



*devotional*

# EASTER

HE WAS SENT · HE DIED · HE ROSE

# WEEKEND REFLECTION

*March 20-21, 2021*

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I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

— GALATIANS 4:1-7

Jesus was sent. God designed history for the exact moment to send Jesus to redeem the world. The timing of the coming of Jesus was intentional in every way. Are you waiting on God for His perfect timing in your life? Are you certain of your adoption into His family?

—REFLECTION



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- 11:00 KidzPointe Worship (K-Grade 5)

## **CrossPointe Campus**

- 10:00 Connect Groups (Birth - Grade 5)

## **Union Hall Campus**

- 10:00 Connect Groups (Birth - Grade 5)



# SUNDAYS



*Monday, March 22, 2021*

JOHN 17:1-4

**J**esus was God and man in one person, that God and man might be happy together again. — George Whitefield

*When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.*

—JOHN 17:1-4

Have you ever been asked to get something for someone else but have arrived at your destination and forgotten what you were supposed to get? Of course you have. This has happened to all of us. We simply forgot what we were sent to do.

This was never the case with Jesus. It is incredible to think about the love of God in sending His own Son. Jesus was sent to accomplish what we could not. How quickly would you have failed if God sent you to be the savior of the world? A week, a day, an hour, maybe even a few seconds? This is what makes the mission of Christ so incredible — that He came and failure was never an option. Jesus would not fail His mission.

The good news is Jesus' mission was to

save broken people like us, people who fail regularly. The Father's perfect plan was fulfilled in the perfect Son. He brought us to the Father. He holds us in His hands. We are His.

Do you ever feel like you fail God? We all do. We all fall short of where we need to be, but Jesus never does. Jesus always fulfills His mission. Be-

loved, have you stumbled? Get up! Trust in God's sovereign work and take comfort in Christ's finished work!

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## PRAY

Lord, thank You for being sent to save lost people like me. I am so glad that You died for my sins so I can become a child of God.



*Tuesday, March 23, 2021*  
PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

**H**umility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less. — C.S. Lewis

*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

—PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

Have you ever been really embarrassed in front of others? It really brings to light how imperfect we are. This text tells us that Jesus emptied Himself. In other words, Jesus humbled Himself and lived like a common person. The God-Man who holds the whole world in His hands, lived like us. It goes further and says that He took the role of a servant. Jesus did not come in splendor and in high esteem, He came lowly and commonly. This is why so many people did not see Him as the Savior. He did not look the part.

It is hard sometimes to not attempt to exalt ourselves. Whether we want to admit it or not, we sometimes try to live in a way to impress others. If anyone should have flaunted how incredible they were, it

should have been Jesus. Instead, He lived to serve those who would send Him to the cross. This is the point of humility. It is not about putting yourself down, but it is about helping to lift others up. Jesus showed us how to think of others and live a humble life that glorifies God.

Do you struggle with humility?

Maybe your struggle is thinking too highly of yourself, while thinking less of others. On the other hand, you may think so low of yourself that you miss that you are special to God. Wherever you are, strive to follow the example of Jesus.

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## PRAY

God, help me to be more like Christ in His humility. Help me to think about myself less and seek to live for You. Thank You for sending Jesus and showing me how to live for You.



*Wednesday, March 24, 2021*  
GENESIS 22:5-8

**I**f Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him. — Charles Studd

*Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.*

—GENESIS 22:5-8

What is the hardest thing you have ever done in your life? Getting through tough times is always difficult, but we learn so much from them. I think what Abraham was faced with in being asked by God to give up Isaac is the hardest thing any parent would ever go through. Isaac was his only son, and God asked him to take the boy's life. Look at Abraham's response when Isaac asked where the sacrifice was, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." Little did Abraham know that God would provide a sacrifice. God would give up His only Son's life for the sins of the world. Jesus was sent as a sacrifice for all of us. His blood would atone for our sins. This should make it so much easier for us to trust God,

knowing that God was willing to send His Son because He loved us. Do you have the faith that Abraham did, that God will provide for you in the hardest moments of your life? When life gets difficult just look to the cross. Also, allow this truth to propel you to sacrifice your life for God and give Him whatever He asks of you.

What are you struggling with today? Do you find anything for which it is tough to trust God? God loves you so much. He wants you to cast your cares on Him. He loved you enough to provide a sacrifice. He gave His Son so you can be with Him forever.

