



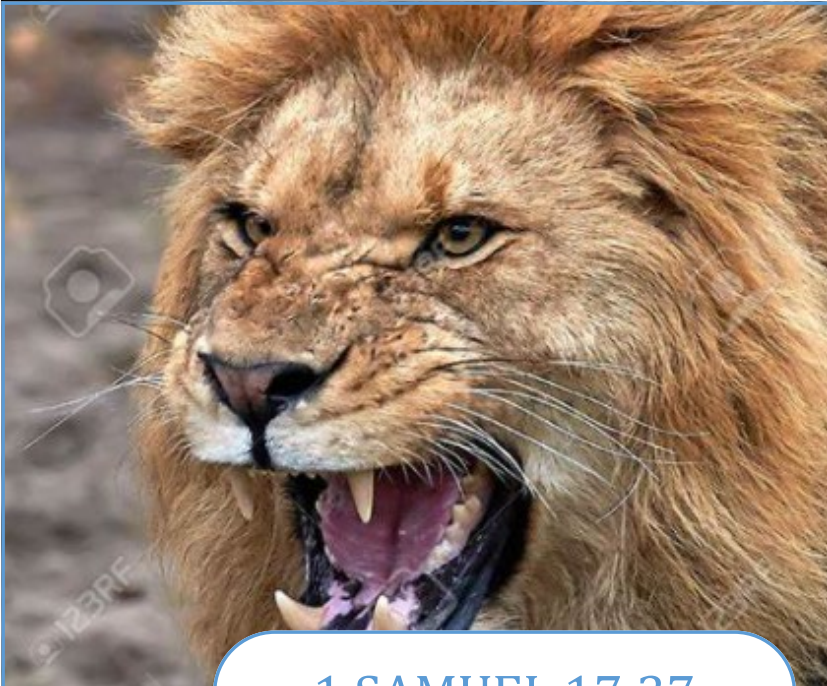
Friendship Church
Loving God...Loving People

FRIENDSHIP GOOD NEWS

April 9, 2021



From Pastor Mike...



1 SAMUEL 17:37

"The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

**In person and Facebook Live
Church Service
Small Groups**

Sunday April 11, 2021

9:30 AM Small Groups — 10:30 Church Service

Our God is an awesome God! He can *"do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."* (**Ephesians 3:20**) When faced with an insurmountable obstacle, young David fully relied on God to deliver him. David's complete faith in God, combined with God's mighty hand and presence, brought David victory that no one thought possible.

David remembered God's faithfulness: *"The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."* (**1 Samuel 17:37**) David gave all the credit where all the credit was due. David was not complacent – he was not going to let the Giant mock the armies of the Living God. David had faith to believe what he could not yet see. And God came through!

What are you believing God for today? **Nahum 1:7** says, *"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him."* What are you trusting God for that if He doesn't come through you're totally sunk? The key to victory is God's presence. God was with David. David made sure God received all the glory when he said, *"All gathered here will know that is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give (the giant) into our hands."* **1 Samuel 17:47**

Here are some timeless truths you can apply today: Let God fight your battles. Trust Him with all your heart. Remember His faithfulness to you. And be sure to give Him all the glory when He comes through for you! **Romans 8:31-32**: *"What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"*

I love you all,

Pastor Mike



SERVICES LIVE ON FACEBOOK

Every Sunday morning at 11am

ONLINE LIVE PRAYER MEETINGS

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening at 7pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS

Check with your Sunday School teachers for times

Get updated prayer requests and announcements.

To sign up, text your name to 479.422.1079

This Sunday's Gospel Project Lesson (small groups)

The Church United

Sunday's lesson *"The Church Is Sent to Encourage New Believers"*

(Acts 11)

In the beginning, the all-powerful, personal God created the universe. This God created human beings in His image to live joyfully in His presence, in humble submission to His gracious authority. But all of us have rebelled against God and, in consequence, must suffer the punishment of our rebellion: physical death and the wrath of God.

