

BREAKING Bread



August 2021

Breaking Bread

Our focus entering 2021 is upon our Lord's instruction to pray without ceasing. In this the second year of our Breaking Ground, Breaking Bread, Breaking Free campaign we remain focused on Christ's instruction.

But deliver us from evil. These words which conclude Jesus' instruction on how to pray frames all the petitions in the Lord's Prayer by recognizing we seek deliverance for everything that is evil. In a world where great challenges abound from health, to family, to friends, we who are shaped by the Biblical narrative, presented in the Holy Scriptures, do well to recognize the origin of 'evil' is none other than the father of lies, the devil.

We who are in the church do not leave the word 'evil' as an unknown rather we are quick to connect that deliverance from evil is the cry of God's faithful people to be set free from the accusations the great deceiver.

In John chapter 8 as Jesus went to the temple early in the morning, he was confronted by questions posed by the scribes and Pharisees. Speaking against their deceitful questions our Lord pointed to the devil as the source of evil in the world.

Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:43-44 ESV)

It is with bold words Jesus shows how even religious leaders can be consumed by their own desires which do not align to the Lord's instruction, and they become caught in the snares of the devil. This is true of us as well that we do not always recognize the trouble in front of our own eyes.

One snare of the devil is to suggest the instruction of the Lord is not the only way to live.

The devil plants the seed in our ear, "There are too many people on earth to believe there is way one to restore the brokenness we experience in the world." From that small seed of doubt mighty oaks of deceit have grown so that now it is hard for some scholars and teachers to recognize how far they have wandered from God's Word. They are now chasing what their itching ears want to hear (2 Timothy 4:3).

May we the people at Jordan Lutheran Church recognize this moment in our lives as a stirring of the Holy Spirit to wake us from our slumber and the malaise which has kept us from prioritizing reading, learning and inwardly digesting God's Word. As autumn is soon around the corner let us see the new season as the perfect time for the Lord to remove the foothold the devil has in our life which pushes the Scriptures back from our daily patterns. Enable us with the saints before us to say boldly, "Deliver us from evil." Amen.

in Christ, Pastor Mike

GROWING



SPROUTS

Memory Work for August

The Lord's Prayer: The Seventh Petition
But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Campaign Update



Update as of July 31, 2021

Ways to Donate

- **Mail donations to the church's locked mailbox** with a Breaking Bread special designation: 1031 Pemberton Hill Rd., Suite 202, Apex, NC 27502
- Sign-up for Joyful Response® **free e-giving** through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund
- **Donate online** through the website at JordanApex.org/giving
- Direct your **IRA RMD** to Jordan tax-free if you are over 72
- Utilize **Jordan's brokerage account** to make a stock gift
- Include Jordan in your **estate planning**

Questions?

Contact office@JordanApex.org
or call Jordan's Office at (919) 303-1613



"The people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD."

1 Chronicles 29:9 ESV

Encouraging Our Spiritual Growth

Consider the following ideas and activities as you look to break ground in your spiritual growth this year.

Know Christ

engagement in Jordan's congregational worship life

- Worship Services at Beaver Creek Cinemas in Apex at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.
- Service videos are available online later on Sunday morning
- Communion shared on 1st and 3rd Sundays and church festivals

Grow in Christ

my commitment to study the Scriptures and be in prayer

- Summer Reading Series - Alternating Wednesdays 7 p.m. through early September (Zoom)
- Youth Bible Trivia on Sunday, August 15
- Fellowship groups meeting in August (men and women)

Serve Christ

my active response to use the gifts entrusted to me by God

- Supporting local schools and teacher through summer collection
- Jordan aids seminaries training future church workers through our weekly tithe and offerings

Go for Christ

using my vocation to share Christ with others

- Pray without ceasing to God that you may be a light to shine before others of Christ's work in you
- Care for a neighbor with a meal or card pausing from our daily routine to support others in need.

Monthly Prayer

O Lord be our fortress when the evil snares and temptation which the devil puts in our path shade us from recognizing your full glory and majesty. Equip our congregation through the study of your revelation to all people in the Scriptures and guide us by your Holy Spirit so that we are delivered from the evil one, this we implore you in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord. Amen.

"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

(John 8:31-32 ESV)

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