



# THE LINK

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

## PASTOR'S NOTES

PASTOR JAMES W. CARLSON

My precious sheep:

In this month's issue of the Link, I want to look at one verse from the Bible. It's important. It shows us how hostile our sinful nature is. It shows us that the Christian walk is a battle. Let me begin by asking you: What sin or sins do you struggle with? What are the strongholds in your life? We could begin with what we call addictions: alcohol, drugs, food, pornography, gambling. But there are other sins (some that are hidden) that are just as enslaving: anger, resentment, gossip, a critical tongue, complaining, envy, greed, deceitfulness, lying. Have you been in bondage to one or more of these for years? Or perhaps some other sin not listed here? Are you battling such today? Or have you waived the white flag of surrender? Have you accepted the fact that you'll never change? There's a saying, "A leopard can't change its spots." My problem with this saying is that we're not leopards! We're children of God indwelt by the Holy Spirit! I want to encourage you to keep battling the strongholds of sin in your life, and I pray this article will give you renewed strength and hope that you can grow in holiness. The Scripture I want to look at is 1 Peter 2:11. It says: "Beloved, I urge you, as sojourners and exiles, to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul."

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### THE MISSION OF CCC:

"WORSHIPING GOD, GROWING,  
SPIRITUALLY, SERVING OTHERS,  
INVITING FRIENDS"

**\*\*The Church is open for Worship Service**  
on Sunday Morning at 11 AM .  
Also please check out our Facebook page to  
watch the worship service live  
11 AM on Sunday.

### GUEST WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Login: CCCGuest

Password: ChurchonFire

CONT'D...

First, notice the Apostle Peter informs us we're at war. That's strong language! Do you know your enemy? To win a war one must know their enemy and have a strategy. What are your strongholds of sin in life? Great victories were won in history by generals who had great strategies, like Alexander the Great and Napoleon. What is your strategy?

Second, Peter says it's the "passions of the flesh" which wage war against our soul. Passions are the strong desires we have to sin. The flesh is our sinful nature. Spiritually speaking, we are dead to our old sinful nature. Yet, somehow and in some way, the flesh still lingers. And it has passions. How can we win the battle against these according to this verse?

There are two things that stand out. Peter begins by calling us what? Beloved! As Christians, we are beloved by God.

Know that you are loved by God. This is the foundation. We love God then because He loves us. Do you believe this?

Do you REALLY believe this? It can change everything for you. Brennan Manning, a famous Christian author and speaker used to say this: "I am now utterly convinced that on Judgment Day the Lord Jesus will ask one question and only one question, Did you believe that I loved you?"

The other thing Peter states is that, as Christians, we are "sojourners" and "exiles." This shows that this world is not our home. The word exile means, "one who lives in a place that is not their true home." Imagine living as a refugee.

That's the idea. Peter has mentioned this already two other times in 1 Peter (1:1 and 1:17). It was important to him. How important is it to you?



*"The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?*

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1*



What is your retirement plan? Is it age 65 on earth? Or at death in heaven? Philippians 3:20 says, "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." As sojourners and exiles, we should show some detachment from the world. We don't watch all the same movies that the world does or listen to the same music. We don't have the same goals and desires. How are you living different than your unbelieving neighbors? Would anyone notice the difference? The Christian saying is true that we are in the world but not of the world.

I am writing this on Memorial Day weekend. This is where we remember and honor those who have died in American wars so that we can live with freedom and peace. This is external freedom and peace. To live with internal freedom and peace will take us winning the war against the passions of our flesh. This will take sacrifice. It will take dying to ourselves. The world is out for our soul. Let them not have it!

It's too valuable. I want to leave you with these words from Jesus, "What does it profit for someone to gain the whole world, but lose their own soul?" (Mark 8:36)

Grace and Peace, Pastor James

## Body and Soul

To live body and soul seeks nourishment  
For which this beautiful world amply provides  
Nature tells us a story and we are to listen  
Living in harmony rests with vigilant awareness  
In finding our way through this haze of opportunity  
The excitement of an unfolding mystery is captivating  
Foraging the past for ways found acceptable  
Always looking forward with greater understanding  
But occasionally pausing to celebrate this time of life  
With an intrepid soul holding the body in tow  
For what lies in store for those who wait  
From innocence of youth to the wisdom of old age  
Is for the conscious a most consuming task  
To enlighten this magnificent story of life  
For which much more remains untold

By Edward S. Murphy

## THE GLORY OF GOD

HAVE YOU EVER BEHELD GOD'S GLORY?

-A SPECTACULAR SUNRISE, CHASING AWAY THE NIGHT;  
DECORATED IN AMBER AND GOLDEN SPLENDOR,  
SPLASHED ACROSS THE SKY WITH IT'S RADIANT LIGHT...

-OR THE JOY OF A NEWBORN BABY,

AS HE TAKES HIS FIRST BREATH  
AND THE MIRACLE OF HIS DESPERATE CRY...

PRAISE THE LORD,

THE UNIVERSE REVEALS THE GLORY OF GOD,

AND DECLARES THE WORK OF HIS HAND.

FROM THE BEAUTY OF HIS SPIRIT AND FROM

THE DUST OF THE EARTH, HE MADE MAN.

-OH, WHAT A WONDROUS DAY,

WHEN THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR

GREETES US AT HEAVEN'S GATE IN A BRIGHT AND DAZZLING LIGHT!

