



We love sharing the truth of God's Word!

March 28, 2021

Summit
Church of Christ

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2021 VISION
"SEEK THE LORD"



*Christ Came, Died, was Buried,
Resurrected, & will Return*
Sunday 10am Bible Study
Sunday 11am Worship
Sun. 6pm Zoom Bible Study
Wed. 7pm Zoom Bible Study

Elders:

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Brad Herald - Finance
Chris Guin - Missions
Gideon Devadason - Care &
Encouragement
Jeff Carnes - Facilities & VC
Jeff Schaefer - Facilities
Jimmy Hutchings - Safety Coordinator
Jim Painter - Fellowship
Kevin Doerr - Visual Communication
Neville Buchanan - Administration
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Office Hours at Building:

Mon-Thurs: 9-1:30pm
Friday: 9-12pm

WONDERFULLY MADE

*I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.*

Psalms 139:14

There is a habit that my family loves to tease me about. When it comes to furniture, quality is at the top of my list. The way I gauge the quality of a piece of furniture is by opening a drawer and pushing on the bottom. If it is flimsy, I know the overall quality is lacking. If it is firm, I have confidence that the quality is good. Furniture with solid drawer bottoms lasts a long time.

When it comes to making people, God is the master craftsman. He not only uses the best materials with the finest workmanship, but he custom designs each one of us for unique purposes; and, he gives both an eternal guarantee and a lifetime service plan. We were made to be thoroughly used in God's eternal plan to redeem all of mankind. We are not museum pieces, but useful masterpieces of everyday life.

Only two things can go wrong with us:

1. We doubt how unique and wonderful we are because of societies hang ups about what is beautiful and precious. So, we don't live out our purpose.
2. We discard the purpose God designed us for in order to follow a path of ease and self-fulfillment.

You are God's wonderful creation, made to reflect his love into a dark world. Embrace your gifts and purpose, and your life will be more than you can imagine or plan!

Tom, for the Elders





From Neville's Desk...

FIVE FRIENDSHIP FEATURES

"Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend" Exo.33:11. Can you imagine having God as a friend? It is interesting, however, that a friend is qualified as someone who speaks "face to face" with you. The pandemic has made this challenging, but thanks to technology, not impossible.

So, here are my top five tips for friendship:

1. Reliable, loyal, trustworthy, & honest.
2. Not coveting as competitors but cheering each other on

by being kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving (Eph.4:32).

3. Low-maintenance – that is, not negative but fun to be around.

4. Non-judgmental and accepting.

5. A good listener with whom you can "let your guard down".

Also, consider the following from the book of Proverbs (ESV): 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity; 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother; 27:17 Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Friend, if you want to have a good friend, you must be a good friend. Are you a good friend to God the Son who has called you His friend (John 15:15)?

OUR PASSOVER

Robert Murphy

At my college (Hebrew Union), all the rabbinical students have been growing more stressed as the Passover holiday approaches. While the graduate students get a break for a week, the rabbinical students will be fully engaged with their synagogues by giving sermons and leading Passover *seder*s. While most Christians do not celebrate Passover (or any other Jewish holidays), I believe that it is a holiday worth reflecting on in our own tradition. There are two spiritual aspects of the Passover in Exodus 12 that can help us understand our own atonement and freedom from sin.

The first aspect is the Passover sacrifice and the ritual of the blood on the doorposts. God commanded Moses and the Israelites to put blood on the doorposts in order that the Angel of Darkness might pass over their firstborn. This ritual, like that of Zipporah casting the

foreskin of her son on Moses' feet (Exodus 4:24–26), was meant to ward off evil spirits. This protection came at a cost, and, in this case, the cost was the life of an unblemished lamb. Today, we recognize that our unblemished lamb is Jesus. His blood saves us and protects us from the evil one. As we drink his blood every Sunday, it is worthwhile to meditate on how putting his blood inside of us guards our hearts from Satan and his schemes.

The second aspect is how the Passover led to freedom. While the Egyptians were grieving over the death of their firstborn children, the Israelites were freed from their bondage at Passover. They crossed through the Red Sea and were rid of Pharaoh and his oppression. They were now God's chosen and redeemed people. We also have passed through our own Red Sea at baptism (1 Cor. 10:1–2) and are now freed from a much more insidious type of oppression. Let us forever be thankful for our Savior and our Passover Lamb who takes away the sin of the whole world (John 1:29)!

IS COMPLAINING WORTH IT?

Chris Ellis

Last week was just one of those weeks. Every day was almost a 12-hour workday. One day I found myself leaving the office (yes, we have returned) around 8:30 pm. I got into my truck and followed the same path home I usually take. To get on the interstate from the office, one must navigate through a traffic light. I reached this light, only to be stopped by a red light. There were no cars in any direction, and I found myself complaining.

Why am I just sitting here? Do I run this light? Can it change to green already? Have you ever been in a situation such as this? The more and more I complained, I found myself getting angrier. Once the light was green, I put the pedal to the medal and was calm.

This occurrence got me thinking, why did I complain so much? Complaining is not healthy. We see that this was common to the Israelites in their journey through the wilderness. God was not pleased with their complaining. God is not happy about our complaining either. As Christians, complaining allows us to spread evil. It is the devil's way of luring us in.

In Philippians 2, ¹⁴ *Do all things without grumbling or disputing,* ¹⁵ *that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,*

Paul says we must do everything without grumbling. As hard as it may seem, it is possible with the grace of the Lord. When we realize this, there is no reason for us to complain. When his grace reaches us, we become more humble and thankful.

