

SERMON RECAP: "GRACE IN JUSTICE" – PSALM 35

The imprecatory psalms (like Psalm 35) are hard for us to understand. They are for us, however – not to be used for personal vengeance or offenses, but rather remind us that God will by His grace one day bring those who set themselves against Christ's kingdom and are unjust to account. We can pray these, but at the same time pray that God might save those who even do harm to His people – for Jesus Christ endured all of these curses, by grace, for us who deserved every one of them.

For reflection:

1. A hard Psalm to pray
 - a. Not only for David's time
 - b. No change from Old Testament to New Testament
2. The cry of the heart for the cause of Christ
 - a. Call for help (v. 1-10)
 - b. Cry of the soul (v. 11-18)
 - c. Call for justice (v. 19-28)
3. A prayer of David's Greater Son (John 15:23-25)
 - a. Curses He suffered
 - b. He is exalted
4. A prayer for us (John 15:18-21)
 - a. Christ will return
 - b. Justice is His to exercise
 - c. The Lord's Prayer

THIS WEEK

MAY 10TH – CELEBRATION FOR THE MINDEMANN'S:

Congratulations to Tim – he has just passed his final ordination exams! This Friday night, we're going to have an evening to thank Tim & Elizabeth Mindemann and celebrate Tim's years of ministry here as our Youth Director. As you know, Tim has received a call from a church in Tennessee and they will move to Elizabethton in early June. We have a fun evening planned to thank them, and to rejoice in what God has done through them.

The evening will start with an open reception starting at 6:30 PM, and then at 7:30 we'll have some special events lined up, and a time to share and give thanks for what the Mindemann's have meant to us.

There will be a basket available at the party if you would like to leave a card or gift. See you Friday!

YOUTH DIRECTOR CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET:

The pastoral staff and Youth Ministry team have found a man we believe God is calling to serve here as our next Youth Director! Daniel Kreider is completing a degree at Lancaster Bible College in Youth Ministry, has done an internship working with youth at Wheatland PCA, and has a very clear love for the Lord and for youth to know Christ and grow in Him. Daniel, and his fiancée, Brianne, will be here this Sunday to teach the youth Sunday School class and meet parents of youth from 10:00-10:30 in the youth room. If you are a parent of a child in our youth group, we would love for you to come and meet Daniel and Brianne this Sunday.

OTHER NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BEGINS MAY 19:

Have you ever wondered what our church believes? Has it been a while since you've thought about the Westminster Confession of Faith and how it applies to the life of our church? Do you need a refresher on the meaning of church membership? Would you like some thought-provoking discussion about how our ancient faith interacts with the digital age? Then join us for a new adult Sunday School class starting May 19 and going through the summer. The class will be taught by a variety of teachers and will meet in room 211.

HELPER NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S CLASS:

Children's Sunday School needs an assistant for the 2-3-year-old class. Please talk to Kathy Pickens or Len Brown if you are willing to help.

ENCOURAGE THE CHURCH WITH A TESTIMONY:

Elders say again and again that the best part of their calling is to hear how God has worked in people's lives. The different ways that He has done this simply bring joy and praise, and encouragement! But these stories should encourage all of us – and we have times in worship to do that. It might be how God brought you to faith in Christ, it might be something He has taught you, or something He has done in you to see the power of Christ at work! There's no such thing as "too small" or "too ordinary" – in fact, what He has done in you is probably an encouragement that others need to hear. If you have something to share, please contact Donna Shirk (donna.shirk@gmail.com, 717.333.2692).

FARM TO TABLE DINNER:

On Friday, May 17, 2019 Solid Rock Youth Ministries will be hosting a meal made from locally sourced produce and meats, live musical entrainment, and outdoor activities. Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 per couple. If you are interested call or e-mail Kris Kauffman at 717.278.6682 or leek@epix.net.

FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND:

Every August a group of families (mostly from Faith) drive up to Bethel, PA to spend a weekend of camping and fellowship at Camp Swatara. We reserve 10 campsites. In recent years the campsites have filled up quickly. Due to various reasons, we have open campsites this year. The cost is \$92 for Friday and Saturday night. Some choose to go up Thursday night as well. The dates this year are August 16 to 18. The campground and area offer too many activities to list here. Check out their website or see Jen Denning with any questions. You can also email Jen at JDenning@ddenning.com.

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:

Summer camps are coming up soon and Faith Church will pay half of the total fee, up to \$150 per camper (children of church members 17 & under) to attend an overnight Christian camp. Parents should fill out and mail the camp registration forms with the required registration fee included, then sign up on the camp list for church support (at Welcome Center). Please list the child's name, parent's phone number, and the dates the child will attend camp. Sign up for scholarships ends on May 31st. Please contact Chris Coomes with any questions at 717.786.0928.

WOMENS' EVENT ON JUNE 1:

For all the women of Faith Church – we have Chuck and Barbara, one of our missionaries (we cannot publish their last name or location for security reasons) coming to visit the first weekend in June. Barbara will be here the morning of Saturday, June 1st for a Women's Coffee to talk about her work. Part of the work has helped impoverished women create a business to sell handbags and other crafts – we'll also have a Bazaar where you can shop these lovely works of art! More details to come, but please mark that Saturday morning on your calendars!

CHILDREN WORKERS – DARKNESS TO LIGHT TRAINING:

We are committed to ensure the safety of all children here at Faith Church. Both church policy and Pennsylvania state law require anyone working with kids in any way to have up-to-date clearances. The Session has asked Paige Britton to work through the list of those who need to update clearances, and to contact and help everyone as needed.

Part of the certification is for all children's helpers to be trained on protecting children in "Darkness to Light". Heidi Scott is approved by that organization to teach this. She will lead a training session here at the church on Wednesday, June 5 from 7-9 pm. If you hear from Paige that you need this training, or if you think you might help with kids in the future (even serve in the nursery on occasion), please plan on attending. You are welcome to come for a refresher as well! (You can take this online, but Heidi does it much better!)

NOMINATIONS FOR PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE OPENING SOON:

We will elect our Pastor Search Committee at the annual congregation meeting to review the budget in June. Nominations will be open beginning Sunday, May 26th and will close on Sunday, June 9th. Of course, those who serve on the search committee will do a very important task in finding a candidate for the next Senior Pastor of Faith Church. It is a job that will require a large time commitment in compiling information about the church, identifying qualities we are looking for in a senior pastor, receiving and reviewing applications, interviewing candidates, and spending a large amount of time personally and as a team in prayer. Those serving should expect this process to take at least a year, if not longer.

Please begin praying now of whom God would lead you to nominate to the search committee. Also pray and consider if He might have you serve! Our church by-laws require that the committee contains 2 elders. The Session has also determined that 1 Deacon should serve, plus 4 women and 2 additional men (not elders or deacons) selected, along with 3 alternates (who can be either men or women). All those nominated must be members in good standing. Nomination forms will be in the lobby beginning May 26th and must be signed and turned into the church office no later than midnight, June 9.