



GRACE

HAPPENINGS

A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE:

This month we will finish up August's article.

We will begin in Luke 7:41: "A certain moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty...."

Two men owed money. Neither could pay. Neither the one who lived a godless life, nor the one who tried to live according to "works righteousness". It doesn't matter how many years you've worked as a Bible salesman, it doesn't matter how much money you've given to missions, it doesn't matter how many weeks out of fifty-two you've been to church or how many services you made each week. You can't go to church enough. You can't give enough. You can't sell enough Bibles to get to heaven. You still owe. If it's a dime it's the same as a dollar. If it's ten dollars it's the same as a hundred. You can't pay your way out of the debt of sin.

So Jesus canceled your debt.

But when you enter on a Sunday morning...do you come as a host to the Master? Or do you come as a special, uninvited guest?

Do you come pressed and bleached, seated at the head of your own table, expecting Jesus to say interesting things for you to think about all this next week and maybe see a miracle or two? Or do you come in humility, rust colored clay jar in hand, fully conscious of your own filthy rags righteousness?

Respectability tells you those four walls with pulpit and pews are the house of God.

We have met the Master in our formal dining room, in the proper setting, in the proper way. We have sung the right amount of hymns. We have lifted up to heaven a wonderful offering of special music. We have heard a forty minute sermon with three points and a conclusion.

But holiness tells you your heart is the house of God.

Are you meeting with the Master today? Did you greet Him, in your heart, with a holy kiss? Has the reservoir of your heart broken open with a flood of tears to wash His weary feet? Have you poured out the contents of your alabaster jar?

It's harder – we read today – to feel the magnitude of what has been done for us—what He does for us daily through the power of the atoning work...when we've grown up in the church...or, when we have been living a life in Christ for what now has become decades...or, when we come to know Christ in the innocence of a young age—and are blessed as the Scriptures say—to never have fallen away.

It's harder. But it's not impossible. Our Bibles tell us of another Pharisee who came to know Christ on the Road to Damascus. This respectable religious leader took the arm of true holiness and let her be his guide. The apostle Paul calls himself the chief of sinners.

Do you truly know, today, the cost of the oil in your alabaster jar? Have you come today to pour out your praises, your confessions? Do you know the cost of freedom from sin? Do you love much or do you love little? It's not about the quantity of sins forgiven. It's all about being painfully honest both to ourselves and to God. It's about being aware of our sinfulness. Look, right now, into your heart.

What is the condition of your heart? Has the Master brought a word of correction? More importantly, are you prepared to receive Christ's correcting word? What is Jesus saying to you?

Is he saying, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

Week after week will He continue to tap you on the shoulder...whispering...

"You and I have something to talk about..."

Worship

SEPTEMBER 2018

John 4:23 - "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."

Or do you hear Him saying, "Your sins are forgiven... Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Grace deserves our praise. It does so much for the recipient. Whether many sins or few...It canceled your debt! It saved you from bankruptcy of the soul—from hell—the debtor's prison of eternity!

Do you know the cost of the oil? Do you know the cost of worship? Do you know the cost of praise? Of confession of sin? Of genuine heartbroken repentance? Of humiliation before a sovereign God?

What is the attitude of your heart?

Did you bring your alabaster jar today? Did you come prepared to pour out your heart at the Master's feet? Do you remember the day Christ wrapped his loving arms around you...the warming of your soul when it was immersed in Grace? Do you recall the night you were freed from the debt you could not pay? Will you come to pour your praises, your confessions, your tears on the feet of the Master? Will you come in true humiliation before the throne of heaven?

Maybe you're not ready. Maybe you're still sitting at the head of your table. Maybe you have come today, thinking this was your dinner party – and Jesus was simply your invited guest. Maybe you're above the correcting words of Christ - the peasant preacher from Galilee. Maybe you're not on your knees yet...still too strong to be weak.

I hope we have taken a lesson from the sinful woman today. Looking neither left nor right, but concentrating on the condition of our own heart. Focused on nothing more than making it to the feet of the Master...I hope we approach the throne of Grace each week in worship – daily in our prayer closets—with the humility of the woman with the alabaster jar.

I hope we enter His presence with the very real sense that we do not belong there—except He bids us come....accepting our offering of worship and reverence...that we owed far more than we could ever pay and He paid it in full...Repentance and Grace walk hand in hand...

