

TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Don Taylor /Opening Prayer by: Walden David

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#797 Lord, We Come Before Thee Now
#382 Why did My Savior Come to Earth?
#837 I Need The Every Hour
#738 Take the Name of Jesus With You

Medley

Scripture Reading by: Joseph Girard

#387 Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Lord's Supper and Contribution

#214 Have You Seen Jesus, My Lord?

Sermon: "He Passed By"

Luke 10:25-28

#943 Do You Know My Jesus?

#966 Amen

Closing Prayer by: David Warren

Welcome by: Don Taylor

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#615 He Keeps Me Singing
#595 I Come to the Garden Alone

Scripture Reading: Parker Balch

Prayer by: David Smith

#71 As the Deer

Sermon: "One Word: Holiness"

1 Peter 1:14-16

#719 Love One Another
#939 O Why Not Tonight?

Closing Prayer by: Bobby Rader

Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

Wednesday: 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

April 7, 2019

“Stand Firm in...Liberty”

Galatians 5:1

Lazy Sunday

*I passed by the field of a sluggard,
by the vineyard of a man lacking sense,
and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns;
the ground was covered with nettles,
and its stone wall was broken down.
Then I saw and considered it;
I looked and received instruction.
A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest,
and poverty will come upon you like a robber,
and want like an armed man.*

-Proverbs 24:30-34

No book in Scripture has more to say about the importance of work, of industriousness, of effort, and the danger of laziness than Proverbs. There is wisdom here that is worthy of our consideration. What can we learn from the field of the sluggard?

We might ask first of all: why was he so neglectful? If we were to pose that question to him, I imagine that he would offer a variety of excuses. But none of them hold water.

It's not because there was no room – he had an entire field, he simply failed to utilize it. It's not because the soil wasn't fertile – the ground was overgrown with weeds, with thorns and nettles. Ground that will grow weeds will grow what you plant too. It's not because of a bad environment, where animals would inevitably eat the crop. The *stone wall was broken down*. If that was a problem, it was due to his neglect of the wall.

No, in fact, the writer tells us explicitly why he failed: he was lazy. He's called a *sluggard* in the first line of the passage, and that is just a 50 dollar word for lazy. Unfortunately, laziness is an enemy of us all in different ways. We must constantly battle it or else we will fail like this man.

Our Sick

Mark Wilcox had surgery this past week.

Pauline Taylor is in Liberty Dayton Hospital with pneumonia.

Continued Prayers

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Eric Davis, Dayla Hale, Minny Owen, J. P. Williams, Doris Trahan, Willo Dean Ellis, Joe Edd Stifflemire, Tem Meigs, Phillip Cottle

Shut Ins

(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Pauline Taylor, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Dr. Ronald Davis, Larry Hicks

Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

New Phone Directory

We are in the process of updating our directory. Please check the list on the bulletin board to make sure your address, phone number and email are correct.

Upcoming Activities

Elders, Deacons, Minister meeting Monday at 7:00pm.

Deacons meet today at 4:45 pm.

Primetimers will be going to the Ranch Hand Café on Tuesday, April 9th at 4:45 pm. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Art Workshop, Saturday, April 13th from 12-2 pm in the family life center. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. A cost of \$5.00 for supplies. Bring your favorite finger food. For more information, see Pat Hobbs or Iva Votaw.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Joe Leonard. He passed away last week. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the calls, cards and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. I love all of you.
In Christian love,
Gloria McKelroy

Communion Preparation: Patsy Pierce
Nursery Attendants: Marsha Rader, Lynette Ward

Communion Preparation for Sunday, April 14th: Virginia Pickard
Nursery Attendants for Sunday, April 14th: Tania Balch, Pat Hobbs

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Think about this for a moment strictly in the realm of the work of the church. God gives us a metaphorical field; we have the opportunity to plant good or bad seed in our lives. And we can be sure, whatever we plant, it will produce fruit. So there is a real need for Christians to plant good seed. That we live in a world that seems hostile to Christian values is no excuse, because God has provided all we need to endure. Those excuses won't fly for us anymore than they did for him. If we fail to plant as we ought, it is due to our laziness. That has tragic consequences.

For one thing, this man was never able to bring in a harvest. What about us? We might think that we can't accomplish much as only one smallish church. But have you ever considered the potential even in this group? We have the food bank, worked by many of you, that feeds literally hundreds every month. We have contributed to mission works and children's homes and disaster relief and on and on. That's all good! Now think of the potential, if each of us started applying ourselves diligently in our fields. Think of the reverberations of the work we have already done, and then imagine the victories that could be won through each person here. You know, Jesus started with only 12 men, and one of them dropped out – but they turned the world upside down.

Laziness also causes the weeds to grow. This man never made a decision to plant weeds. The only choice he made was to do nothing. Nature took care of the rest. We can be sure that, if we do not plant something positive in our lives, the negative will take over, with no effort on our part, and it will blight our lives.

That is the final consequence of laziness. The wall was neglected, the weeds grew, the field was in a total state of disintegration – the wild animals run through it, the snakes live there - all because the man decided to do nothing. Our lives are the same. When we do nothing for the Lord, the weeds begin to grow. Pretty soon, the walls come tumbling down and, without God's presence, evil comes in. And we are ruined.

If we are going to live for Christ, we need to cultivate the soil, plant good seed, mend the walls. We need to work. What sort of crop are you producing?

Bryant Perkins

“Stand Firm in...Liberty”

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