



"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" - Hebrews 6:19

Welcome! We're glad you are here!

Sunday - July 2, 2023

"Receiving" Jesus?

by Troy Spradlin

It's Sunday morning. You rise up and put on the coffee. Grabbing the remote, you switch on the television. After you watch another encouraging episode of *Good News Today* (wink, wink), another program comes on shortly afterward. While you are getting dressed and brushing your teeth, you hear televangelist talking in an almost desperate tone. Music is playing softly in the background and the denominational preacher is pleading with those listening to him, "Receive Jesus! Receive Jesus into your heart all you who are burdened and heavy laden!" The televangelist pauses for a moment and lifts his head upward, "Come Spirit! Fill this room with your anointing!" The music swells and then lowers again. He then turns back to the audience and says, "Jesus is standing at the door! If you hear His voice and open the door, He will come in and will dine with you! Receive Jesus into your heart and you will be saved! Be forgiven! Do it today!"



Sound familiar? It's an all too common scene with those statements being made across the airwaves and in many churches in America today. The idea of receiving Jesus, and Him waiting at the door, is taken from a couple of passages: Mark 9:37 and Revelation 3:20. So, is it true? Is that what those passages teach? Well, let's be like the Bereans and "*search the Scriptures ... to see whether these things are so*" (Acts 17:11).

According to Mark 9:37, if you read just a few verses before and after the verse, (which is what you should do in order to learn the context), you will find that this is dealing with the disciples arguing about who would be the greatest among themselves in the kingdom. Jesus admonished them with a direct statement of, "*If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all*" (V35). He then uses an object lesson to help them see their misguided pride. He takes a small child into His arms and says, "*Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me.*" (V37)

The context of Mark 9:37 makes it pretty clear that this isn't about salvation (directly), it is teaching about submitting to Jesus as Lord and Master. It is about accepting Him and His teaching. His teaching (and the Apostles also) is that **we must come to Him** (Matt 11:28; Acts 3:19). It doesn't say anything about salvation coming by "just receiving Him into your heart." In fact, it doesn't say anything about the heart. Instead, there is something we must *DO* - be trusting and obedient like a little child (cf. Acts 2:37-41, 10:6).

Now, consider Revelation 3:20. Again, reading the verses before and after, we learn that the context is about Jesus speaking to a wayward congregation, Laodicea. They had become lackadaisical in their faith. Jesus even calls them "lukewarm" (V16). He then rebukes and chastens them, commanding them to repent (V19). This is followed with, "*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.*" The context proves that this has nothing to do with salvation of non-believers. **Jesus is talking to Christians who had become lazy and indifferent.** Their souls were in danger if they didn't get their hearts right with God. Jesus was waiting, but they had to repent.

In both cases, these verses do not support the idea of just accepting Jesus into your heart. The truth is, there are no verses that say or teach that. When it comes to salvation, Scripture clearly states that we are to hear (Rom. 10:17); believe (John 3:16) repent (Luke 13:3); confess (Rom. 10:9) and be baptized (Acts 2:38).

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www.margaretstreetchurchofchrist.org

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

YG BIRTHDAY NIGHT

Wed. July 5

5 pm in the FH



Parents Have to Live It

by Alan Smith

At one point during a game, the coach said to one of his young players, “Do you understand what cooperation is and what teamwork is all about?” The little boy nodded in the affirmative.

“Do you understand that what really matters is not whether we win or lose, but that we play together as a team?” The little boy nodded yes. “Good,” the coach continued. “And, when a strike is called, or you’re thrown out at first, you don’t argue, curse, attack the umpire with a bat, or throw dirt in the opposing team member’s faces. Do you understand all that?”

Again the little boy nodded, “Well, sure, coach. That’s what you taught us.”

“Good,” said the coach. “Now, please go over there and explain all that to your mother.”

I’ve been to a few Little League games when the above conversation needed to take place! It’s sad to see parents who act in an irresponsible manner because you know that they are teaching their children (and others’ children) to behave in a similar manner.

God has given those of us who are parents an awesome responsibility: not only to teach our children what is right, but to live in such a way that they can see that we are willing to practice what we’ve been teaching them to do.

Moses told the parents of Israel to take the laws which God had given them and “*teach them diligently to your children...*” (Deut. 6:7). But before telling parents to do that, he warned them, “*Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it...*” (Deut. 6:3).

Before we can teach a love of God and others to our children, it must be in our own hearts. May God bless those of you who are parents as you strive to do just that. May your life be so filled n , with a desire to follow God that your children will be open to hear all that you have to say to them.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Recent/Urgent Requests

- Patricia Ann* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Mike Brown* - stroke, recovery (former mem)
- Jack Davis* - pending health concerns
- Maelean Danley family - passing of Maelean
- Hatcher family* - loss of mom, Rachel Sullins
- Arva Fisher/family* - loss of brother, George
- Stefanie Jennings* - surgery, recovery
- Terry Jennings* - medical complication
- Linda Loftin* and family - loss of Jim*
- Wendy Mauell* - broken foot, recovery
- Donald McGriff* - health, prayers
- Scott Shanahan - loss of father, Kevin
- Vonada family - loss of Troy*
- Gloria Vonada* - foot surgery / recovery
- Jan Whitney* - heart procedure, recovery
- Dixie Gorham - hospital - heart failure
- Elsa Nunes* - loss of brother, Guegermo Deir