That the cost of the oil in the alabaster jar is nothing less than every bit of us...poured out...shaken till the very last drop falls out onto the feet of Him who loved us more than we can ever love Him back...who loved us even while we were still sinners...

Will you honor the Lord today? Will you come and worship the Savior of your soul—the one who canceled your debt?



Or, maybe today you are a soul who doesn't know His worth? Maybe like the rest of Simon's guests, you are saying to yourself,

"Who is this who even forgives sins!?" Let me introduce you to Jesus today.

There's no "right way" – come to Jesus, just as the woman did.

She didn't know that simple faith was all she needed. But Jesus took her gift and blessed it. "Your faith has saved you," He told her. Come to Christ today in the best way you know how—the most honest way. Jesus will defend you from the sneer of the Pharisees wherever they may be hiding! He will accept you! He is glad to cancel your debt for all eternity.

There is no amount of sin too great, or single sins too terrible that Grace cannot stamp the bill, "Paid in Full." His arms are stretched out to you this very minute; His embrace is Peace of heart and mind...the full assurance of faith...the fullness of Grace.

Take the time to pour out the contents of your alabaster jar...

Listen if the Master has something to say to you. He's talking to you Simon...through His Word, His ministry, His providence....calling you to a renewed humility...a fresh faith...love unconditional...calling you to a new passion for the lost that He loves... begging you to leave respectability behind...to embrace holiness in all her beauty...

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Pray for our shut-ins, send a card, make a phone call, pay a visit (call first), pick up groceries / medicines. Addresses and phone numbers are in the church directory

Wilma Davidson
Julie Lindsey
Gerry Gladfelter
Rita Brewer

Carol Sarver
Russ Hearton
Wanda Buttrey

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Sunday: 8:15 Contemporary Worship
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Traditional Worship
6:30 Against the Flow Youth
6:30 Evening Worship Service
Wednesday: 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer for Adults /
Pioneer Clubs / Against the Flow Youth

Rev. Steve Warner
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jon Barrett
Assistant Pastor



New Sunday School classes beginning Sunday,
September 2
9:30 a.m.

There's a Class Available For YOU!!

Classes for all ages: nursery, 2/3 year olds, 4/5 year olds, K-grade 1, grades 2-3, grades 4-5, Jr. High, Sr. High and 5 choices for adults including men's class, ladies' class, young adults class, book of the Bible and Discovering Church Membership



Tuesday, September 4
2:00 – 7:30

Schedule your appointment now-- at redcrossblood.org/account-login and enter: Grace Baptist Church York. Snacks, giveaways and door

prizes for everyone will be available and for first time donors, a free pizza party will be held at a later date.



Sunday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m.
Not just for members!



Sunday, September 16
6:30 p.m.

Contact Pastor Steve if desiring to be baptized



5th Annual Gala Set For September 15, 2018

Many of us have been fortunate enough to attend proms, homecomings and other special events. We've experienced what it's like to be asked out in our finest clothes and treated like someone special. That experience is no longer a dream for our special friends at Jessica & Friends Community.

The night begins with a grand arrival complete with a commemorative photo taken in a vintage Corvette arriving at the doorway to the Wyndham Garden Grand Ballroom doors. Each special guest is introduced as they make their way across the red carpet to the applause and cheering of the entire ballroom. Words cannot describe the joy and beaming smiles as they have their special moment walking the red carpet like the shining stars they are. This magical night includes dinner and dancing.

For sponsorship information, please contact Desiree Irvin at 717-747-9000 or desireeirvin@jandfcommunity.org.

Jessica & Friends Community is here for adult individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families when help is needed most. Meet a few of GBC individuals and their family:

Steven and Ellen Hartman needed a family who would love them unconditionally and the Hartman's feeling called to



adopt children seemed like a perfect match made from Heaven. Steven came from a group home in New Jersey for special needs children. When Joan and Walter

first met Steven, they noticed his ankles bent from being in a crib for long periods with no headroom. Steven was two years old at the time, and had difficulty walking and showing affection.

