

Welcome to Faith

April 23, 2023

Church Family Night

Join May 7 at 5pm at Faith East for Church Family Night. New member/update photos will be in Jeremy Vegter's office from 4:15-4:45pm.

Caleb's Kin

Senior adults - Join our monthly fellowship at 10am on Monday, May 1 at the Senior Living Clubhouse for an uplifting musical concert presented by Faith Christian School's Ministry Chorale and a delicious catered meal. The cost is \$5 for the meal, but first-time guests eat for free (as do any seniors for whom the cost is a hardship). Questions? Contact Alisha Vegter (765) 350-0919 or Roseanna Beecher (765) 337-1699.

Introduction to Faith

Intro to Faith is a great opportunity to get to know others in the church, connect with the pastors, learn key doctrine, and ask questions. Class begins April 26, 6:30pm at Faith East. Sign up online at faithlafayette.org/intro

Prayer Wall

Did you know that Faith Church has a Prayer Wall where you can share your requests and/or pray for the requests of your church family? You can choose to post your requests by name or anonymously, and, if you choose the "Email Me When Someone Prays" option, you'll receive a notification each time someone lifts you up in prayer and clicks on the "I PRAYED FOR THIS" button. Learn more at www.faithlafayette.org/prayer.

Children's Ministry

2^{YR} - 5TH grade

Pastor Trey and his friends will be uploading encouraging videos at faithlafayette.org/kidsvids.

You can find this week's online children's Sunday School lesson at blogs.faithlafayette.org/faithkids. You can use the ideas below to discuss the lesson as a family.

JOHN PREPARES THE WAY FOR JESUS

READ: Matthew 3:1-17

ASK YOUR CHILD:

- What was John the Baptist's message? *Repent and prepare to receive the Messiah.*
- Why wouldn't John baptize the Pharisees and Sadducees? *They didn't believe they needed to repent.*
- Why was Jesus baptized? *Though Jesus was sinless, He demonstrated His willingness to be counted as a sinner.*

EMPHASIZE THIS PRINCIPLE: God sent His Son. Therefore, we should repent and prepare the way for His work.

PRACTICE:

- Repent by admitting your sin and trusting Jesus for salvation.
- Live to please God.

PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK: Matthew 3:1-17

MEMORIZE FOR MAR 19-APR 23: "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." **Ephesians 2:8-10***

Last Week's Offering - \$67,531.86
Weekly Budget - \$74,195
Last Week Sunday Worship - 1,890

Your Pastors

Steve Viars - Senior Pastor

sviars@faithlafayette.org
765.237.7550

Faith Church East 8:00AM

Johnny Kjaer - Student Ministries

jkjaer@faithlafayette.org
765.413.7927

Trey Garner - Children's Ministries

tgarner@faithlafayette.org
765.237.2700

Faith Church East 9:30AM

Dustin Folden - Adult Ministries

dfolden@faithlafayette.org
765.418.7271

Brent Aucoin - Soul Care

baucoin@faithlafayette.org
765.714.6866

Josh Aucoin - Worship Ministries

jaucoin@faithlafayette.org
765.237.1687

Faith Church East 11:00AM

Rob Green - Faith East

rgreen@faithlafayette.org
765.413.0442

Greg Wetterlin - Restoration

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720.331.1035

Faith Church East Family 11:00AM (gym)

Johnny Kjaer - Student Ministries

jkjaer@faithlafayette.org
765.413.7927

Trey Garner - Children's Ministries

tgarner@faithlafayette.org
765.237.2700

Faith Church West 9:30AM

Josh Greiner - Faith West

jgreiner@faithlafayette.org
219.616.7745

Stefan Nitzschke - College Ministries

snitzschke@faithlafayette.org
765.409.2600

Faith Church West 11:00AM

Aaron Birk - International Ministries

abirk@faithlafayette.org
765.586.6767

Ross Reeder - Community Development

rreeder@faithlafayette.org
765.464.4709

Faith Church North

Rod Hutton - Northend

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402.972.5298

David Mora - Northend

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Alfonso Gomez - Northend

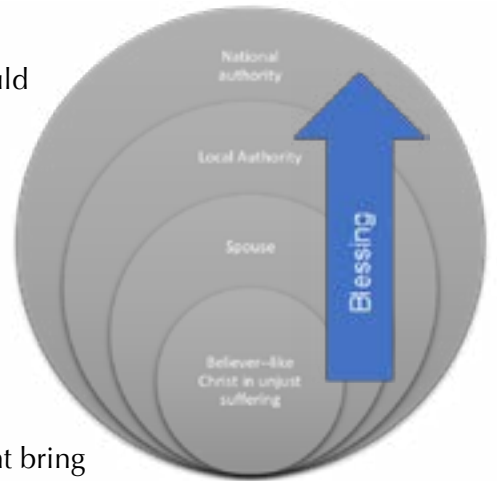
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Hope in Everyday Suffering
Hope for True Spiritual Life through Suffering
1 Peter 3:13-22

3 key insights for true spiritual life that help us seize the opportunities that unjust suffering provides

I. _____ the Nature of True Spiritual Life (vv. 13-17)

- A. Doing good - ...if you prove zealous for what is good...But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed...those who revile your good behavior in Christ...that you suffer for doing what is right...
- B. A lack of fear – “Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? ...And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled.”
- C. Courage to speak with kindness – “...always being ready to make a defense to everyone...yet with gentleness and reverence.”



II. _____ to the Example of True Spiritual Life – Christ (v. 18–20)

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

Restatement: Believers who are facing unjust suffering, are to look to the example of Christ who amidst unjust suffering died in the flesh (his body) to the world of the flesh (the world's value system) and was raised to new life (and new value system). So also, you are to die to your natural responses during unjust suffering to bring forth true, supernatural, spiritual life.

Romans 6:6-8 - ...*knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin (flesh in Peter's terms?) might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him.*

- A. “Put to death in the flesh” – Christ's physical suffering in the flesh carries the theological significance of dying to the world of the flesh – its fleshly lusts which animate sin.
- B. An additional past example of the judgement of the “world of the flesh” – Noah's flood (v. 19-20a)

1 Peter 3:19-20 - ...*in which (or better: considering this work of Christ) also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.*

The point: Peter uses the greatest past example of universal judgement of “the flesh” – the flood. During that time Christ's Spirit was preaching through Noah to repent. Yet, the world of the flesh did not repent and it was universally judged. Now, Christ's death on the cross “in the flesh” is the ultimate and true judgement upon “the world of the flesh.”

- C. “Made alive in the spirit” – Christ's physical resurrection carries the theological significance of NEW LIFE after the judgement of death/suffering in the flesh.
- D. Exalted above all opposition (v. 22) – “who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.”

III. _____ the Means to True Spiritual Life – Salvation Through Judgement/Suffering

“...you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. (1:8-9) ...you are blessed when you suffer for righteousness (3:14)...but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing (4:13)... For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God ...And if it is with difficulty that the righteous is saved... (4:17-18)”

- A. Noah had to go through the judgement/suffering to experience a new creation (v. 20b, 21)
- B. Believers, likewise, must go through the waters of judgement/suffering – “Baptism” symbolizes precisely that believers must be immersed through suffering in the death to the flesh for new life

“The very waters that would have crushed you will save you. It will lift you up. The glory and distinctiveness of the Christian life is not that we escape troubles and escape the floods, we have something within us that uses those things to make us into something great.” (Tim Keller)

- C. God's children must set “Christ as the Lord of our Heart” (v. 15) going through the judgment/suffering of unjust suffering unto the new life.