

THE LINK

LINKING GOD AND HIS PEOPLE, EACH TO THE OTHER,
TO CHRIST JESUS OUR SAVIOR AND LORD

Pastor's Notes

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!
3rd Friday of the Month
Thank You!

My precious sheep:

We have gone through another season of Lent (2018). Throughout this season I preached through the seven last words of Jesus spoken from the cross (abbreviated – The Seven Last Words). These were the last words Jesus spoke before He died – and He uttered them while hanging on the cross, while in excruciating pain, humiliated, and defeated. Other famous last words have been passed down to us in history. Most recently David Cassidy (of the Partridge Family) who passed away in late 2017 said before he died, “So much wasted time.”

Jesus Christ uttered seven sayings from the cross (seven being the number of perfection in the Bible) and these sayings provide us a window into His soul. His first saying from the cross was a prayer to God the Father and He prayed that His enemies might be forgiven for crucifying Him. In Luke 23:34 it reads, “Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” The accent here

falls on the word “what” and not “know.” Surely, they “knew” that they were crucifying Jesus of Nazareth; but they did not know “what” they were doing, that is, that they were crucifying the Lord of glory (1 Cor 2:8) – indeed, the great I AM (John 8:58)! Jesus taught to love our enemies (Matt 5:43-48) and He embodied that teaching on the cross. His second word from the cross was to the repentant thief (according to early church tradition his name was Dismas). This thief (unlike the unrepentant thief) showed true contrition for his sin and admitted that he deserved the penalty of death for his sin (Luke 23:41 – all of us sinners deserve death, Romans 6:23). Then he placed his faith and trust in Jesus and the Lord said to him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise” (Luke 23:43). This promise is true for every person who puts their faith and trust in Jesus, that is, when all believers die, we will immediately be with Jesus in paradise. The Greek word for paradise means “garden”; I imagine something like a Thomas Kinkade painting. Heaven is like a garden where you’ll be with Jesus, the most loving person in existence. Now that reward is worth giving Him your all in this life! His third saying on the cross was a word to His mother Mary where He entrusted her into the care of the Beloved Disciple (probably John the Apostle). Jesus said, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother” (John 19:26-27). Even while hanging on the cross, Jesus did not neglect the duties of a son to His aging parent, and showed that He obeyed the fourth commandment to honor your parents (Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16).

The fourth word that Jesus uttered from the cross was the central word and the most solemn. He spoke it after three hours of darkness. The darkness represented the separation that occurred between God the Father and Jesus His Son. Because in that moment on the cross Jesus became sin (2 Cor 5:21) and a curse (Gal 3:13) for us God had to turn His back on Jesus and so for the first and only time in all of eternity God the Father broke fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, Jesus said, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matt 27:46; Mark 15:34). Please understand. When Jesus said, “Why have you forsaken Me?” it was not simply because He *felt* forsaken; He said it because He *was* forsaken. Literally, truly and actually God the Father abandoned His one and only Son for those three hours. This is the depth that Jesus suffered on the cross (and the Father suffered too) because of His great love for us. The fifth saying on the cross was, “I am thirsty” (John 19:28). This has a two-fold meaning, I believe. First, it refers to the fact that Jesus was literally thirsty. He was severely dehydrated on the cross and thus He wanted a drink of water. However, I believe there’s a deeper meaning and that after being separated from God the Father for those three long hours Jesus was spiritually thirsty and He longed to return to fellowship with God. The sixth saying on the cross was a word of victory when Jesus said, “it is finished” (John 19:30). This statement was a summary of His whole ministry and work on the cross. This statement “it

is finished” is one word in the Greek (te-te-le-stai) and it means it was finished, is still finished, and always will be finished. And the seventh and final saying on the cross was a prayer of faith and trust to God the Father that He would receive Jesus’ Spirit into His arms after He breathed His last and died. Jesus said, “Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit” (Luke 23:46). Those same hands are waiting to embrace you someday when you die. When we were born, we were brought into this world through a physician’s hands; likewise, when we die (as Christians), we will be born into the next life through the Great Physician’s hands. Amen! And glory to God!

