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March 17, 2024

Schedule of Events:

Outdoor Meeting/VBS: June 10-15, 2024

Today's Scripture:

Matthew 28:5-6 (KJV)

⁵ And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Think in These Things;

Titus 2:1-5 (KJV)

³ The aged women likewise, that *they be* in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; ⁴ That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Our Family News

Pray For: Ed Maxwell, Paul and Alice Stone, Ethan McClure, Peggy Beebe, Emily Hatley, Boone Montgomery Stinson, Tina Crawford, Charles Nordstrom, Ben Gillrdpie Also pray for our congregation, that we remain closely knit in the love of God and dedicated to following His word faithfully

Wisdom for Today:

Proverbs 31:10-12 (KJV)

Who can find a virtuous woman?
for her price *is* far above rubies.
The heart of her husband doth
safely trust in her, so that he shall
have no need of spoil. She will do
him good and not evil all the days
of her life.

The Women and Jesus

Jesus obeyed all the laws of the Jews, including their moral laws. This caused Jesus to be the consummate gentleman. Instead of ignoring the women surrounding him, the Holy Spirit directed the Gospel writers to detail the women who were impacted by Jesus. There were many women who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. Matthew discusses this; **Matthew 27:55-56 (KJV)** “And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children.” In fact, it was two women who were longest at the grave, **Matthew 27:60-61 (KJV)** “And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulcher, and departed. And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulcher.” It was also women who were first at the grave the morning that Jesus arose. **Matthew 28:1-7 (KJV)** “In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.”

The Holy Spirit directed the Gospel writers to detail other interactions that Jesus had with women. From the Samaritan woman at the well¹, to the woman caught in adultery², and the sisters of Lazarus³, we see a compassionate Christ who valued women. Using the example of a sinful woman who washed His feet⁴,

¹ John 4:4-24

² John 8:1-6

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⁴ Luke 7:37-38

anointing them with expensive oil and drying them with her hair Jesus taught the disciples what true humility was. The Jews frowned on a man and a woman to talk alone, but that is exactly what Jesus did with the woman at Jacob's well. The result is that she went back to the town and told everyone what Jesus had said to her. This caused most of the people of the village to believe in Him that day.

Today, in the church, we have women who have talents but we fail to use them. Paul told the women to remain silent in the worship service⁵ and this is certainly the pattern that we must follow. Because of this, there should be no women preachers nor should they be put in any position that violates Paul's inspired instructions⁶. But women do play a valuable role in the church and in spreading the Gospel. Consider Aquilla and Priscilla, or the women meeting together by the river side that Paul met with⁷. And especially Timothy's mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois). These women were never recorded as speaking in public, yet their contributions were tremendous. We should encourage our women to fill the role described for them by the Holy Spirit through the inspired writers. To do this well, the older women should teach the younger⁸ women how to be Christian wives, to manage a Christ centered home and how to encourage their friends to live a Christ centered life.. It is in doing that that women have been instrumental in the evangelistic efforts of the church.

⁵ 1 Corinthians 14:34-35

⁶ 1 Corinthians 14:34, Eph 5:23

⁷ Acts 16:13

⁸ Titus 2:3-5