



## Problems, Problems, Problems

"The only survivor of a shipwreck washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him and every day, he scanned the horizon for help but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements and to store his few possessions. Then one day, after scavenging for food, he came home to find his little hut in flames, the smoke rolling up to the sky. The worst had happened; everything was lost. He was stung with grief and anger. 'God, how can you do this to me?' he cried. Early the next day, however, he was awakened by the sound of a ship that was approaching the island. It had come to rescue him. 'How did you know I was here?' asked the weary man of his rescuers. 'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied." (Tim Shen)

I have to admit, I cringe when people blame God for their problems. Who are we, as a small and sinful people, to point the finger at God and condemn Him for our problems? The reason I like the above illustration is that it shows that sometimes positive things come from trials. We are all wearing blinders that make it hard to see past our immediate situations. All we see are the problems happening right here and now. For this reason, it is so important that we keep our composure and work through the trials.

There is a much better way to view the problems we face. It is all about perspective. We need to look for the silver lining. The book of James speaks often about trials and suffering. Here are a few suggestions to view trials with a better attitude:

--Look at trials as a joy because they are ([James 1: 2](#)). Maybe we go through some of our problems because God sees us worthy enough for such a difficult trial.

--Look at trials as a test, because they are ([James 1:3](#)). Will we pass this test or will we get angry and blame God?

--Look at trials as a way to make you better and stronger for the future ([1 James 1 3- 40](#)). Take off the blinders and start looking for how God may use this in your future.

God never promised that this life will be problem free, even for the most faithful. He has promised an eternal reward in heaven for those who remain faithful through this life ([Revelation 2:10](#)). So, the next time a trial comes your way, how will you react?

Brett Petrillo

## Services

Sunday Morning Class  
9:30a

Worship: 10: 30a  
(Also live-streamed)

**No Sunday Evening  
Service**

Wednesday Bible Study  
7p

### Preacher

Michael Gors

### Elders

Michael Gors

Gary Reynolds

Todd Stults

### Deacons

Don Allison  
Fellowship

Jim Clark  
Visitation

Lowell Huffman  
Media

### Those Whom

### We Support

MSOP

Cannon Taylor

INDIA

Bible Correspondence  
Course/ Bibles

## *Leaders in Worship*

*April 11, 2021*

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements: Todd Stults

Song Leader: Don Allison

Opening Prayer: Jim Clark

Scripture: Steve Gors , *Matt. 11: 1-6*

Lord's Table: Rex Harper

Sermon: Mike Gors ,  
*"Are You the One?"*

Closing Prayer: Jay Kellow

Sound Room: Jacob Clark

### *Wednesday Bible Study, April 14th*

Song Leader: Case Reynolds

Devo: Gary Reynolds

Prayer: Don Allison

### When One Fails

Failure! What a haunting word. None which no one deliberately sets out to experience.

*"In the lexicon of youth, there is no such word as fail."*

But somewhere between youth and old age we discover not only the word but its full meaning. "How are the mighty fallen!"

Once there were twelve men: men picked by Jesus; men who heard Him speak; men who saw His miracles; men who knew He was the Christ; men who had a mission. And, with that mission, came duty. To fail in duty is unthinkable but it did happen, even in the inner circle of the disciples of Jesus. There, in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus told Peter, James and John, "Remain here and watch with Me". Later, he would say, "Watch and pray." The words were clear and the duty plain, "Watch and pray."

But, it is one thing to know your duty and another thing to do it. On this night, so long ago, the disciples failed. They went to sleep—sleeping sentries! One cannot watch or warn when, at his post of duty, he sleeps. It is always a very grave offence if a sentry be found sleeping at his post. Often, the penalty for that is death. What will Jesus do with these failures? Will he put them to death? Will He cast them off forever? Do they not deserve whatever their sentence may be? But Jesus responded this way: He says, "the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:41)

Never was there a kindlier allowance. Deserving death, the disciples receive understanding. What a Savior!

Larry Culbreath, Hope, AR

### **Remember Calls and Cards to Our Shut-ins**

**Anna Funk**--Morrison  
Woods

**Joyce Popplewell** - Herit-  
age in Yorktown

**Carl Gilstrap**--Albany  
Health Care

Health Care

**Howard Latta**--Elmcroft  
Assisted living

We are honored that you have chosen to spend the morning with us in worship of our Lord. We hope you find us friendly and sincere in our wish to follow scripture and to profess the gospel of Christ. In order that we provide a safe place to assemble, we ask that you wear a mask and seat yourself a safe distance from those outside your family. Communion packets, contribution baskets and masks are placed at both the double doors . Thank you for protecting yourself and others while we are together. We invite you back again and look forward to getting to know you.