Ellen was born in December of 1974. She had several health issues including a hole in her heart. After being in the hospital for several weeks, Joan and Walter were able to bring Ellen home just before Christmas. Doctors did not have a positive outlook on Ellen's future and advised the Hartman's to take Ellen home, make her comfortable and wait for her to die. Determined to have a second opinion, the Hartman's took

Ellen to another doctor and got the help their daughter needed. Ellen's spirit and will to live is as strong today as when she was a baby.

As Joan and Walter grew older, they recognized Steven and Ellen needed a place to live where they could be independent and in a faith-based setting for adults with intellectual disabilities. Jessica & Friends Community was the answer to their prayers.

Today, Ellen lives in our Sarah Kathryn Home, and Steven lives in our Tri-Hill home. Both love their homes, their staff, and their housemates. You will find Ellen baking brownies with her staff and enjoying her independence. Steven works part-time at Jessica & Friends Community providing housekeeping services to the Support Center and celebrated his one-year service award this past fall. Steven is very social and engaging with staff. He enjoys earning money and spending some of it on nice clothes. He is an avid York Revolution fan and you can find him in the stands at home games.

Joan passed away, but was able to see both Ellen and Steven flourishing as adults. Walter is thankful to have Steven and Ellen at Jessica & Friends Community, which gives him peace of mind for the future of his children. Both Steven and Ellen have an active schedule with their housemates. Weekly they see their family at church and get together afterwards for lunch. If you ask Steven and Ellen, they will tell you that they love being a part of Jessica & Friends Community and would not want to live anywhere else.

~ www.jandfcommunity.org/

THE SIGN OF HIS COMING UNDERSTANDING THE OLIVET DISCOURSE

Conference presented by Friends of Israel

Jesus' disciples were as anxious as we are today to know the timing of His return as King. "Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?'"

In Matthew 24—25, Jesus delivered the well-known, but often misunderstood, Olivet Discourse to help ease the fear that this world will never know peace. Join us as we open the Scriptures and examine what Christ told His disciples regarding the future and the direction in which the world is moving.

SEPTEMBER 7-11
Eden Resort & Suites
222 Eden Rd
Lancaster, PA 17601

See Church Library Board for Schedule or
www.foi.org/event/national-prophecy-conference-lancaster-pennsylvania

GREAT SERVICE RACE -

Taking Jesus to Our Neighbors

Saturday, October 20

Race - 9:00 - Noon

Lunch & Prizes - Noon – 1:00

*follow clues to various locations and perform an act of service at each location

*each act of service will be entered into the prize drawings to be held from Noon – 1:00.

*for a chance to win the Spirit Prize, Name your Team, show your spirit and participate in photo challenges at each location!

All ages and ability levels welcomed and encouraged to participate!

We can all serve and show the love of Jesus!

Note: locations and service assignments will be based on ages and abilities of each group's members
Register your team of 4-6 for \$25!

(Each participant will be asked to bring a \$1 item.
Details upon registration.)

Registration closes Sunday, September 30
Contact Jayne Warner



Scooter's End-of-the-Year Party at the Park



Submitted by Pammie Landis

NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Sunday, September 9

Remember your grandparents on their special day!

Grandparents, let us pray that:

Our grandchildren look to the cross of Christ for forgiveness (Colossians 1:13-14).

God provides protection and shelter for each of our grandchildren (Psalm 5:11).

Our grandchildren fix their eyes on things above, not on earthly things. (Colossians 3:2).

We take advantage of every opportunity to give a blessing to our grandchildren (Number 6:24-26).

Our grandchildren will have tender hearts toward the hurting people of the world (Ephesians 4:32).

Do you know your grandchildren's interests, strengths and talents? Take the time this week to ask questions and to get to know your grandchild so you can affirm his strengths. Help him picture a bright future using his God-given gifts. Pray with your grandchild about his future.

Human Life Services Annual Fundraising Banquet

Friday, October 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

(doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

Wyndham Garden Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn)
2000 Loucks Road, York, near West Manchester Mall



Speaker:
Mr. Thomas A. Glessner, J.D.

The evening will be topped off with a compelling message from Thomas A. Glessner, founder and President of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA). NIFLA is a public interest law firm founded in 1993 to support and protect life-affirming pregnancy centers. As an affiliate of NIFLA for over a decade, Human Life Services has benefitted from a wealth of information and support.

Contact Valerie at (717) 854-7615, ext. 29 or valeriew@humanlifeservices.org.



