

Note from Pastor Steve

We were able to meet together for our first time in over two months this last Sunday. It was good to see some of your faces and to be able to sing, share, and gather together. In the midst of gathering there has been a lot of things on our minds. We had protest in our city Sunday evening, concern for spreading a virus, and the heart breaking realization that we have lost two lovely ladies in the midst of our time apart.

I wondered Sunday what is the right words to speak during times like these. Many have turned to voice hollow words with no action. Others have spent their energy to condemn. I desire to do neither. Yes, there is much injustice around us. Yes, people have acted poorly. Nevertheless, I remember acting in the past in my ignorance and will do so again. It is God's place to judge. But what about the injustice? What do we do? Our words need to follow our actions not the other way around.

I asked a question Sunday. What will be our focus moving forward? I want us to pray for God's direction on this question. We need to act against the injustice of our world. Injustice that destroys the people of our communities lives. I have said it before and believe it still. We are here together for a reason. We need to start by seeking answers and directions is prayer.

Sunday—June 7, 2020 10 am

This Sunday we will be meeting together to worship in the Family Life Center. Here is a few things to remember as we gather again.

- We will be sitting at tables and some chairs.
(Social Distance for those we normally do not interact with out side of church)
- We encourage you to wear masks when inside of buildings to protect each other
 - We have one time uses masks available at the church
- If you are sick or have a fever stay at home
 - We will be taking temperatures
- Please do not hug or touch other people. Even if you are not concerned with your health being impacted the other person might be.
- Children need to stay with their parents. We will not be opening the Nursery or Children Service until we are a little more accustom to meeting together again.

The Never-forsaking God By Oswald Chambers

He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." —Hebrews 13:5

What line of thinking do my thoughts take? Do I turn to what God says or to my own fears? Am I simply repeating what God says, or am I learning to truly hear Him and then to respond after I have heard what He says? "For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:5-6).

"I will never leave you..." — not for any reason; not my sin, selfishness, stubbornness, nor waywardness. Have I really let God say to me that He will never leave me? If I have not truly heard this assurance of God, then let me listen again.

"I will never...forsake you." Sometimes it is not the difficulty of life but the drudgery of it that makes me think God will forsake me. When there is no major difficulty to overcome, no vision from God, nothing wonderful or beautiful— just the everyday activities of life— do I hear God's assurance even in these?

We have the idea that God is going to do some exceptional thing— that He is preparing and equipping us for some extraordinary work in the future. But as we grow in His grace we find that God is glorifying Himself here and now, at this very moment. If we have God's assurance behind us, the most amazing strength becomes ours, and we learn to sing, glorifying Him even in the ordinary days and ways of life.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.