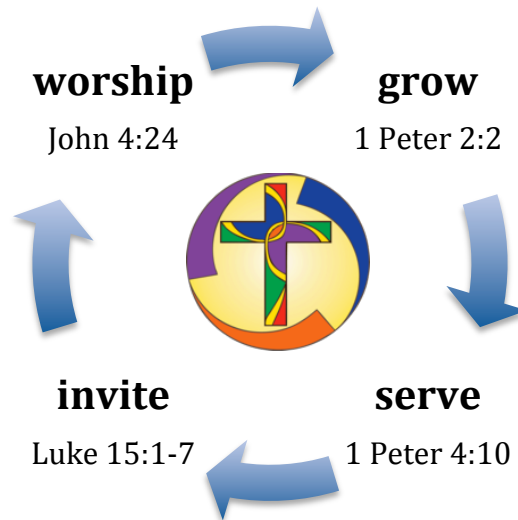
I encourage you to continue to study and reflect on these last words of Jesus. What will your last words be? For Jesus they were words of forgiveness; they were words of love and care for the repentant thief and His mother Mary; they were words that show us the depth of His sacrifice in being separated from God; they were words of a life and ministry lived well for God and a final prayer of trust that He would be received into God’s everlasting hands. May we be Christians who forgive and love and sacrifice and trust in our Heavenly Father (our Abba)!

Grace and peace,

Pastor James

CCC’s Mission:
**“Worshipping God, Growing spiritually,
Serving others, Inviting friends”**

CCC’s Vision:



Classes/groups this Spring:

Sunday (at 9:30am):

- Sunday school class on 1, 2, 3 John (Led by Richard Axmann) – room 10
- Youth Bible study on Ecclesiastes (Co-led by the Rogers & Moyles) – The Upper Room

Wednesday (at 10:00am & 7:00pm):

- 10:00am -Women’s Bible study on “Prayer” (Led by Pat Baker) – The Fellowship Hall
- 7:00pm -Bible study on Romans (Led by Pastor James) – church lobby
- Women’s Bible study on “Sermon on the Mount” (Led by Katie Carlson) – room 5

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Apr. 3rd Preeda Faulkner
 Apr. 5th Jessie Dubois
 Apr. 6th Tina Ramirez
 Apr. 7th Bailey Gerhardt
 Apr. 7th Stuart Simmons
 Apr. 8th Marte Hazelwood
 Apr. 8th Logan Day
 Apr. 9th Irene Helmke
 Apr. 9th Chad Robbs



Apr. 10th Bill Hazelwood
 Apr. 10th Erin Carnley
 Apr. 13th Evin Barlow
 Apr. 15th Isaiah Ramierz
 Apr. 19th April Ehrig



Apr. 20th Dana Herdt
 Apr. 21st Debbie Maryott
 Apr. 22nd Joe Stanley
 Apr. 23rd Lindsay Stitt
 Apr. 29th Derek Ingle
 Apr. 29th Rylan Earnhart

The Purple Robe

*The soft cloth hung alone on the old wooden cross,
 It's rich texture of fine linen
 gently flowing in the breeze;
 Speaking silently of the great sacrifice
 of God's only son...*

*The purple robe, once blood-stained, the crown of
 thorns, the nail-pierced hands,
 the spear thrust in his side...*

*They casted their lots for the garments
 of an innocent man, after they crucified him.
 He suffered and died, for you and for me,
 it was all part of God's plan.*

*May the Easter story touch your heart and soul;
 And may His death on the cross
 and the "Good news" of His resurrection,
 ...bring you an everlasting hope.*

written by, Dianne Ingle

Helping Hands

*The inner strength of life grows stronger
 When compassionate understanding is understood
 In contrast to the diminished person
 Whose interest have been narrowly centered*

*Everyone in time will have need for help
 Help is a well-considered aim
 A person who has given of himself
 Becomes a part of the greater whole*

*The affect to life is immeasurably enhanced
 The world is well aware of community unity
 For all we can muster will bring to life
 Is such a small part with what lies in store*