Thankfully, God initiated a rescue plan, which began with His choosing the nation of Israel to display His glory in a fallen world. The Bible describes how God acted mightily on Israel's behalf, rescuing His people from slavery and then giving them His holy law. But God's people—like all of us—failed to rightly reflect the glory of God.

Then, in the fullness of time, in the person of Jesus Christ, God Himself came to renew the world and to restore His people. Jesus perfectly obeyed the law given to Israel. Though innocent, He suffered the consequences of human rebellion by His death on a cross. But three days later, God raised Him from the dead.

Now the church of Jesus Christ has been commissioned by God to take the news of Christ's work to the world. Empowered by God's Spirit, the church calls all people everywhere to repent of sin and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. By God's grace in Christ, repentance and faith restores our relationship with God and results in a life of ongoing transformation.

The Bible promises that Jesus Christ will return to this earth as the conquering King. Only those who live in repentant faith in Christ will escape God's judgment and live joyfully in God's presence for all eternity. God's message is the same to all of us: repent and believe, before it is too late. Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe with your heart that God raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved.

Classes are currently meeting in person at 9:25 am. If you would like to join online using Zoom, check with your Sunday School teacher as most classes also have zoom availability.

Living the Word in Order to Teach the Word

Have you ever heard this riddle? Question: What is the first rule for teaching a parakeet how to talk? Answer: You must have a larger vocabulary than the parakeet!

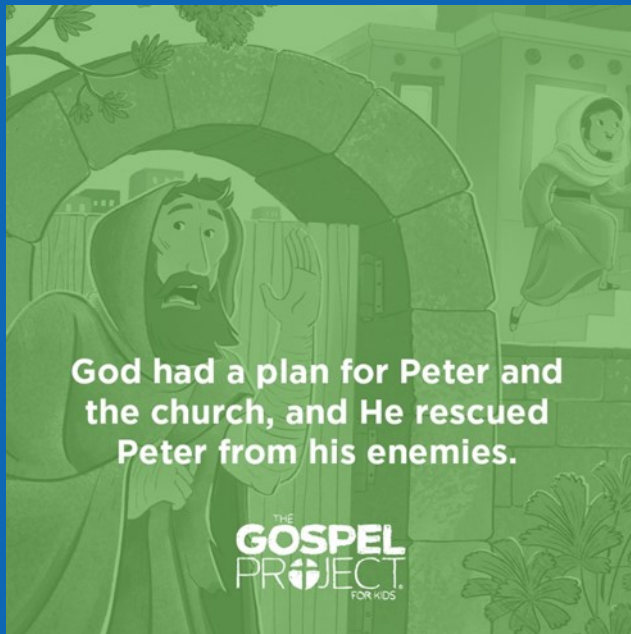
The same principle is true of parenting. If you (like Timothy's mother and grandmother) are going to teach your children God's Word, you must know the Scriptures yourself. There is no escaping it. There is no effective shortcut to studying the Bible yourself. Of course, you can read them stories for the Bible, anecdotes from a daily devotional quarterly, and catechize them from a catechism manual. But as good as these methods are, they are not as effective as communicating biblical truth from your heart directly to theirs with personal insight and application. For you to rely solely on someone else's preparation of God's Word for your children is to neglect the first part of the passage before us (Deut. 6:6).

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a] 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Someone has said that a message prepared in a mind reaches a mind, but a message prepared in a life reaches a life. In other words, the more God's Word you have internalized yourself (v. 6) the more effectively you will be able to properly indoctrinate your children in the Scriptures (vv. 7-9).

(Lou Priolo, *Teach Them Diligently: How to use the Scriptures in Child Training*, copyright©2000, page 12).

Friendship K.I.D.s Korner News



This week's GOSPEL PROJECT lesson

God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because He believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.

When we pray, God hears us, and we can trust that He is good and will act according to His will. Prayer shouldn't be a last resort for people who feel powerless about their circumstances. Prayer is powerful; we can call on the Lord of the universe at any time!

Blessings, Mary Ann