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for providing the sacrifice. Thank You for sending Your son to die for me. Help me to also give You my life as a sacrifice to use as You will.



*Thursday, March 25, 2021*

2 SAMUEL 7:11b-14

**D**eath may be the king of terrors ... but Jesus is the King of Kings. — D.L. Moody

*Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,*

—2 SAMUEL 7:11b-14

It's easy to blame the government when things go wrong. Sometimes it is the government's fault, and sometimes things just happen. It can be hard to live under the rule of imperfect people. Even the best leader is still subject to the effects of sin.

Jesus, however, is different. He is not bound by sin. God promised David that Jesus would rule forever as a perfect king. This rule is something we should all look forward to. No more elections. No more division. Jesus will rule perfectly over the entire world. What makes this truth even greater is that Jesus is in control even now. Though there is much wrong in our world, Jesus is still in charge. It does not matter who is in office, Jesus is still King. Jesus did not come to take sides; He came to take

over. How does that transform the way you think about today's culture? Jesus is in charge and we can rest in that truth. Jesus was sent to be the perfect King. The great thing about following a perfect king is that you can't complain about perfection.

How does knowing that Jesus is in charge change the way you think about politics, culture, or your own life? Jesus wants you

to rest in His perfect reign today. Jesus was sent to be the King that God has always wanted for us, a King that points us to worship and serve Him.

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for sending the Perfect King. No matter what happens in this world, we can rest assured that Jesus is in control. Thank You, Jesus, for being my Perfect King.



*Friday, March 26, 2021*

HEBREWS 4:14-16

**J**esus was the temple to end all temples, the sacrifice to end all sacrifices and the priest to end all priests. — Tim Keller

*Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

—HEBREWS 4:14-16

Have you ever thought about who you would put as a reference on a job application? You normally try to pick people who will give a good recommendation for you. It would not make sense to use someone as a reference who is not very fond of you.

In the same way, we would want our advocate to God to be for us. This is the kind of advocate that Jesus is. Jesus serves as our priest. Jesus is a priest who truly understands the struggles of being human. Jesus was tempted the same way we are, but He was sinless. This should give us such great hope when we go through various trials and temptations. Jesus gets you right where you are. No matter what you are going through, and the trials in your life, Jesus understands. This passage should

give us confidence when we approach God. We know that we are approaching God with an advocate who is for us, and we can experience the true love of God.

How does it feel to know that Jesus gets you right where you are? No matter what is going on, Jesus serves as our advocate and priest. Because Jesus took

the punishment we deserved on the cross, we can approach God in Christ's perfection.

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for sending Your Son to be the Perfect Savior. I know that I can come to You because Jesus is the Perfect Priest that died for my sins.

# WEEKEND REFLECTION

*March 27-28, 2021*

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And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

— MATTHEW 27:50-54

Let the curtain be a reminder of several truths: how you cannot enter into the presence of God because of your sinful condition, how Jesus opened the way for you to be in the presence of God, and the fact that Jesus promises to be your anchor during the storms of life.

—REFLECTION



# 4 WAYS TO GIVE



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*Monday, March 29, 2021*

HEBREWS 10:19-23

**W**hen Jesus died on the cross the veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom so big sinners like me might fit through. — Charles Spurgeon

*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.*

—HEBREWS 10:19-23

Have you ever been locked out of somewhere? Maybe it was your car, house, or a business. When a door is locked there is not much you can do at that point aside from getting help or breaking the door down. Well, Jesus did both when He died on the cross. His death achieved what could not be done on our own. He tore down the door that kept us apart from God. When the veil was torn, it provided us with direct access to God. Sin separated us from being in the presence of a Holy God, but now that we have had the veil torn, we can run to God. We can go to Him unashamedly. The beauty of it all is that we can go before God pure and holy. It is not

because of what we did. It is not because we are so worthy. It is not because we make great choices. It is all due to God's unimaginable and unfailing love. To have a God who would love us enough to let His only Son die for our sins is incredible. When we reflect on this kind of love, we should not only desire to come to God but run to His arms with joy.

Do you run into the presence of God? Is your relationship with God one of formality or family? God is our Father, and he wants His children to draw near to Him. There is no reason other than our own choices or shame that we should not come to God every day and enjoy Him.

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for making a way for the veil to be torn. I am so glad that I can approach Your presence as a forgiven and cleansed child of God.