### ***"For behold...***

*...the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers have already appeared in the land; the time has arrived for pruning the vines, and the voice of the turtledove has been heard in our land. The fig tree has ripened its figs, and the vines in blossom have given forth their fragrance... "*

*Song of Solomon 2: 11-13*

## LOVING THOSE WITH WHOM WE DISAGREE

We must love those with whom we disagree. Jesus set the example when, from the cross, He prayed for His tormentors, saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Lk. 23:34). His life and ministry were characterized by both compassion and conflict. But, in His love for people, Jesus never sacrificed truth. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught us to love even our enemies (Mt. 5:44). Such love does not mean we will ignore sin or water down the truth. Scripture directs us to "Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints" (Jude 3). Salvation depends on doing the will of the Father (Mt. 7:21). Paul exhorted Timothy, saying, "Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you" (1 Tim. 4:16). The same apostle who wrote so much about unity in the body of Christ (Eph. 4:1-6; Col. 3:12-14; 1 Cor. 13:4-7; Heb. 13:1) also withstood Peter to his face when he and Barnabas got caught up in hypocrisy because they were afraid of Judaizing teachers (Gal. 2:11-14). On the other hand, Paul and Barnabas had a sharp disagreement about whether or not to take John Mark along with them on their second missionary journey (Acts 15:36-41). Although they agreed to disagree and parted company, there is no indication of ongoing bitterness or an unforgiving spirit (Col. 4:10; Phile. 24: 2; Tim. 4:11). We must not mistake confrontation of sin with an unloving disposition. In the body of Christ, we are to "speak the truth in love" (Eph. 4:15). There is no excuse for bitter, caustic language in dealing with sin and error. However, ignoring sin in a cloak of counterfeit love does not cover our responsibility nor is it truthful or loving. In most instances, confronting sin in a brother or sister in Christ can be done gently after introspection (Gal. 6:1). Other times, genuine love for God, the truth, and the body of Christ leads us to act decisively. Because of the leavening influence of sin in the body and because false teaching can spread like gangrene; sin and error must be quickly exposed to the light of truth (1 Cor. 5:6; 2 Tim. 2:17; Eph. 5:11-12). Loving those with whom we disagree involves standing for the truth in matters of faith and practicing forbearance in matters of opinion.--Elliott

Pat Ergle--April 14

Kara Latta--April 15

Sue Davis--April 20

Mallory Jaromin--April 20

Teresa Allison--April 21

Bill Smith--April 24

Brett Allison--April 29

HAPPY  
Birthday  
to You

## Please Pray for

**Alex Odle, Cancer**

**Angie Reed, MS**

**Jim & Kimi Nestle**, Thyroid cancer and heart issues

**Kathy Harper**, Respiratory issues

**Ken Heinen**, Sue's friend. Gravely ill and in hospice care

**Nellie Dunscomb**, Health issues

**Nick Hummel**, Cancer. Chemo ongoing

**Susan Cloninger**, Liver cancer. Much progress noted

**Mike Jackson**, Son of Sylvia Carroll. Blood disorder

**Tom Davis**, Lung cancer. Radiation treatment to commence in near future.

**Wanda Reed**

Today is the first day of the gospel meeting at Towne Acres Church of Christ. Speaker is Caleb Rutherford. Let us support our brethren at Towne Acres with our presence.

April 11-14. See flyer on board # 1

**"Oh, the comfort, the wondrous comfort of feeling safe with a person; having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words but to pour them all out, just as they are, chaff and grain together knowing that a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping and then, with the breath of kindness, blow the rest away."** G. Eliot

**"...confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."** James 5:16

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## In His Presence

Exodus 33:13-14

*"Now, therefore, I pray you, if I have found grace in Your sight, make me see now Your ways, that I may know You, that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people. And He said, "My presence shall go with you and I will give you rest."*

There is not a better place to be than "in His presence". It is a place of guidance and peace, a place of shelter and even revelation. For, in His presence, we are made humble and to know His will above our own.

In His presence, our relationship with Him is exposed. And we are not ashamed. Like Moses, we must prefer His presence to any other. For it is by His presence with us that we know that we have found favor with Him. As His people, we draw near to Him so that He may draw near to us, as we are told in James 4: 8.

One of our motives in being in His presence is so that we, through contact, may share Him with those who have yet to receive salvation. God is calling us to move past "principle-based" living to presence-based living. As such, we live in His presence for it is only when we bring God's presence into every encounter and situation in our lives that we see real transformation in us and others.

We have a mission as the church and individual Christians to help save mankind from satan's stronghold--sin We can only accomplish our mission in his presence. As His children, God knows us by name. Allow Him to be seen with you...everywhere.

There is no better place to be than to be in His presence.

Tim Luster, Tulsa OK

*And Jehovah said to Moses, "I will do this thing also that you have spoken. For you have found grace in My sight and I know you by name." Exodus 33: 17*

**"But now, says the Lord, your Creator and He who formed you...Do not fear for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name. You are Mine"**

**Isiah 43: 1**