

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

5.7.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

The Good Shepherd

John 10: 7 – 18

As Christians, we should know from experience that God cares for all our needs, and that he makes sure that our needs are met. God listens to our prayers, when we do so by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and if we call upon him in faith believing, we will receive his grace in our time of need. Christ who is our livelihood and support in every circumstance in our life, is also our provider, our peace, our strength, our righteousness, our reward, he is our shepherd. God, who is with us in both good times, and trials and tribulations, has promised never to leave us nor forsake us, but is our everlasting, eternal comforter.

Hebrews 13: 5,....for he hath said, I will never leave thee or forsake thee....

Deuteronomy 31: 6, 8,....fear not....for the Lord thy God....he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee....he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee....

The direction that we go in our life should always be one that is pleasing to our Lord. Inner contentment and peace play a crucial role in achieving our godly objective. If we will truly desire to willingly seek after the Lord, it is then that we will learn to be satisfied in every situation. Living comfortable in our life in Christ, will enable us to live a positive Christian life. We must learn to be content.

Philippians 4: 11 – 12,....for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content....

In Christ, there is spiritual contentment in every circumstance that we might find our self in. As we spiritually mature, we know that there is no greater contentment than abiding in Christ by submitting to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and putting our complete trust in God.

Colossians 3: 23 – 24,....and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men....for ye serve the Lord Christ....

As believers, we learn to deal with our responsibilities and duties, doing everything with our whole heart, and in a manner that is pleasing unto the Lord. Although our love in Christ Jesus should be the reason that we work whole heartedly for the Lord, he also gives us the blessing of an eternal reward.

John 10: 7 – 11,....then said Jesus....I am the door of the sheep....all that....cameare thieves and robbers....but the sheep did not hear them....I am the door....if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture....the thief cometh....to steal....to kill....to destroy....I am come....that they might have life....have it more abundantly....I am the good shepherd....giveth his life for his sheep....

Jesus is the means of entry into the family of God. Without Christ there is no hope of eternal life. This is because, like sheep, we are most helpless, spending our time seeking those things of the world, wandering from place to place, never looking up. For this reason, we often time become lost, we have no homing instinct, which means that we are incapable of finding our way into the fold, even though it has always been in plain sight. We are followers, easily susceptible to predators. Therefore, we should be totally committed unto the Lord, who is our shepherd, who cares for us with godly love and compassion. We are to follow after Christ, whom we know by his calling, therefore, we follow after his voice.

Christ came to this world at Gods appointed time, to save us, to protect us, and to expose those who are false, who try and scatter the body of Christ through deception and confusion. This means that we are not supposed to follow the voice of strangers, which are those who reject Christ because they do not belong to him.

John 14: 6,....Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me....

By, and through, the love of God, we have the ability to lay hold of, and believe upon, and act upon the significance of all that Christ is. In doing so, our troubled hearts can always be stilled, and our joy in the Lord would always remain full.

Everything that is not of Christ is a lie. It is a deception, a distortion of the truth, things that are just partly true. Without Christ we have no direction in our life, there is no way to live our life, and there is no way to face death. Christ is the way that leads us unto the Father. Christ is the truth that opens up our understanding to God. Christ is the source of all spiritual life and in him is eternal life for all those who believe and trust in him. Therefore, Christ is the way that we must follow, the truth that we must believe, and the life in whom we have our hope.

John 10: 12 – 15,....he that is an hireling....whose own the sheep are not....seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep....and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep....the hireling fleeth, because he....careth not for his sheep....I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep....as the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father, and I lay down my life for the sheep....

Christ is the eternal shepherd and those who do not profess Christ as the eternal shepherd are hirelings, false teachers and preachers who only seek personal wealth and gain, they do not seek salvation for others. False teachers, who have crept into the body of Christ, they are those who portray great faith, but yet they are faithless. God's word gives unto us many warnings concerning false prophets, those who manipulate, and lead people astray. Therefore, the more that we study, meditate, and know the truth of God's word the closer that we will become unto him. We must make the time to get to know the Lord.

Philippians 3: 10 – 11,....that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable to his death....if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead....

Christ was and is the perfect example of all that man should be, this is because of his obedience, through all that he suffered, while keeping the purpose and plan of his heavenly Father. Therefore, we must keep our eyes fixed firmly upon Christ, and trust in him as we submit to the leading, guiding, and correction of the Holy Spirit, so that we might be conformed into the image and likeness of him.

John 10: 16 – 18,....other sheep I have, which are not of this fold, them also I must bring....there shall be one fold, and one shepherd....therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again....no man taketh it from me....I lay it down of myself....I have power to take it again....

Christ offered salvation to the Jews first, and then extended that offer to the Gentiles. Those Gentile believers, and we as Gentile believers, are heirs and part of the body of Christ, sharing together in the promises of salvation, because all need to be brought into the fold.

Ephesians 3: 6,....that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel....

Members of the body of Christ, which is the church, will all equally enjoy the characteristics of God. There are no Christians that are greater than others, and there are none that are inferior to others, for we all are one in Christ Jesus. This is because of the cross of Christ, which broke down the wall of separation, through which came the gospel of Christ, which is:

1 Corinthians 1: 23 – 24,....unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness, but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God....

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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