*Tuesday, March 30, 2021*

ISAIAH 53:3-5

**T**he word “iniquity” is not a good word—and God knows how we hate it! But the consequences of iniquity cannot be escaped. – A.W. Tozer

*He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.*

—ISAIAH 53:3-5

There is no worse feeling than being really sick, except for one — seeing someone we truly love having to endure sickness and suffering. Sickness and death are terrible parts of living in a fallen world. Jesus is seen as the suffering servant in Isaiah 53. He is referred to as a man of sorrows. He bore our griefs. Jesus laid them all upon Himself.

What is so interesting is that the text tells us that by His wounds we are healed. The world *healed* has a range of meanings. It is true that sometimes God does physically heal people. There are countless accounts around the world of incredible healings that could only be explained by God. Though this healing is great and encourag-

ing, there is a deeper healing we all need. It is the healing of death that is brought on by sin. The sin of this world brought a curse that only Jesus could fix. Jesus' wounds heal us and give eternal life.

What unfathomable love. Our Savior endured being despised, rejected, afflicted, and pierced for our healing! Jesus took all of

our sin and misery, and all that Jesus has comes to us. He bore it all to bring "us peace" with God. Rejoice! How good is our God!

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for making a way for the veil to be torn. I am so glad that I can approach Your presence as a forgiven and cleansed child of God.



*Wednesday, March 31, 2021*

JOHN 3:16-17

**H**e died for you as certainly as if you had been the only lost one. He knows the worst about you and is the One who loves you the most. — A.W. Tozer

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

—JOHN 3:16-17

How often do you use the word love? It seems like in our culture today we use that word about everything. I love this show. I love this actor or actress. I love this sports team. What do we really mean when we say that we love something? The Bible tells us that the crucifixion was surrounded by love. God’s love of His creation was intertwined with His answer to our sin. This should make us pause. God gave up His only Son for our sins. We are at fault. We are guilty. We are broken, but God loves us. God loves you. Let that sink in for a moment. The God of the universe loves you. He loves you right where you are. He loves you in the good times and

He loves you in the bad. God loves you. There is such hope in that. Jesus did not come to condemn the world but save it. This salvation was not designed as a free pass to heaven. Jesus died so you could be free from the bondage of sin and have a personal relationship with the God of the universe and love Him forever.

How does God's love affect you today? Do you need to be reminded that God loves you? It is so easy to forget how much God loves us. Our sin separates us from Him, and God takes sin seriously. He takes it so seriously that He had His Son die on a cross to remove it from His creation.

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## PRAY

Thank You, God, for loving me. Help me to love You more and more every day. Lord, I want to grow deeper in Your love as I learn to love others the way You would have me to.



*Thursday, April 1, 2021*

EXODUS 12:12-13

**B**e assured there is no sin you have ever committed that the blood of Jesus cannot cleanse. — Billy Graham

*For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.*

—EXODUS 12:12-13

Do you decorate your house for Christmas? Maybe you have a big Christmas tree in the window or a giant inflatable Santa Claus. One common Christmas décor item is a wreath on your door. This symbolizes that you are a family that celebrates Christmas. In our passage, the Israelites decorated with the blood of a lamb. This was not to look cute, but it was there to spare the wrath of God that was coming. God was going to kill those in Egypt whose homes were not covered by the blood of the lamb. The New Testament picks up on this same imagery about the death of Jesus. He is seen as the slain lamb who would save people from the wrath of God. The wrath that everyone deserved was upon Jesus. Jesus atoned for our sins through His death

on the cross. However, notice a particularly important point. The blood had to be on the door post. It was not enough to just kill the animal — the blood had to be applied. Jesus died sufficiently for the sins of the world, but only where the blood is applied will it spare us from the wrath of God.

Have you made Jesus your Sav-

ior and Lord? Do you know that you are saved by the blood of the lamb? Just understanding that Jesus died for your sins is not enough. You must put your faith and trust in Jesus. You must know that only Jesus can save you.

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## PRAY

Thank You for dying for my sins. I know that I am a sinner and I need the blood of the slain lamb on the door post of my life.



*Friday, April 2, 2021*

JOHN 2:18-22

**T**he resurrection was God the Father's way of authenticating all of the truths that were declared by Jesus. — R.C. Sproul

*So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.*

—JOHN 2:18-22

There is an old phrase, "the proof is in the pudding." Maybe you have heard it before. It really means the proof is the outcome. People can say whatever they want, but results are the true sign of what someone can really do.