By Edward S. Murphy



**Vacation Bible School
 July 31 - Aug 3rd**

Worship, Bible study, Crafts
 Time: 9-11:30 am - It's FREE!
 See Katie or Jailyn for registration

Katie (626) 476-5544

Jailyn (801) 390-7814

News & Upcoming Events

E a s t e r L i l i e s

Marshall & Janice Applegate
 Hattie Arnold
 Pat Baker
 Jacob & Rebecah Bills
 James & Katie Carlson in memory of mom, Shirley Carlson
 Dave & Linda DeGroot in memory of their Parents
 Mel & Nancy Enders
 Pat Green in memory of husband, Thayne
 George & Dianne Ingle in memory of Parents
 Dorothy Kinsey in memory of Parents
 Randy & Chris Lanting in memory of dad, Andy
 John & Heidi Moulton in memory of Parents
 Sharon Rivera in memory of husband, Claude
 Chuck & Traudy Sandborn in memory of son, Rick
 Greta Stanley in memory of husband, Clyde
 Bill & Ruth Storing
 Brian & Beth Trevino in memory of grandma, Cleo
 Adam Zabel
 Jerry & Pat Zabel

**Lunch Bunch**

The Lunch Bunch will welcome Spring at the Star Cafe on April 8, 2018 after church. The address is: 1540 South State in Clearfield.

We will try to meet by 12:45 p.m.

Attention! All Parents and Caregivers!

We have a sign in table in the lobby. Please sign in your children before service, so they can go directly to Children's church after the Children's moment in service. We will also have parent contact info sheets for you to fill out for each one of your children. Please fill one out when you sign in your child. Thank you for your help in this matter.

CM Intern Jailyn Smith 801/390-7814

BABY SHOWER: Martha Circle is having their annual Baby Shower on April 20th for the Pregnancy Care Center. There will be a box at church starting Feb 25th for donated items. We request the items be new. If the items are "store bought" please leave the price tag attached or the receipt/list of prices with the items. If they are hand made attach a slip indicating the estimated cost of the items. We are obligated to report the amount donated. This has always been very well received and we hope you are as generous again this year. **Please have your items to the church no later than April 16th.** If you have any questions call Dorothy Kinsey 801/544-7112 Thank you in advance.

Ministry News

CCC's Mission:

"Worshipping God, Growing spiritually, Serving others, Inviting friends"

Rocky Mountain Care Center Ministry

Please Come join us every Friday at 10:30 AM for a half hour of song and a message from the speaker that day with patients.

April 6th – Ken Mikaelson, April 13th – Alice Cipilonni

April 20th – Ken Mikaelson, April 27th – Mike Mann,

Any questions you may contact Wilma Bowen 801-825-6820 or Dennis Richards 801/825-3471.

***CCC Worship at Legacy of Ogden is every other Sunday at 2:00 PM.**

5526 S. 500 E., Ogden.

***CCC Worship at Rocky Mountain Care Center is every Friday at 10:30 AM.**

1481 E. 1450 S. Clearfield.

Mission Project 2018 Fish "N Loaves "Food Tower"

Thank you for your donations to build our "Food Tower"! And for donating to our Boy Scout troop, it all went to the Fish 'N Loaves Program. Dianne Ingle, Kathy Russell and Sarah Voigt



The Wednesday Women Bible study will begin a new 7 week study on "Prayer" starting April 4th 2018. We meet at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks, Pat Baker 801/825-4187

MARTHA CIRCLE:

Martha Circle meeting and potluck is on **April 20th 2018 at 11:30 in His Gathering Place.** We always have a great time and have a wonderful bunch of ladies that attend. All ladies of the church or friends or first timers are always welcome to join us. We have a short meeting along with devotions, wonderful food and socializing. Don't worry if you don't cook – something "store bought" is perfectly acceptable. Please come join in!! (Regular meetings will be on the 3rd Friday of each month at 11:30.) Hope to see you there. Questions call Dorothy Kinsey 801/544-7112.

GUEST WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Wi Fi: CCCGuest Password: Churchonfire