

(15)And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. (16)Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Mark 15:15, 16

Christ's Closet

Free Clothing for anyone in need. Open Wednesdays 9:00 – Noon.

Mountain States Children's Home

Remember to stock up on non-perishable supplies to bring for the children's home collection which takes place near the end of March each year. Keep this work in your prayers.

Food Pantry

The pantry is located in the room left of the library. There are sacks in the pantry room if you or someone you know is in need of any of these items. Feel free to take what you need. If you have a donation for the pantry please put it on the table in the pantry room.

Peru Ministry

Support Oscar, Anna Maria, Queca and Tony Woods in their outreach in Peru.

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

August 20, 2017

**Welcome to the
Kennewick Church of Christ**

Trust is Like a Rope

In the Old Testament the word for trusting faith was a Hebrew word that meant a rope. In other words trust was like a rope. It expressed what a rope did for you. It provided security; tied you to another person in safety, something you could depend on, at that time. If you tied something down with a rope -- it was secure.

This is why this word was used to convey the idea of trust. I'd like to use this imagery to explain something about how trust is built and how trust is destroyed.

Building trust is very much like making a rope. A rope is made by intertwining many strands together. The more strands -- the stronger the rope. The better quality strands - the stronger and more dependable the rope. Trust between two people is built in the same way. Each person shares a part of their life with the other. The more they share, the stronger the tie of trust. The deeper their service, their intimacy, their sacrifice the more dependable the relationship is to withstand wear and tear through usage. A well made rope can be used over and over - a well-made relationship is able to go through many trials.

Destroying trust works very much like destroying a rope - you do it one strand at a time. If you could watch someone cutting a rope in slow motion you would see that the knife is cutting the rope one strand at a time until all the strands are cut and the rope is severed. It grows weaker and weaker until it will not hold. This is how we destroy trust with each other - one lie at a time, one unkindness at a time, one harsh word at a time. Eventually all the ties that hold people together are severed. Not in one climatic moment but over a period of months or years - one little cut at a time.

This has a few lessons that we all can use:

Every lie (whether the person finds out or not) cuts away at the relationship. Every selfish act, every unkind word, every good action left undone slices away a precious strand of trust that you have with the ones you love.

You only have one trusting relationship with a person - if you cut it away another one will not grow back in its place automatically. Trust is the hardest thing to produce, the easiest thing to lose and almost impossible to replace once it's gone.

Some people think they don't need any ropes - but that's because they've never been in trouble. When trouble comes (and it will) you'll be happy that there are strong ropes of trust to hang on to while you go through life. Of course the strongest of these ropes is the one that ties us to God.

We don't tie ourselves to God with our rope of honesty, purity and service because it would soon be cut and frayed by sin. To guarantee that we are safe and secure God ties us to Himself with Jesus Christ - The Lord is God's rope that ties us to Himself. With Christ as our rope we know it will never break because He never lies, always is kind and true.

I encourage you to build strong bands with each other with cords of compassion and honesty and service and kindness and love and if you've broken these, ask for forgiveness and try again. I invite those who are not yet bound to God with the cord of Christ to tie themselves to Him now through repentance and baptism - or through repentance and restoration - whichever is appropriate.

-Mike Mazzalongo

Attendance 8/13 96

Budget \$2000.00

Contribution 8/13: \$2586.61

Keep these Dates in Minds:

- 8/06 First Sunday Potluck
- 8/11 Youth Rally
- 8/12 Men's Breakfast -Cancelled
- 8/13 Open Congregational Meeting -Cancelled
- 8/27 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
- 9/03 First Sunday Potluck
- 9/09 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
- 9/10 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
- 9/24 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

Bible Studies:

Adult Class (S) –Jude
(W) – Romans - Fellowship Hall
Youth Classes – Classroom Wing
Ladies Class – Begins 9/7 10:00a - 11:30a

Birthdays and Anniversaries for August

- Christina Hopkins - 8/2
- Darlana Moon - 8/5
- Debbie Bolt - 8/8
- Clarence & Melinda Botts - 8/13
- Danny Mendoza - 8/13
- Ron & Ila Stephens - 8/13
- Maddison Reeser - 8/18
- Eric Calzadillas - 8/19
- Merry Hyndshaw - 8/22
- Harvey & Lynette Jones - 8/25
- Sue Minor - 8/25
- Julia Jesperson - 8/27
- Eddie Petross - 8/28
- Bonnie Simons - 8/28
- Barbara Oldham - 8/31



