



Skyline Family News October 1st, 2018

Pastor David's Weekly Devotional

This coming Sunday, October 7th, is “Communion Sunday” at our church. In his letter to the Corinthians church, the apostle Paul reiterated the instructions given by the Lord to His disciples (1Cor.11:23-25; see Matt.26:26-29; Lk.22:14-23). In 1 Corinthians 11:26, Paul wrote: “*For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*” Remembering the Lord's sacrifice for us, sharing together at the Lord's table, is truly a sobering and sacred time.

As such, we must partake in Communion with appropriate reverence and humility. “*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord.*”²⁸ *Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.* ²⁹*For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself”* (1 Cor 11:27-29). This is a strong exhortation (“examine himself”), and serious warning (“judgment on himself”).

Perhaps my most favorite extra-biblical story regarding communion is an occasion that happened many centuries ago. John Piper tells the story best:

“One of the most persistent thorns in [John] Calvin's side were the Libertines in Geneva. ... When Calvin began his ministry in Geneva in 1536 at the age of 27, there was a law that said a man could keep only one mistress. Even after Calvin had been preaching as pastor in St. Peter's church for over fifteen years, the immorality was a plague, even in the church. The Libertines boasted in their license. ... they practiced adultery and indulged in sexual promiscuity in the name of Christian freedom. And at the same time they claimed the right to sit at the Lord's table.

The crisis of the Communion came to a head in 1553. A well-to-do Libertine named Berthelier was forbidden by the Consistory of the church to eat the Lord's Supper, but appealed the decision to the Council of the City, which overturned the ruling. This created a crisis for Calvin who would not think of yielding to the state the rights of excommunication, nor of admitting a Libertine to the Lord's table.

The issue, as always, was the glory of Christ. He wrote to Viret,

‘I...took an oath that I had resolved rather to meet death than profane so shamefully the Holy Supper of the Lord... My ministry is abandoned if I suffer the authority of the Consistory to be trampled upon, and extend the Supper of Christ to open scoffers... I should rather die a hundred times than subject Christ to such foul mockery.’

The Lord's day of testing arrived. The Libertines were present to eat the Lord's supper. It was a critical moment for the Reformed faith in Geneva. The sermon had been preached, the prayers had been offered, and Calvin descended from the pulpit to take his place beside the elements at the Communion table. The bread and wine were duly consecrated by him, and he was now ready to distribute them to the communicants. Then, on a sudden, a rush was begun by the troublers in Israel in the direction of the Communion table...Calvin flung his arms around the sacramental vessels as if to protect them from sacrilege, while his voice rang through the building:

‘These hands you may crush, these arms you may lop off, my life you may take, my blood is yours, you may shed it; but you shall never force me to give holy things to the profaned, and dishonor the table of my God.’

‘After this,’ says, Beza, Calvin's first biographer, ‘the sacred ordinance was celebrated with a profound silence, and under solemn awe in all present, as if the Deity Himself had been visible among them.’”

[from John Piper's biography on John Calvin; *The Divine Majesty of the Word John Calvin: The Man and His Preaching*]

May we celebrate the Lord's table with holy reverence, true humility and profound gratitude.

Together in and for Christ,
Pastor David

Scripture Readings for the week (Monday – Sunday ~ Week #40):

Numbers 29-32; 2 Chronicles 11-15; Psalm 117-118; Proverbs 28; Jonah; Acts 3-4; Hebrews 5-7

Recommended Reading:

“Communion with the Triune God” by John Owen (Ed. by Kelly M. Kapic & Justin Taylor)

Please join us for prayer on Sunday mornings at 8:00am in Pastor David's office

Calendar of Events:

Membership Class

October 3 & 10

Women's Weekend

October 5 & 6

Elder Election

October 7

Men's Breakfast

October 13

Looking Ahead...

New Members/Attendee

Reception

November 11

Thanksgiving Dinner

November 17

For prayer requests,
email Amy Woodruff
at prayer@sbcnb.org
or call 541-404-0547

We're on the Web!

See us at:

sbcnb.org

Growth & Study.....

Men's Group Studies

Mondays ~

6:30pm "The Measure of a Man: Twenty Attributes of a Godly Man"
w/Jeff Etzel

Wednesdays ~

6:30-7:30am "Joseph-A Man of Integrity and Forgiveness"
***Begins October 3rd**
w/Pastor David

Thursdays ~

6:30-7:30am "Behold Your God: Discovering the Unfathomable Greatness and Glory of God"
w/Pastor Tim

Fridays ~

6:30-7:30am "Book of Ecclesiastes"
w/Pastor David

Young Adults

Thursdays ~

7:00-9:00pm At Skyline
w/Pastor Tim 541-756-3311

Women's Group Studies

Mondays ~

6:30pm "Romans"
w/Renee Middleton (541-297-2500)

Tuesdays ~

6:30-7:30am "Lessons from the Upper Room"
***Begins October 2nd**
w/Loy Huntzinger (360-607-0022)

8:30am "Isaiah, the Lord Saves"
w/Beth Wallstrom (541-404-0112)

9:00am "Live Out His Love"
w/Lois-Elaine Rencehausen (541-751-3169)

1:00-2:15pm "Covenants"
w/Barb Young (541-404-6242)

7:00-8:15pm "Covenants"
w/Barb Young (541-404-6242)

Wednesdays ~

9:00-10:30am "Romans"
w/Amy Woodruff (541-404-0547)

10:00am "Seeking God's Great Riches, the Book of Hebrews" ***Begins October 10th**
w/Karla Fries (541-267-0139)

6:30-8:00pm "Romans"
w/Amy Woodruff (541-404-0547)

Church News & Events.....

Membership Orientation Class ~ October 3rd & 10th

This is a two-week class at 6:30pm in the new classroom (Pastor David's old office) for those interested in membership. Please plan on attending both weeks. Contact Pastor David or the church office for more information and to register.

Women's Weekend ~ October 5th & 6th

Ladies are invited to join us for our women's weekend event this Friday and Saturday. The cost is \$30 and includes three meals on Saturday. Call Renee Middleton at 541-297-2500 to register or for more information.

Elder Election ~ October 7th

The membership vote for the 2019 Elder Board is this Sunday during the morning church services. Elder Qualification handouts are available in the church foyer.

Men's Breakfast ~ October 13th

Men, join us at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast, devotions & fellowship at our men's breakfast.

Welcome Pastor Chad & Lilly! ~ October 21st

Our new Youth Pastor, Chad Frantz & his wife Lilly will be here on October 21st. Pastor Chad will be teaching High School Sunday School class that morning and kicking off the High School Youth Group that evening at 6:00pm. Middle School Youth Group will be starting the following Wednesday, October 24th at 6:30pm. Pastor Chad says to be prepared for a time of fun, friendships, and for your minds to be engaged.