Jesus made some extraordinary claims in His life. It would have been hard to believe that Jesus could take away sin because everyone saw Him as a man like anyone else. The Jewish people knew that only God could forgive sin. When Jesus forgave sins, He claimed to be God. So many of the miracles that Jesus did were not to show off but affirm His divinity. It was the message of the kingdom. Jesus was the promised Messiah; He was the

God-Man. There have been a lot of religious leaders in the past who made extraordinary claims. There are religions and faiths today that still practice these teachings. There is one thing that puts Jesus above all others and there is one thing that affirms this truth. Jesus is alive. When Jesus died, He took the punishment for our sins. When Jesus rose, He gave us a way to

be free from them.

Reflect on the importance of the resurrection leading into Easter this week. Think about how incredible it is that Jesus is alive. Jesus became the Savior of the world. How will you tell someone about the good news that Jesus is alive this week?

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## PRAY

Thank You, Lord, for sending Your Son. Thank You for dwelling among us. Thank You for being such a great God. Help me to tell others about You.

# WEEKEND REFLECTION

*April 3-4, 2021*

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Just a few days after the resurrection one of Jesus's followers, Thomas, doubted. And we doubt, too. Yet the resurrection proves that God's love for us is stronger than our doubts or experiences. Even when the doubts of Thomas grew from a broken heart, Jesus confronted him with gentleness and patience.

—REFLECTION

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

— JOHN 20:24-29





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*Monday, April 5, 2021*

ROMANS 8:10-11

*But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*

—ROMANS 8:10-11

**F**ollowing Jesus involves losing your life and finding new life in Him. — David Platt

The smell of a new car is a very distinctive smell. It just brings instant satisfaction. When you know that this car is your new car you feel like you are on top of the world. The problem is that six months later the car is no longer new, and the payments are no longer fun or exciting.

This is not the way new life in Christ is. It does not get old. It does not have an expiration on it. Though we sometimes forget how incredible the gift of salvation is, it is just as fresh and new as it was when we first received it.

We must remember we were once dead in our sins. Yet as a Christian we are alive in

Christ. Jesus' death and resurrection changes our lives and our eternity. We have a promise from the living God that our death will be swallowed up in victory! The good news of the Gospel is that we can know that death has no hold on us.

Jesus Christ rose from the dead not just to show us His power but also to reveal our path. How

can you pray for someone in your life who is struggling right now and could use a reminder of this truth?

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## PRAY

Thank You, Lord, for giving me life. I am so thankful that the curse of death has no hold on me. I know that I have eternal life because my life belongs to You.



*Tuesday, April 6, 2021*

JOHN 14:15-18

**T**he Holy Spirit is the bond by which Christ effectually unites us to himself. — John Calvin

*“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*

—JOHN 14:15-18

Have you ever just needed a friend? Maybe you had a hard day or heard some bad news. It is good to have someone to comfort us when life gets tough. Jesus knew that we needed Him with us. This life can be difficult. This is why the Holy Spirit came and dwells inside of believers. The Holy Spirit is referred to as The Helper. Jesus told His disciples that the Spirit would be in them. This is so great to understand that God dwells in us. When you feel alone, God is there. When life gets hard, God is there. When you do not know which way to turn, God is there. God is there in the good times and the bad.

The Holy Spirit enters our life when we confess our faith in Christ. From that point forward, we have access to the very power and personality of God. The Holy Spirit who was active in the disciples' lives is the same Spirit active in our lives. With the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we begin to think like God thinks, love like God loves, and see like God sees. We can min-

ister in power and walk in power.

What actions can you take to increase your awareness of the workings of the Holy Spirit in your life?

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## PRAY

Lord, thank You for loving me and sending the Helper. I know that when life grows challenging, You are right there with me.



*Wednesday, April 7, 2021*

ACTS 26:22-23

**T**he gospel will never find its final destination until it is shared with every person on the planet. — O.S. Hawkins

*To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”*

—ACTS 26:22-23

Have you ever been the middleman in relaying a message? It is hard to communicate one on one, and it becomes far more difficult when communication goes through multiple people. The message of the Christian faith is one that was communicated directly by God through the writers of Scripture. It is a message that is consistent and has no errors. Paul is expressing in this text that he is simply repeating what has already been said. The message of Jesus was not an invention. It had been talked about all through Scripture. The issue is never the messenger, but the hearer. So many people do not want to hear the truth of the Gospel. God’s message is the greatest news to the world, but many people do not want to hear the message.

