

Upcoming Events

Plan Congregational Meeting: Financial Report
Mid-course Review: Saturday Meeting 2021
Panera Bread Open Bible Study:
New location: see church website

Helping Those in Need

“Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.” Sally Koch

“Always have a willing hand to help someone, you might be the only one that does.” Roy T. Bennett

“You can have everything you want in life if you just help enough people get what they want in life.” Zig Ziglar

September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes 11 Marie Burruss 15 Marcos Perales
16 Jim Burruss 24 Mason Perales
30 Dortha Gentry 30 Kurt Hoffman

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
(Vacant)

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When In Need

By David A. Sargent

Recently Fresno (CA) police officers went to the home of Mayra Varela in search of her brother, Gerardo Varela, who was a suspect in a robbery committed the previous night. Gerardo was in the home and tried to elude the police by setting fire to his sister's home. Gerardo was apprehended, but the house was lost. That left Mayra and her three-year-old child homeless.

Sgt. Stacie Szatmari was one of the police officers who responded to the call. The plight of Mayra and her daughter touched her heart. She resolved to try to help the small family. Szatmari reached out to the police chaplaincy to get the family a room for the night. She also contacted the Red Cross to secure more long term housing. Szatmari also collected toiletries, clothes, and shoes for the family and delivered the supplies to the family last week.

“It was like Christmas Day,” Valera told KFSN-TV, an ABC affiliate. “She was bringing Christmas gifts. Some stranger just said, ‘Here's everything you need for your family now.’”

When asked why she helped the Varela family, Szatmari responded, “That's the way I was raised. If someone is in need, I need to help out.”

When we were in dire need, Someone came to our rescue. Our greatest need is salvation from sin. Our sin puts us on the path to eternal destruction in the fires of hell (Matthew 7:13-14). But despite the fact that our sins are a direct affront to the God who created us, God loves us so much that He made provision for our salvation from sin. He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to our

rescue. Jesus had to give His life to pay the price of redemption for our sins. He died for us so that we can be saved from sin and receive the gift of eternal life. *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace”* (Ephesians 1:7).

God will save and give eternal life to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

When “our house was burning to the ground,” God sent Jesus to save us. Jesus *“gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.”* (Galatians 1:4 NIV).

When We’re in Over Our Head

By Johnny Hester

“Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, ‘Father, “into Your hands I commit My spirit.” “Having said this, He breathed His last.” (Luke 23:44-46).

“He breathed His last.” Those words cause one’s heart to sink. When Jesus exhaled for a final time on the cross, all the minions of Hell may well have thought that the battle was over and that victory belonged to Satan their evil commander. But how wrong they were! And how horrified they must have been just a short time later! Yes, Jesus suffered and died. He was buried. But then *“He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures”* (1 Corinthians 15:4)! Furthermore, *“He [The Father] has put all things under His feet”* (v. 27)! Think for a moment about the wonderful implications of that truth that should compel us to praise, worship and live for God.

“He has put all things under His feet” (v. 27). Do we ever feel that we are in way over our head with problems? That may be the case, but Jesus is over all things. He is in Heaven, interceding on your behalf! A glorious fact is powerfully declared in Romans 8:34, *“Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”* Where are our problems? “Under His feet”! Jesus is alive! He is in control! Jesus is coming again!

Beloved, is there someone in our life who is hurting, suffering, struggling? Let’s consider sending that person a note of encouragement and be sure to use Romans 8:34 as a closing verse of hope. Letting one know that Christ is alive, above, active and working on the behalf of His people can bring a comfort and strength that nothing else can produce.

Obstacles

By James C. Guy

In ancient times, a king had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the big stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. On approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

As the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many others never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve one's condition.