

July
2010

A Note From the Pastor

This month we will celebrate the 234th birthday of our nation. God has truly been gracious to America. We have tremendous freedom. We can worship God openly without fear for our lives. We can share our faith freely without fear of imprisonment. While there are a lot of things right with America, there are also a lot of things that concern us: violence, greed, immorality, injustice, families breaking apart, the economic recession, and the continuing drive to remove any reference or acknowledgement of God in public settings. We all want God to bless America and help us overcome these problems and I believe He wants to use his followers in that process.

The Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1-6 gives us some specific ways we can participate with God in bringing His blessings to our nation.

First, we must pray for our nation and its leaders. "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession

and thanksgiving be made for everyone- for kings and all those in authority" (vv 1-2a). If we want God to bless America, we must be a people who pray for our nation and its leaders. They need His guidance, wisdom, and direction on a daily basis.

Second, we must live righteously. "...that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (v 2b). If we want God to bless America, it needs to start in our lives and our families. God wants us to be godly people, holy people. A people set apart for Him and His work. In Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus called us the salt and light of the world. Followers of Jesus, who live righteous and holy lives in the midst of a sinful world, are salt and light to their communities, showing that there is a better way to live. What I fear is that many of us have lost our saltiness and luminescence because our lives are no different than the lives of our neighbors and co-

workers who don't know Christ. We need to confess our wrongdoing and return wholeheartedly to the Lord so that our lives become an example for others to follow.

Third, we must share our faith fervently. "This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (vv 3-5). The key to long lasting social change is not political but spiritual. Large numbers of people need to surrender control of their lives to Jesus and being to live by His values and standards. Such a thing is not unheard of it's called revival. We need a revival in our nation, which can only take place if Christians begin to share their faith fervently.

Your Shepherd,
Pastor Mark



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Church Custodians:

Ray & Shawn Brown

UPCOMING MESSAGES

July 4, 2010

The Amazing Grace of God
Psalm 86:15; Isaiah 30:18

July 11, 2010

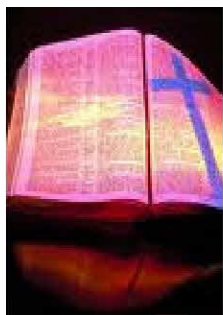
The Sovereignty of God
1 Chronicles 29:10-13

July 18, 2010

Gordy & Tabita Beck
Guest Speakers

July 25, 2010

The Holiness of God
Isaiah 6:1-5



Our **Children's Sunday School** classes and our **Adult Growth Groups** will be taking a break during the months of July and August. They will resume in September.

4th of July Fireworks in Kenmore at 10:00 pm at the Log Boom Park. Be sure to bring a chair or blanket. Parking available at Log Boom Park, Bethany Bible Church, Kenmore Lake Building and Uplake Professional Center.

Church BBQ-Potluck Sunday, July 18th. 12:30 pm
Location: Lee and Maribeth William's home (19532-92nd Ave NE Bothell 98011).
Please see Sign Up Sheet on the back table.
Gordy and Tabita Beck will be joining us.

Our **Women's Bible Study** is meeting on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. However, the group will not meet on July 5th.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Zachary Slaton	7/7
Catherine Tolentino	7/13
Kevin Williams	7/20
Brad Blakesley	7/22
Kathy Wells	7/22
Jayden Cowan	7/26
Bryce Madden	7/27
Dina Pan	7/27
Mariellen Rau	7/29
Clarissa Slaton	7/29
Paul Lindlow	7/30
Cory Rainboth	7/30
Melanie Templeton	7/31



VBS (Vacation Bible School) July 26 - 30

This is an awesome week of fun, fellowship, singing and Bible lessons for the children. Contact Tia if you want to help with this amazing event, or note **VBS** on your communication card.

The **KCC Singles Fellowship** has decided to meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday nights of each month. The July meetings will be Friday, July 9th and 23rd at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, speak with Kristy Jenkins.

Ekklesia, our young adults group, will be meeting at OO Denny Park in Kenmore on July 11th at 2 pm for some fun in the sun and on Lake Washington. Speak with Pastor Mark or Tia for more details.

Upcoming Events:

Quarterly Church Business Meeting
July 25th at 12 pm

Mexico Mission Trip, July 31st-Aug. 7th

Men's Camp at Lake Retreat, October 1st-3rd

Greg Laurie Harvest Crusade at Key Arena
Nov. 5th-7th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Markus & Stella Jaeger	7/1
Steve & Leann Weeck	7/7
Bob & Claudia Moore	7/8
Phillip & Julie Milam	7/20



JULY HUMOR

The Fourth of July weekend was approaching, and Miss Pelham, the nursery school teacher, took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. 'We live in a great country,' she announced. 'One of the things we should be happy is that, in this country, we are all free.'

Trevor, who was a little boy in her class, came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said loudly, 'I'm not free. I'm four.'

Father William, the old priest, made it a practice to visit the parish school one day a week. He walked into the 4th grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came up with about 40 names. Father William jokingly told them that in his day students knew the names of all the states.

One lad raised his hand and said, 'Yes sir, but in those days there were only 13 states.'

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:

Gordy & Tabita Beck ~ Austria

Kelly & Cherie Green ~ Colombia

Mark & Helen Downing ~ Brazil

Becky Osell ~ Ethiopia

Scott & Ruth Millar ~ Argentina

Steve & Barbara Wilkinson ~ Philippines

Andy & Lynette Tillman ~ Philippines

Verse of the Month:

*"Blessed is the nation
whose God is the Lord."*

Psalms 33:12

God Knows

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

(Psalm 32:5 ESV)

God is omniscient. He knows everything.

One of the most foreboding aspects of this truth is that you and I are part of 'everything'. If you think about that a little bit it could be a bit scary. If you think about it long and hard, it becomes very scary.

We are human. We all have faults, make mistakes, do things we later – or immediately – regret... in short, we are sinners. We have secrets from our parents, our kids, our siblings and even our spouses.

Psychology tells us we even have secrets from ourselves; there are things simply too painful, hurtful or demoralizing for our brains to hold onto. Sometimes the secrets hide our shame. Sometimes we know that disclosing the truth would hurt others. Truth gets rationed out on a 'need to know' basis.

It would certainly do us no good to confess every failure in our life to everyone we meet. But we should do just that when we talk to God. For one thing, the Bible tells us to confess our sins (1 John 1:9) and that confession to God brings us into covenant with God (Leviticus 26:40). Still, even if one sets aside the Biblical demands and promises related to confession, the simple inescapable fact is this: *God already knows*. Every sin committed and every sin contemplated, every bad motive for a good deed and bad deed left undone only because the opportunity passed, God knows. And that is scary. I'm talking wrath of God kind of scary.

But in the indiscernible wonder of how God made the universe, the greatest threat to us (God's own Holy wrath) is resolved by the greatest gift to us (God's own Son who died for our sins). There is a saying that goes, "He who knows us best, loves us best." That tears my mind apart trying to make sense of it.

So where do we go from here? First we must recognize we are compelled to tell God everything. True, He knows already, yet he tells us still to confess. Second, we should find peace in knowing that God is willing and able to forgive us for every sin. Third, we should go forward committed to worshiping God with a life of love and obedience. And then when we fail again, know that God already knew about that one, too. That is why we always do and always will need Christ. The glory and the honor and our righteousness are all His, forever and ever. Amen.

Worshiping Him always,
Lee Gunter