2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Brittany Parker* - Baptized
- Dawson Hitchcock* - Baptized
- Olivia Gingerich* - Baptized
- Lanie Scott* - Baptized
- Sharon Parker* - Baptized
- Terry & Judy Jennings* - Identified
- Josh & Stephanie Jennings* - Identified
- Laura Oliver* - Identified
- Jeremy & Amber Dunaway* - Identified

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Sherryn Canniff - homebound
- Josie Coons - hospice (McReynolds*)
- Donna Dudley - Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia* - Fort Walton Beach
- Betty Lee - homebound (D. Lee's mom*)
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Ina Ruth Miller*
- Ruth Phillips* - Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith (Jeanna's mom) - Shut In

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Sharon Ates - recovery (Gallagher*)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford*)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health
- Winston Burnham* - health
- Sherryn Canniff* - health, pain
- Janice Carter* - tests, waiting on results
- Robert Collins - foot problem (J.Pace cousin)
- Sherry Davis* - health
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Myrna Fuller* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Daphne Hamilton - surgeries, health
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Steve Hartzog - health issues (Alonna's friend)
- Barbara Helms* - health
- Chris Hollis - (McGriff)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Marcia Jones - (Kenya's* friend)
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Martin family* - moving, prayers
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Mary McGriff* - health, asthma
- Ron Miller - esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Jeffery Norman - transplant list (Nunes*)
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- August Smith - cleft palate (J.English*)
- Zylar Thompson - rescheduled surgery
- Julia Torpey* - health

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute

Students in College

- Seth Crider • Caleb Owens
- Stephen English • Nick Webb
- Caitlyn Frizzell • Reed Wilson
- Jackson Lash • Lexi Wildes

Cancer

- Kandi Armand - (Bostwick*)
- Ron Bartanen* - cancer
- Darlene Baxley* - spread to her spine (Baxley*)
- Darrell Bozeman*
- Misty Bray* - (Bird*)
- Jimmy Calhoun - (Mike Scott*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - (Hatcher*)
- Pat Deforest*
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Connie Moore - (Fulton*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Megan Sanders - brain cancer (Blisse*)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - good news!
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)
- Donnie Turner - cancer (Helms*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer England - Japan
- Spencer Gable - New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kansas

Mission Works

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*Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.
The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ~ James 5:16*



Men's Breakfast

Date : July 16th
Fellowship Hall @ 7:30 AM
Sign up at Information Station



KINGDOM LEADERS
MEN'S MINISTRY

JOIN US!
Thurs July 20 @ 6:30 PM
Fellowship Hall

SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, JULY 2

MORNING

Opening Prayer Richard McCool
 Song Director Casey Bearden
 Sermon Troy Spradlin
 "Seriousness of Sin"
 Scripture Reading Elliot Wilson
 Romans 6:15-23
 Closing Prayer Rick Bird

Serving Communion (Left - Right):

Josh Jennings Judsen Jennings
 Cooper Jennings Brody Crider
 Seth Crider (Balcony)
 Comments Mason Chandler

EVENING

Opening Prayer Bob Locklin
 Singing Blake Hatcher
 Scripture Dawson Hitchcock
 Matthew 18:3-9
 Comments Mason Chandler

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep Chandler family
 PowerPoint Lori Mense
 Greeters:..... Bob and Rhonda Locklin
 Secure Building Troy Spradlin

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Summer Series Preston Silcox
 *Burning Bush*
 Song Director Brody Crider
 Opening Prayer Justin Davis

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 158
 AM Worship 182
 PM Worship 90
 Wed. Night Bible Class 113
 Contribution N/A

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship . 6:00 pm
 Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!
You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is Thursday, by noon.
- If interested in utilizing the library, please reserve with Blisse or Lisa for Bible studies, meetings, etc.
- Apologetics Press Study Bibles available for purchase - see Blisse.

BENEVOLENCE



Margaret Street CHURCH OF CHRIST

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pickup : 7/11 @ 9:30 AM

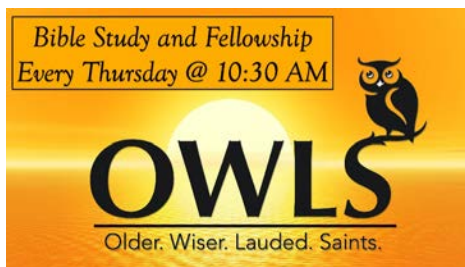
Preparing Boxes:
 7/12 @ 5:30 PM
 7/13 @ 9:30 AM

Distribution : 7/13 @ 2:30 PM

Please consider donating travel size toiletries!!

EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



Bible Study and Fellowship
 Every Thursday @ 10:30 AM

OWLS
 Older. Wiser. Lauded. Saints.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



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 Education Chris Davis*
 Evangelism Troy Spradlin
 Finance
 Fellowship Jeff Scott*
 Involvement Joe Taylor*
 Lads to Leaders David English
 OWLS Stephen Fulton
 Missions Mike Scott*
 Visitation Bob Locklin
 Kingdom Kids Dane Harrington*
 Worship Blake Hatcher*
 Youth & Family Casey Bearden