Therefore, we must strive to tell others about Jesus. We must invite others to come and hear the truth of the Gospel. This is the best message that could ever be told. We are to deny ourselves and tell others to do the same and follow Jesus.

To whom do you need to tell the Gospel? Who do you know that is currently resisting the Gospel

message in their own lives? This is what we are called to do as Christians. Declaring the truth that Jesus is alive is not always easy, but it is totally worth it.

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## PRAY

Lord, help me to declare the Gospel boldly. Help me to remember that this is not an idea I made up, but it is Your truth. Help prepare people's hearts to hear this message.



*Thursday, April 8, 2021*

ROMANS 6:8-11

**I** am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through Jesus Christ I'm more loved and accepted than I dared hope. —  
Alistair Begg

*Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

—ROMANS 6:8-11

Have you ever tried to be someone you are not? Maybe it was to impress someone or get a chance at a job. Maybe you just desired to keep peace. It is exhausting trying to be someone else. In our Christian lives we do this all the time. We allow our flesh to take control of our lives and dictate our choices. The problem is that our old self is dead. We allow our dead flesh to take control of our life. The Gospel came to give us victory over sin. It came to help us not stay bound by who we used to be. Jesus died for our sins. This was more than a pardon; it was a path to victory. The Christian life should be a life of deliverance and freedom. We should strive to avoid making sin a regular part of our

lives. The world needs to see that there is a way to escape the bonds that have a hold on their lives. No one wants to follow a Savior who simply lets them stay where they are. People want freedom from their sins, and the Gospel is the only answer to their problem.

Do you need victory in your life? Are there any areas of sin

that seem to control you? Remember that the Gospel gives you victory. There is no sin that God cannot help you overcome. You cannot do it alone — you must rely on Jesus. He wants you to be victorious.

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## PRAY

Lord, thank You for loving me and making a way for me to be victorious over sin. I am so glad that sin does not have a hold on my life. Help me to live for You.



*Friday, April 9, 2021*

ACTS 1:9-11

**T**he first time Christ came to slay sin in men. The second time he will come to slay men in sin. — A.W. Pink

*And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."*

—ACTS 1:9-11

How often do you hear about the end of the world? It seems that people in our society think about this a lot. The truth is that the world will come to an end. One day Jesus will return. It was promised at His resurrection that He would come back as He left. Jesus will return on the clouds. There is good news and bad news surrounding this. The good news is that those who are in Christ will be transformed and called up with Christ and will get to be a part of His kingdom forever. The bad news is that there will also be judgement for those who did not choose to submit to Him. The details of Christ's return are not fully known. We can only discuss and try to understand the incredible event, but we do know that Jesus is coming back. This is the crucial

message of Easter. Jesus is going to return; the question is are you going to be ready when he does. If Jesus came back right now, would you be ready to meet Him? There is no more crucial question than this to answer in your life today.

Have you made Jesus your Lord and Savior? Have you heard the message that Jesus took your

sins on Himself and gave you His perfection? Do you know where you will spend eternity? If you don't, today is the day to repent and be saved. Jesus wants to save you.

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## PRAY

Lord, thank You for the amazing gift of salvation and the promise that You will return one day. I long for that return so that I can be with You forever.

# DESTINATION



UNEARTHING THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS  
JEREMIAH 29:13

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021  
THREE YEARS - GRADE 6  
JULY 18-22 ROCKY MOUNT CAMPUS  
6:00 - 8:30 PM





FRANKLIN COUNTY  
**DAY**  
OF KINDNESS  
5-1-21

**Every small act counts.**

When we simply show up and help who we can with what we have, amazing things can happen. Join us on May 1, 2021 in doing small acts of kindness to create significant change in Franklin County. Individuals, families, small groups, and businesses are challenged to serve those around them, to make a lasting impact on our community.

- Clean up litter from a road, park or other area.
- Plant a community garden.
- Visit a police station or fire department and give them a small gift or note of encouragement.
- Offer your special skill to someone for a month for free.
- Give away good things for free on social media.
- Mow someone's lawn or wash their car.
- Take a home-cooked meal or dessert to someone who is elderly, sick, or has just had a baby.
- Fix up something at someone's home. (broken porch step, fence in need of paint, etc)
- Make and give away dog treats.
- Make small gifts and deliver to workers at your favorite restaurant or business.
- Babysit for free.



**FRANKLIN  
HEIGHTS**  
CHURCH

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[www.franklinheights.org](http://www.franklinheights.org)