

2023
SET YOUR HEARTS ON THINGS ABOVE

The Promise of Hope

A Presentation to the _____ at the Temple
(Luke 2:22-24)

- Jesus was born under the _____ Law.
- Jesus was _____ to the details of the Law.

A Promise Made is _____ (Luke 2:25-35)

- Simeon was _____ and _____ (vs. 25)
- Simeon was told he would not die until he had _____ the _____. (vs. 26)

What _____ is This?

- Jesus is the _____ of Israel (vs. 32)
- Jesus is _____ of the world (vs. 32)
 - *He met the _____ woman at the well. (Jn. 4:1-42)
 - *He met a Roman _____ (Matt. 8:5-10)
 - *He met a Syrophoenician _____ (Mk. 7:24-30)
- Jesus is a savior for _____ people everywhere!

Jesus is the _____ of the Human Race
(vs. 34-36)

- The thoughts of many hearts will be _____.
- With Jesus, there is no _____!
- The way one responds to Jesus determines where _____ will be spent!

Jesus Was Born to _____ (vs. 35)

- Jesus was a _____ of great evil.
- Jesus was arrested and crucified and died for the _____ of the world.
- As the mother of God's Son, it was both a great _____ and a great _____.
- When Mary watched her Son die, a sword _____ her soul.

Jesus Was Born to _____ the World. (1Jn. 4:14)

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SCHEDULE

Sunday	
Bible Classes for all ages	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Bible Classes for all ages	6:30 p.m.

ELDERS AND STAFF

Elders		Deacons	
Eric Bliss	(805) 757-6338	Bob Murray	(805) 717-9150
Dale Donaghe	(805) 315-4847		
<i>The Elders meet on Sunday evenings before services</i>			
Minister: Roy Senior		Secretary: Shelli Donald	
Phone: 805-680-3787		Phone: 805-588-9887	
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OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Bible Hour Shawn Johnson

ELDER for Dec.	Dale Donaghe
LADIES COMMITTEE for Dec.	Ethel Johnson



DECEMBER 17TH, 2023

Order Of Worship

Song Leader: Ryan Bliss
Welcome.....Dale Donaghe
48 Anywhere With Jesus 29 All To Jesus I Surrender
Prayer.....Buzz House
129 Each Step I Take
Lord's Supper.....Mike Cottam
859 He Paid A Debt
Offering.....Bob Murray
376 Joy To The World
Scripture Reading.....Jerry Hopkins
Morning Service....."The Promise of Hope".....with Roy Senior
763 Why Keep Jesus Waiting 755 When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder
Closing Prayer.....Bob Donald
Potluck Directly After Morning Worship.....

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Dec. 10th	Morning Class @ 9:30 AM Worship @ 10:30 AM Potluck Directly Following Morning Worship
20th	Evening Service @ 6:30 PM
21st	Elias Hernandez & Holly Lueck's birthday
23rd	Men's Breakfast @ Tom's @ 8:30 AM Bridge House Meal Outreach

MONTHLY POTLUCK

Our monthly potluck is today following morning services. If you have any questions, please see Ethel Johnson. A short devo will directly follow the potluck and conclude our worship for the day.

BRIDGE HOUSE SIGN UPS

There are sign up sheets in the foyer for the meal that is to be served this Saturday, Dec. 23rd. Please take a minute & see how you can help.



THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Don't let people pull you into their storm.
Pull them into your peace.

SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
~ Ephesians 4:2-3

PRAYER IS IMPORTANT

- Laura Crownover's** brother **Joe** passed away Tuesday evening. He had been struggling with several health issues as of late. Please keep **Laura, Ruthie & Linda** in your prayers.
- Janice Weidman's** brother-in-law **Joe** passed away last week after a battle with cancer. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Please keep **Buzz House** in your prayers. He has suffered a stroke in his eye & will need further procedures to deal with the affects. Prayers for both he & **David** as they continue to look after one another.
- Mike Darnton** asked for prayers for his niece **Kennedie**. She is having some serious health issues & is need of prayers. He also asked for prayers for a friend of his boyfriend **Josh**. He has been diagnosed with sorosis of the liver. He is relatively young for such a serious diagnosis. Please keep him in your prayers also.
- Continued prayers for **Alora Cottam**. She continues to struggle with the loss of her son **Rick**.
- Continued prayers for **Pat Bliss**. Her surgery was postponed until this Tuesday the 19th of this month. Please keep her & the extended family in your prayers.
- Ann Thompson** coveted prayers for her son & his family as they traveled back home from Kentucky to Washington.
- Prayers of thanksgiving that **Debbie Nelson** is back with us in California & that her trip was without obstacles of weather. It is great to have her here again!
- Please keep those who will be traveling for the holidays: i.e. the **Hopkins, Loretta Bower, Laura Crownover & Dave Gastellum** among others.
- Continued prayers for the **church building & the work on the roof** that it will go smoothly.

ENCOURAGING WORDS

Thank God for Life's Challenges!

You can call them whatever you want, but they are part of our lives and the life of the church. Some view them as grave problems. Others see them as insurmountable obstacles, certain defeats, or reasons to give up, but when viewed through the eyes of faith they are simply challenges on the road to heaven.

Thank God for challenges because they teach us to rely on Him. We all have "insurmountable obstacles" in our lives from time to time. We never want them, but they are simply part of life. The truth is that such trials force us to admit our weakness and turn to God. Perhaps Paul said it best, "That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Cor. 12:10). That last phrase sums it up best—when I am weak, then I am strong.

Thank God for challenges for they strengthen our souls. The strongest oak is not the one which is nurtured in a greenhouse environment, but one that grows in the open where it battles against the storms around it. The same is true of Christians and the "storms" in their lives. Here is the way God describes trials, "The testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." (James 1:3-4). The way to full maturity (perfection and completion) is to travel the road of adversity.

Thank God for challenges because they give us a sense of certain victory. We may not win every individual skirmish, but the bottom line is that we are winning. Each of us has come a long way in our walk with the Lord and though it has at times been trying, we are better people now than we were before. This is because we are overcoming our encounters with adversity. Look back at your life. You are winning! There are challenges ahead, but you have been winning and with God's help you will achieve victory! Now think about the challenges around us and how God is working through us to become victorious. Our finest days and greatest victories lie before us!