Health Issues: Pam Fox's grandson, Canaco & Eli , Abigail Jones, Karen McBurney, Dustin Stecker, Doris Pennington, Betty VanVoorst, Bob Childers, Eddie Petros, Darlena Moon, Jack Pinckert Jr., Amanda McCrickard, Sandy Gray, Bill Henniger, Savannah and Christian Johnson, Marilyn Foster (Gayle Caldwell's mother), Christy Hickman, Joshua Hickman, Gary Bills, Norm Goldsmith, Tom Gritzen, (In the Military) Levi Toombs

Darlana Moon is not doing well and is being moved into hospice. Keep her and her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another; if anyone has a complaint against another: even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.
(Colossians 3:12,13)



That's when I realized what a true friend was, someone who would always love you-
The imperfect you,
the confused you,
the wrong you-
because that is what people are supposed to do.

-Unknown

What does the Bible Teach about Friendship?

Having a great friend is a true blessing. However having a great friend that shares your conviction about God and his family is a game changer. It takes friendship to a whole different level. Why? Because you are rooted together in the same belief. Its easy to make friends with someone in the world when you find something your both interested in, its a whole other story if you have nothing in common. One of the greatest examples is the friendship that David had with Jonathan. The two were unlikely to meet and build a friendship but God showed them a unique friendship that shaped and changed them both and showed them what true devotion is. There are no lone wolf Christians, it does not work. Jesus choose twelve disciples for a reason. He knew he would have to build multiple relationships to stay close to God. He also knew that the twelve would build friendships with one another and that they would teach that to the future church members. (Acts 2)

So how do you do go out and make friends? It seems like it would be hard to do if you were trying to make it happen. Personally, I know I need close friends because I just so happen to be very social and like to have fun. However, I also know that I need a close friend that I can share my sinful nature with, someone who will encourage me and not belittle me. Encouragement from a true friend makes all the difference in your spiritual walk with God, without it, it is impossible. That is why God commanded us to encourage one another daily and build each other up. He is not saying its a good idea, he is saying that we need to do it. The sad part is, very few churches put any emphasis on the importance of deep fellowship and friendship.

So let's take it a step further. Perhaps by now you have more conviction that you need to have spiritually minded friends to help you in your walk and to be there for you in the Christian journey. But what if I were to say, maybe it's not about you?

Have you thought about the fact that maybe being friends with someone is more beneficial to the other person than it is to you?

This concept changes the whole picture. Instead think about this, maybe a new friendship is not for your benefit, perhaps its more about what the other person receives from a friendship with you. Suddenly you start to think, "what can I give to this person that will help them grow or change?" "What kind of encouragement can I give them that will help them in the fight with Satan?" When you start thinking like this, it starts to change you. Maybe its not about you but someone else.

This in my opinion is some of the real Genius of our God. This is how he uses you, most of the time we do not even have a clue. Satan is always on the move, always on the attack. He is like a roaring lion looking to devour you any chance he gets. Imagine if you changed your mind and decided to be the one who encourages others. I had some time to sit down and think about some of my best friends in my life so far. Some of my most treasured friendships are from people who I feel like are my biggest fans. Who doesn't love someone who thinks you're great, right? This is part of the reason we love to hang with them, because we know they think we are awesome. God calls us to be that kind of friend, even if it is with someone who we feel we really do not have "that great" of a connection with. It's not always about me. This is the cool part, God thinks you are the perfect friend for (fill in the blank) He thinks your character is something they need to imitate, he thinks your faith will help them get to the next level. He thinks your strengths will help their weakness perfectly. He thinks your sense of humor and your ability to serve are just what the doctor ordered. We could go on and on but the point is God is using you.

There are plenty of scriptures that can help you with this concept, dig deep, ask around and find a need that needs filling. You can make a huge impact on someone's life and in turn change your own. And because God is always so good to us, I know that he will bless you with a friendship that makes you a better man or woman, as well.

-Ken Schulte