Send Them?

D. J. Stucky

Marriage is a beautiful thing (Prov. 18:22; Heb. 13:4). Two people become one flesh and can help one another face the challenges of life (Gen. 2:20-24)—at least this is how marriage works when both people are committed to one another and to the Lord. If they are not committed to the same things, it can spell spiritual disaster. As an extreme example, the pagan princess Jezebel encouraged Ahab, the king of Israel, to commit evil against the Lord (1 Kings 21:25). Our spouse holds a great deal of influence over us. For this reason, we should be concerned with who our children and grandchildren choose to marry, just like Isaac and Rebekah in Genesis 28:1-5.

After Isaac blessed Jacob, he commanded him not to take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. Instead, Jacob was to go to the household grandfather Bethuel, and take one of the daughters of his uncle Laban (Gen. 27:1-2). Isaac then gave Jacob another blessing, reminding him of the precious promises that had been made to Abraham (27:3-4). Jacob was obedient and left to find a wife—not from the pagan daughters of Canaan, but from Laban.

Isaac and Rebekah knew that Isaac had a much better chance of finding a godly wife if he traveled to his mother's family. We should desire to direct our children and grandchildren towards a mate that will lead them closer to God rather than drive them away. Though a Christian spouse can win over a non-believer through godly conduct (1 Pet. 3:1), this is not always the case. Usually the Christian is pulled away by the influence of their spouse (1 Cor. 6:14), and both are lost to the world. To willingly enter a relationship like this is a gamble with eternal consequences. Like Isaac and Rebekah, we should guide our children to a place where they are likely to find a godly mate. We should counsel our children to seek a faithful Christian spouse who values God's word and lives to serve Him. After all, our spouse has more influence over us than any other person on earth. We should want that influence to be a positive one. Isaac and Rebekah had seen Esau marry two Hittite women, who were a grief of mind to them (Gen. 26:34-35; 27:46). These women, undoubtedly pagan in belief, would do nothing to strengthen Esau's devotion to the Lord. Isaac and Rebekah desired better for Jacob, so they sent him to Bethuel. When the time comes, where will you send your children?

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Jeff Day
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen
Tim Norman

Deacons

Gary Barger
Ryan Cowan
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Russ Jones

Minister

Kevin Rhodes

Associate

D. J. Stucky

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am

AM Worship
10:00 am

PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am

Bible Study
7:00 pm

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Texas

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God Is My Helper

Kevin W. Rhodes

There are few feelings to compare with having your life threatened. The victim of a hold up while working retail during college, I can understand in a very small way what some have felt often. It can produce a piercing sensation that reaches down deep within, challenging your purpose, your direction, and your preparation. In those moments you must come to grips with the distance between what your priorities are and what they should be. But most of all, you simply feel helpless and alone. But you have Someone who can help, and that is the real key to get through not only threats to your life and their aftermath, but all of life itself.

David had more than his share of peril throughout his life. From the early dangers he faced serving as a shepherd for his father to the violence he encountered on the battlefield to the persecution he faced at the hand of Saul, David knew from an early age what it felt like to have his life threatened. The loneliness and helplessness that such circumstances naturally created must have been tremendous. Even when you have friends and family that support you, feeling like you have a target on your back has an isolating effect that few can imagine. When David was running from Saul, he sought refuge in an isolated area among the Ziphites only to have those people report his presence to the king. When he spotted Saul and learned how his location had been revealed, it must have been frustrating and frightening. Yet, this occasion provided the backdrop for reflection when he penned Psalm 54.

Rather than panic, he trusted in God to deliver Him (Psa. 54:1), listen to him (Psa. 54:2), and save him from the treachery of the Ziphites (Psa. 54:3). He then penned these words, "Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is with those who uphold my life" (Psa. 54:4). This perspective, a perspective that had confidence in victory because of God (Psa. 54:5), confidence in God's goodness (Psa. 54:6), and confidence in deliverance because of faith (Psa. 54:7), is the mindset that offers peace in the midst of turmoil and serenity in the midst of life's storms.

This was no blind expectation or self-delusion. David's faith was justified entirely. In this instance he even had opportunity to take Saul's life but refused to do so...because of the same faith that expressed confidence in deliverance. Had he struck Saul himself, he would have violated a principle of respect for the LORD's anointed, and his faith trusted that God would provide the way, knowing that killing Saul himself was not in accord with the Lord's will. God is our helper, but His help will come in His way according to His will. Therefore, our faith must be strong enough not only to trust in the possibility of deliverance, but to trust God's means as well. All of us will face times of turmoil and peril. We may even have enemies who make our lives extremely difficult. But even if our problems stem from health issues or economic woes or persecution on the job, David's answer is still our answer: God is our helper. When we have that thought firmly planted in our soul, the greatest attack Satan may bring will not put a dent in our faith.



News and Notes

Prayer request...

- Clara Mae Fish is back home at Colonial Manor.
- Doug Kilcrease had cataract surgery on Wednesday, March 29th.
- Casey Lehtinen had a spinal tap with chemo. It went well. Jay's testing came back as a perfect match, which is great news!
- Hazel Townsend is in room 322-B. She has had a stroke.
- Mattie Townzen, a former member, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery March 31st.
- Luis Camacho, who has preached here before, has possibly been infected with malaria.
- Danakah Ables, 15 years old friend of Charlotte Moulder, is being tested for cancer at Cooke Children's Hospital. Jack and Abby Jackson are her grandparents.

Please remember in prayers

R. C. Cowan, Amy Hackler, Helen Henslee, Karen Homesley (Linda and Don Manning's daughter), Mary McPherson, Nan Oliver, Janice Redden, David Sutton (Gene and Helen Threadgill's son-in-law).

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the Stucky family in the passing of DJ's uncle, Cork Stucky. A memorial will be later.

Youth Devotional

Sunday, April 2nd, will be the youth devotional. Russ and Tracie Jones are hosting it at their home after the evening worship service. Boys are to bring desserts, and girls are to bring chips.

Centurion of Scripture Challenge 2017 (NKJV)

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 18:20

The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Review

Matthew 6:19-21

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Those who Serve

Lords' Supper: 4/2

Front South

Robert Pennay
Dale Ash
Steve Baze

Front North

Colton Allen
Will Cammack
Justin Hewlett

Back South

Rob Stidolph
Gene Threadgill
Mark Stubblefield

Back North

J. D. Allen
Ricky Threadgill
Weldon York

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Pat McIntosh
Larry McWilliams

Sunday PM

Bill Cashion
Ryan Cowan
Colton Allen

Wednesday PM

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Andrew Collins

Wednesday

Gavin McGilvray

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Jeff Day

Sunday PM

Jeff Day

Wednesday PM

Kyle Day

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Wayne Gentry

Collection Counting

Justin Hewlett / Wayne Gentry



Sermons for Sunday

AM

Table Manners
1 Corinthians 11:27-34

PM

Why We Cannot Have Nice Things
Judges 12:1-13:1

Calendar of Events



5/14-17 Gospel Meeting with Mike Bonner

6/7-8/30 Summer Series: Families of Faith

9/15-16 Marriage and Family Seminar
with John and Carla Moore

11/5-8 Gospel Meeting with Mark Hanstein



Our Records

Bible Class124

AM Worship.....189

PM Worship.....114

Wednesday Bible Class126

Contribution..... \$6,991

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