



Friendship Church
Loving God...Loving People

FRIENDSHIP GOOD NEWS

April 23, 2021



From Pastor Mike...

REACHING
IN
LOVE

AS
AMBASSADORS
FOR
CHRIST

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 - 21

In person and Facebook
Live Church Service
Small Groups

Sunday April 25, 2021

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

We are God's representatives to a watching world. We are God's outpost behind enemy lines. The Apostle Paul writes to the church at Corinth in **II Corinthians 5:17-21**, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."*

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. The Amplified Bible defines reconciliation as "restoration to favor with God." God has *"committed to us the message of reconciliation."* We are ambassadors of heaven living here on earth – behind enemy lines! God (the greatest Giver) so loved (the greatest motive) the world (which has the greatest spiritual poverty) that He gave (the greatest act of all) His only Son (the greatest gift), that whosoever (the all-time greatest invitation) believes in Him (the greatest opportunity) should not perish (the greatest deliverance) but have eternal life (the greatest joy).

Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. This act of love was certainly not fair, nor deserved, but that is the extent of God's desire for us to be reconciled with Him. There is only one way to be made right with God – His name is Jesus. Now, God expects us to be about the business of making Christ known – representing Him to those around us. The good news is meant to be shared. And the good news is only good if it gets there in time!

Let us all be ministers of reconciliation!

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE

Every Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS

Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am

**Get updated prayer requests and
announcements.**

To sign up, text your name to 479.422.1079

GOSPEL PROJECT

SMALL GROUPS

The Sent Church (Acts; Epistles)

Sunday's lesson: *"The Church Is
United Under Godly Leaders"*

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.

LADIES STUDY

A 30 Day Walk With God Through The Psalms

by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

There are two group times, Tuesdays or Thursdays at 6:30 pm on zoom, which ever works best for you.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Join us at 6:30 at the church as we study God's

Friendship Attendance, Apr 25

Small group Bible study - 45

Celebration worship - 83

Tithes & Offering

Sunday, Apr. 25—\$4,546.02

Friendship Birthdays

May 3 – Zac Pollari

May 4 – Cliff Walker

May 4 – Paislee Hooper

May 4 – Kaitlynn Hooper

May 8 – Nathan Sypult

May 8 – Gary Williams

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.”

Psalms 37:7

There's a HUGE difference between being still and being stagnant! Things that are stagnant become foul smelling and stale due to inactivity. Ponds grow algae, the Dead Sea is...well...dead! Rivers and lakes must have a healthy flow to sustain wildlife. Spending time with the Lord is never dull or wasted.

Being in his presence allows us to know our future is in his care and it's a place of peace.

Our lives should be full of ministry and extending his grace to others. Take those quiet moments to reflect and to seek Him today.

Abiding....is thriving!

-Diane Moss



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than ever!**

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new online giving service.

GOSPEL PROJECT FOR KIDS – WEEKLY UPDATE

Unit 32 • Session 4 -

Letters to Church Leaders



Paul wrote to give Timothy and Titus advice and to help all church leaders know how to lead God's people. Church leaders help believers know what is true, and they serve the church by following the example of Jesus, who served us by dying on the cross for our sins.

We should help our kids see that God is at work in them and that they too might be leaders in the church one day—perhaps one day soon. Help your kids see that being a leader is a great privilege to help point others to the gospel. Finally, be sure that your kids understand that church leaders do not lead on their own. All church leaders follow the leadership of Jesus, who was a servant-leader to us. He gave His life so that we could be forgiven of our sins.

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Paul wrote letters to church leaders named Timothy and Titus.
- Paul wanted to make sure the church leaders loved God and taught the right things to the believers in the church.
- Paul told church leaders to trust and obey God.

KEY PASSAGE: Matthew 28:19-20

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is our mission as Christians? Our mission is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What does it take to be a good church leader?
- Who are the leaders in your church?
- How can you love and support the leaders of your church?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Look for opportunities throughout the week to encourage your kids to take on small leadership roles, such as leading the prayer before bedtime, planning what to make for dinner, and so forth.

Feed Your Appetites

Appetites are an inescapable part of life. They drive us to actions which either nurture or starve those cravings. They are difficult to control and hard to satisfy. They can be a blessing or a curse. Sometimes we aren't even aware of their power or hold over us.

Some appetites must be conquered, while others must be fed. Appetites that lead **away** from God are difficult to satisfy. Appetites that lead **to** God take discipline and commitment.

A grandparent in tune with the Savior and with their grandchild is sensitive to the appetites being groomed within their grandchildren by culture, screen time, school, home, or church.



So how do we influence our grandchildren's appetites for the things of God?

Whet appetites for godliness

We must feed our own appetites first with Scripture if we want to influence another's. We must become students of God's Word.

Feed the appetite with spiritual truth

Make the connection to what the Bible teaches in everyday life, whether in books, media, friendships, or culture. Help little minds decipher what things God values most. Intentionally develop an appetite for those values and take opportunities to include grandchildren in activities that feed their souls. Demonstrate gratefulness, generosity, and graciousness.

Control appetites through discipline

Show grandchildren what a disciplined life looks like; one that joyfully pursues spiritual growth. What Scriptures could they learn to replace that ungodly appetite with a godly choice instead?

May the Lord protect us from being grandparents who confuse what we **do** for grandkids with **being** grandparents who mirror the Father we represent.

I can whet their appetite for trees, butterflies, and flowers. I can feed their appetite for the wind blowing in their hair with another push on the swing. Looking at the shapes of clouds and flights of birds will help control screen time hunger. We'll blow bubbles and watch them float away, enjoying the gift of another day. Using these activities as ways to point them to God – the One who created them – the One who satisfies!

Deep inside I know that the appetites I feed into my grandchildren's souls, nourish mine as well.

Conclusion

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV)

May our grandchildren echo the Psalmist's panting after God. May the growing hunger in their hearts be for Christ, the thirst of their souls to be with Him. And may Grandpa and Grandma fuel those appetites.

Excerpts from article written by Sylvia Schroeder, blogger of When the House is Quiet.

Blessings, Mary Ann

