

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD

*"Oh taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him."*  
- Psalm 34:8

When you believe that God is good all the time, it frees you to take ever-increasing steps of faith. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds me of God's intent toward me and my family: "For I know the plans I have for you" - [this is] the Lord's declaration - "plans for [your] welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Do you believe that promise? Or do the circumstances of life move you away from faith and gratitude for God's daily provisions?

John Gilbert only lived to age 25. When John was five years old, he was diagnosed with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy, a genetic, progressive, debilitating disease. It would claim his life twenty years later, but not before subtracting almost everything from him. Every year John Gilbert lost something. In time, he lost the ability to do all the outward things that we take for granted, even the ability to speak.

But there was one moment that stood out. It happened when he was invited to a National Football League fundraising auction. When it began, one particular item caught John's eye: a basketball signed by all the players of the Sacramento Kings. John so desperately wanted that ball that when it came up for bid, he felt his hand raise up in the air. His mother quickly brought it back down, knowing they didn't have the funds to cover any bid.

The bidding on the basketball continued with excitement. It rose to an astounding amount compared to other items at the auction and especially to the real value of the ball. Finally, a man made a bid that no one else could possibly match, and won the prize.

The man walked to the front, claimed the basketball; but instead of going back to his seat, this man walked across the room and gently placed it into the thin, small hands of the boy who would never dribble that ball down a court, never throw it to a teammate, never fire it from the foul line, but would cherish it for as long as he lived.

John Gilbert, while he was still able, wrote these words: "It took me a moment to realize what the man had done. I remember hearing gasps all around the room, then thunderous applause and weeping eyes. To this day I'm amazed!

Have you ever been given a gift that you could have never gotten for yourself? Has anyone ever sacrificed a huge amount for you without getting anything in return? That my friend is the way God showers down His blessings as we walk in faith. Look for the ways God's goodness touches your life. Then live with a grateful heart, praising the Lord for He's a good God who leads us down a good path!

## Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

### SERIES: WHAT HAPPY COUPLES KNOW

May 6 ... Nothing

May 13 ... It's Mutual

May 20 ... Sometimes You Have To Throw Things

May 27 ... It's A Choice

## Contact Us

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Doug Davidson—Sr. Pastor  
Donna Spitzer—Dir of Christian Ed  
Kristen Green—Intern



# Upcoming Events

- **Student Ministries**

Ontrack (Jr. High) and Satellite (Sr. High) meet on Sunday evenings at 5:00 pm here at MCC.

- **Kid Blast**

Kid's Blast (elementary k-5) will take a break and resume in the fall. Look for activities throughout the spring and summer.

- **Young Adult Bible Study**

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm all college age students and 20-something adults are invited to attend MCC's Young Adult Bible Study. Currently they are studying I & II Thessalonians. Check with Arlen Gerig and see how you can become involved with this dynamic group of young people.

- **Operation Homes**

Operation HOMES is an organization of churches in Medina County working together to provide a temporary, safe and secure shelter for homeless people. MCC's next Operation Homes rotation is May 14-21, 2018. Check out the bulletin board in the foyer for ways you can help with this important ministry.

- **Next Step Class**

If you're attending MCC and are not a member, we would love to have you take the next step and become members of the church. Membership is required for leadership boards and teaching ministries, but above everything it says "I am committed to belong to a church family and support its ministries." If you would like to take the next step, please sign up at the information table for our Next Step class. Once we have the signups we will talk about what dates work best in May for getting together. Thank for praying about this important decision.

- **Elder/Deacon Nominations**

We are currently accepting nominations for new Elders and Deacons. Please look over the forms located on the information table and prayerfully consider making a nomination for these important church leadership positions. You can drop nomination forms off at the church office or place them in the offering on Sunday.

- **MCC Directory**

Please take a moment to check out the draft copy of the new church directory and update your information if necessary. It will be at the information table until mid-May. Our goal is to make final corrections and have the directory available for distribution by the end of this month.