

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Compassion

AM Sermon Joe Murdock

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Josiah, Wayne & Cathy, Helen Spicer, Bill & Peggy

Our new sister in Christ! Shawn Marie was baptized July 14th. Keep her in your prayers.

Traveling/Working: Charles

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8 "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:..."

Wisdom for Today: Psalm 86:15 "But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth."

Evening Sermon: "Yield Not To Temptation" Eddie Maxwell

Attendance Last Sunday: 77/? Our Record: 107
For more information, visit our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

ELDERS:

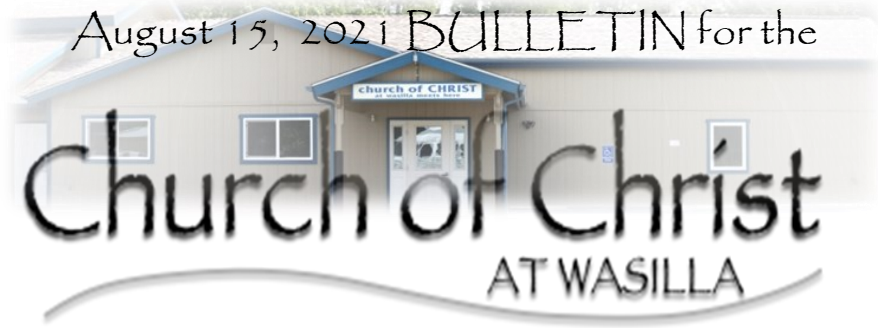
- Ed Maxwell (907) 373-5583 ed@churchofchristwasilla.com
Hans Nicholson (907) 230-2969 hnichs@gmail.com
Paul Stone (907) 491-1170 good_nooz@yahoo.com

DEACONS:

- Daniel Schramm (907)355-4088 schramm_03@yahoo.com
Joe Murdock (907) 715-0089 montana2189@hotmail.com
Phillip Kelly (907) 632-1118 affordablehydroseeding@hotmail.com

EVANGELIST

- Bill Beebe (907) 841-9261 bill@churchofchristwasilla.com



God's Plan of Salvation
HearRomans 10:17
BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Remain Faithful.....Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES
Sunday:
Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM
Wednesday:
Bible Study: 7PM
OFFICE HOURS
Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!
The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773
Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us

Here I Am

When Jesus called to Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus, Saul answered, "*Here I am, Lord*" (Acts 9:10). Saul wasn't informing Jesus of his whereabouts; the Lord was quite aware of his location! Rather, he was saying, in effect, "I am listening; You have my undivided attention."

"Here I am" is heard from quite a number of Old Testament characters, too. Sometimes they answered God's call this way. On other occasions, they spoke these words to one another. For example, when God called Abraham, he responded, "*Here I am*" (Genesis 22:1). Then God told him to offer Isaac on a mountain in the land of Moriah. As they went up the mountain, Isaac called to his father; Abraham answered, "*Here I am*" (22:7). Then Isaac asked where the sacrificial lamb was.

A few verses later, when Abraham was about to slay Isaac, the Angel of the Lord called out to him. Once more, Abraham answered: "*Here I am*" (22:11). In each instance, Abraham was saying, "I am listening; I want to hear what you have to say."

Other great men who answered God and their fellow-men with "Here I am" include Jacob (Genesis 31:11; 46:2), Joseph (Genesis 37:13); Moses (Exodus 3:4); Samuel (1 Samuel 3:4-8, 16); and Isaiah (6:8). Even God Himself promised that when His people cried out to Him, He would respond, "*Here I am*" (Isaiah 58:9). What a magnificent thought, that the Almighty Ruler of the universe is interested in what you and I have to say to Him! "What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!"

In addition to the privilege of prayer, let us learn two things: First, we ought to be genuinely interested in what other people are saying to us. Abraham listened attentively as his son asked him a question (Genesis 22:7). Joseph respectfully listened to his father and obeyed his instructions (Genesis 37:13). Family members need to listen to each other! Sometimes, in the break-neck pace of life, we tune each other out. Let's start saying, "Here I am. You have my attention. I am interested in what you have to say."

Second, let us listen to God and obey Him. God speaks today through His inspired word, the Bible. Are we listening? That is, are we interested enough to read His word? Not every passage will be understood at first glance. Are we willing to study, digging deeply to gain the needed understanding?

Can we honestly say, "Here I am"?

Joe Slater

go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Your Powerful Example

Someone said that example is a language everyone can understand. Some fifteen times the New Testament emphasizes the effect of example, for good or ill. While our example before fellow-Christians is vital, Paul stresses our behavior before the outside world. "Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time" (Colossians 4:5).

Your example carries more weight than you might think. How do you treat the store clerk, the server at the restaurant, or the bank teller? What pattern do you display for your employer, your fellow-employees, or those who work under you? I have seen smiles appear on faces when I mentioned the names of members of this congregation. Your good example helps to break down prejudices.

We have only limited opportunities to influence people. As the saying goes, "There is no second chance to make a good first impression." Thus Paul says to "redeem" the time. We are to buy up the opportunity to affect people for the better. Take advantage of opportunities while they are available. When God opens a door for you to help a neighbor, to give someone a pat on the back, or to speak a good word for the Lord, take courage and walk through that door! It may close just as quickly as it opened; then you will regret having missed the opportunity, and a soul may be lost.

Paul presumes that we will not only set a good example, but speak to people about the faith. Just as Peter says to be ready to answer those who ask why we have the hope of eternal life (1 Peter 3:15), so Paul says, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one" (Colossians 4:6). Just setting a good example is not enough. A good example may break down barriers, but eventually someone must teach the lost person how to be saved. How we speak makes a huge difference. Paul's exhortation to use gracious words "seasoned with salt" tells us to speak so as to leave a good taste in people's mouths, just as salt gives flavor to otherwise unpalatable foods. Similarly, Peter charges us to answer "with meekness and fear" (gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15). We can be firm and uncompromising without being disrespectful and vicious.

Don't underestimate your influence. Show the world what a Christian is. When the opportunity comes to speak to people about the Lord, take advantage of it! Your good example will help people to take your words seriously.

Joe Slater

Calendar of Events

Aug 22-25 Gospel Meeting - Brendon Ashby