

May 26, 2020

Redeemer Continues Back Porch Sermons

Americans are nothing if not inventive, so it comes as no surprise that churches responded quickly to social distancing in a number of ways, many of them have relied heavily on technology. The pastor of one Edisto Island church, Redeemer Fellowship, delivered his sermons casually from his back porch to a Facebook congregation. The focus of Pastor Rob's most recent lessons has been the idea of Remedy.

In these challenging times, is there a remedy for our unrest, uncertainty, anxiety and even anger? The Old Testament prophet Elijah experienced all of these emotions, and, for a time he let them get the best of him. He essentially stopped doing the normal things that kept him strong like eating, sleeping, praying, and he started instead to focus on everything he'd lost, everything that was missing in his life. Sound familiar?

Thankfully, God stepped in before it was too late, Elijah reconnected with God and listened to His wise counsel. In time his strength was restored as well as his healthy view of the world and all its challenges. This view included God's plan for all of us that could not be thwarted by the world's changing circumstances.

In fact, God sees trying and difficult times, crises, as opportunities to make us focus on our blessings and the source of those blessings. This pandemic may well remind us that every true and perfect gift comes from God—among them the courageous and gifted doctors and nurses and the epidemiologists around the world who are working to create a remedy and a vaccine for Covid-19.

While we certainly acknowledge the death and suffering throughout the world that this pandemic continues to cause, not forgetting the financial hardships many people continue to experience, it's still worth noting, that for most of us living on Edisto, it has created new feelings of loneliness, isolation and confusion. Admittedly and thankfully, we live in a place that for most of the year was—and is--already socially distant. So, our adjustment probably has not been as difficult as that of "big city folks".

So, what is the remedy for the feelings of anger and anxiety—of not knowing what comes next—that persist, causing sleepless nights and a continual sense of unease? It may just be a renewed trust in God's promise that he will never forget us; He knows our need and circumstances, and really, all we have to do is ask for His help. And for all who trust and call on Him, Jesus says, "take courage; I have overcome the world."

Until we're able to meet in person please Join us virtually from the back porch, Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook, Redeemer Fellowship Edisto Island. To hear more of the Remedy sermons, find them on Facebook and online:

www.redeemerfellowshipofedistoisland.org.