THE ANGELS WILL SHOUT WITH JOY, AS WE SOAR TO GREAT HEIGHTS,

-ON THAT GLORIOUS DAY OF EVERLASTING LIFE...

WRITTEN BY, DIANNE INGLE





# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## BIRTHDAYS

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- June 6th: Savannah Birr
- June 7th: Kathy King
- June 9th: Linda DeGroot
- June 10th: Jake Umbriaco
- June 10th: Marge Roberts
- June 12th: Dennis Branham
- June 14th: June DeCaria
- June 18th: Barbara Tucker
- June 21st: Sandy Wood
- June 28th: Mary Jo Elwell
- June 29th: Bob Brandler
- June 29th: Richard Loomis
- June 29th: Chuck Sanborn
- June 30th: Colin Warnshuis
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## CLASSES & STUDIES

### Classes/Groups for Spring:

#### SMALL GROUPS - in person & online

- 1) A Women's group led by Leslie Kielkowski - will start a new Study on 2 Corinthians "**All Things New**" on Tuesday at 7pm.  
All are welcome!
- 2) A men's group led by Chris Morin, "**1-2 Peter, Jude**" on Thursdays at 7pm.
- 3) A study through the book of **Galatians** on Wednesday's at 7pm.  
A group for everyone led by Pastor James (jamescarlsonsr@gmail.com).  
***\*This class is facilitated via the church's Facebook Page.***

#### Directions:

When you sign up to be part of a group, you will email the group leader. Then, they will send you an email inviting you to join their small group. This email will include a link that you press on and, voila- you can join. It will ask you to run the program on your computer, and after a couple clicks, you'll be in the chat room. If you have questions about how to use this, contact your group leader or Pastor James (626-476-5543) or the church office (801-825-1115).

# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## MINISTRY NEWS

- Rocky Mountain Care Center Ministry

Good News! ... Praise God Rocky Mt Care Center Worship

Starts up again on Friday June 4th 2021 - 10:30 AM - Masks are required.

Rocky Mt. Care will do a quick Covid-19 nasal swab when entering and signing in.

Questions – please contact Dennis or Eileen Richards 801/825-3471

June 4th - Pastor James Carlson, June 11th - Dennis Richards,

June 18th - Pat Baker, June 25th - Alice Cipollini

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: CLEARFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH (CCC) IS SEEKING TO HIRE A WORSHIP LEADER. INTERESTED CANDIDATES ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT CCC BY PHONE (801-825-1115).**

**A COPY OF THE POSITION DESCRIPTION CAN BE PROVIDED BY EMAIL ADDRESS UPON REQUEST.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR GOD TO SEND US THE RIGHT WORKER TO SERVE AS OUR NEXT WORSHIP LEADER. "ASK THE LORD OF THE HARVEST, THEREFORE, TO SEND OUT WORKERS INTO HIS HARVEST FIELD." (MATT 10:38)**

**THERE WILL BE A VBS MEETING RIGHT AFTER CHURCH IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL ON JUNE 6TH. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

**OUTREACH CAR WASH COMING IN JULY  
WATCH FOR DETAILS AND HOW YOU CAN HELP!**

**THE OUTREACH TEAM IS CONTINUING THEIR PROJECT. WE ARE COLLECTING ITEMS TO HELP PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY. WE ARE PROVIDING A LIST OF ITEMS WE NEED. WE WILL ALSO ACCEPT MONETARY DONATIONS. THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP. FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE WE ARE COLLECTING SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, BODY WASH, SOCKS, FLOSS, DIAPERS, DEODORANT, AND TOILET PAPER**

# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## PRAYER CONCERNS

May 2021

Ronald Branham, Kevin Branham, Sue Carlson, Kaylin Terry, Kathy Knighton, Eric Palmer, Lynn McCarthy, Pat Call, Linda Manning, Jamie Richards, Stuart Simmons, Jean Varner, Bob Roberts, Mike Mann, Matt Tobey, Travis Jeffery, Mark MacDonald, Edith Aleman, Barrett Wellington, Ervin Herdt, Bill & Marte Hazelwood, Evie Guzman, Dennis & Naomi DeGroot, Marilyn Simon, Jessica Woeppel, Susan Woeppel, Angelika Bertrand, Traudy Sanborn, Jean Moneymaker, Jane Kelting, Tonya Brandler, Audrey Otrumbar, Marci Woeppel, Bob Schellhase, Pat Zabel, Joe Umbriaco, Jackie Ross, Wilma Bowen, Andrew Milito

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thess 5:16-18

**WE STARTED A PRAYER MEETING ON SUNDAY MORNING AT THE CHURCH (9AM - ROOM #10). WE FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING THREE PRAYER REQUESTS. WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU FOCUS ON THESE PRAYER REQUESTS EACH WEEK THROUGHOUT THIS MONTH OF MAY DURING YOUR OWN PRAYER TIME.**

- 1) PRAY THAT WE WOULD ALL CRAVE GOD'S WORD LIKE NEWBORN BABIES CRAVE THEIR MOTHER'S MILK IN ORDER TO GROW SPIRITUALLY (1 PET 2:2)**
- 2) PRAY THAT GOD WOULD SEND WORKERS (MATT 9:38)**
- 3) PRAY THAT WE WOULD ALL BE THANKFUL AND NOT COMPLAIN (COL 3:15; 4:2; PHIL 2:14-15)**

