

COMMUNITY SERVICE BASED CHRISTIAN CELEBRATION 2012 July 8

Helping our community with caring love while enabling them to find and follow Jesus!

True love and caring . . .

Romans 12:9-17

Love must be honest and true. Hate what is evil. Hold on to what is good. Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves. Never let the fire in your heart go out. Keep it alive. Serve the Lord. When you hope, be joyful. When you suffer, be patient. When you pray, be faithful. Share with God's people who are in need. Welcome others into your homes. Bless those who hurt you. Bless them, and do not call down curses on them. Be joyful with those who are joyful. Be sad with those who are sad. Agree with each other. Don't be proud. Be willing to be a friend of people who aren't considered important. Don't think that you are better than others.

Don't pay back evil with evil. Be careful to do what everyone thinks is right. If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.

Agenda (see news letter)

ACTIVITY	DURATION EXPECTED
INTRODUCTARY/ OPENING PRAYER	5 min
Gathering / Communicating Community needs	10 min
Gathering prayer needs	5 min
Prayer for community and praying for needs	15 min
Short Message/ Discussion /Helpful thoughts to remember from the bible	30 min
Gathering of the monetary contributions for the community work (tithes)	5 min
Prayer, Praise and Worship Music (counting of monetary contributions, join in or get something to drink / eat at the same time)	15 min
Prayer for wisdom in distribution of monetary contributions	5 min
Discussion on work parties and activities planned to support the community over the next period (specifically for the next week)	15 min
Voting on where the monetary contribution is to go for God's work in the community	5 min
Closing prayer	5min

Community needs?

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Short Message/ Discussion /Helpful thoughts to remember from the bible	30 min

Notes on Needs

High:

- \$1400- T. needs wood for deck (used \$770) [23rd] 2nd part...
- Marj: Siding on shed (to be re-planned) [28 July .. Note the date!]
- Labour for shingling a roof 86yr old. B. 28x40 house.[8th or next weekend Sept]]
- Chords of wood (\$75/cord Emsdale, \$80/cord Kearney) Paid \$1000 need \$3000
- Sand and paint the rest of a deck, some boards to be replaced (5 pieces)
- Need to investigate J&A, M&L check on food needed.

MEDIUM:

P. who cant use his car has not got insurance. Need food.

LOW:

Planning - Dave F tiling

Monthly

Donations for Evergreen Heights Breakfast club / Food bank -\$50 (Not this month) Food pantry/community cupboard collection on 1st Sunday of each month coffee, canned fruit, juice, vegetable cans -\$100

Gas fund for needy people.

REMINDER:

Mexico mission trip – owe \$96.60

Wood for winter – stockpile = 3cords (Harvey and Shinara's)

Ed owes us 7 cords.

Planning

Income \$480

- 1. Mission fund: \$145
- 2. Heating wood provision: \$500 paid \$500 in reserve \$3500 due (\$75/Emsdale cord \$80/Kearney cord)

Purses

Morry \$218.14 provision

Kathleen \$145 mission fund REST PAID All except \$500

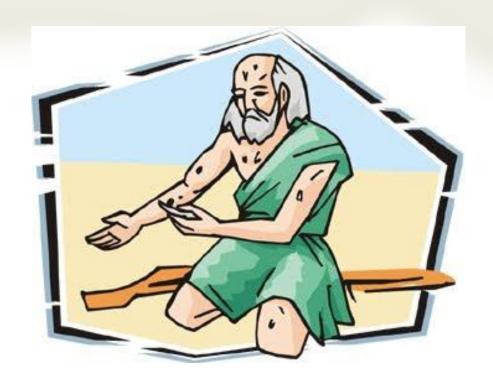
(promised) \$250 expected from Barbeque.

24-Jun-12 Income	480
24-Jun-12 Deck wood for Caissey's	-35.86
24-Jun-12 Mission trip	-410
24-Jun-12 web site annual fee	-70
24-Jun-12 Caissey deck flooring	-226

Short message/ discussion

Why do people struggle if God is in control? Part 4 in series

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JOB'S STORY IS ONE OF SUFFERING...WHERE WE CAN SEE GOD'S STATEMENTS ABOUT HUMAN SUFFERING!

Job, one of the most complex and interesting books in the Old Testament, deals with a profound human theme. Why do people suffer, if God is in control?

The book itself, a very long and highly structured poem, is about a man named Job who lost all that he had within a short period of time. He found himself an outcast, waiting for death near the city dump, when some of his former friends came to comfort him

The hidden backdrop to the story is the will of God and the sneering challenge of the Devil.

The first set of speeches made by Job's friends has the general theme that Job is sinful. The all-wise, all-powerful God, they say, is only giving him what he deserves.

All three friends speak:

Eliphaz, who is a *kindly mystic;*Bildad, a rather *unsympathetic traditionalist*; and

Zophar, a narrow dogmatist.

These three men represent different approaches to the problem of suffering, as does Job himself.

Outline for the Book of Job

- Prologue: scene in heaven Job 1:1-2:13
 [looked at this]
- First set of speeches Job 3:1-14:22
 [Looked at part of this last week]
- Second set of speeches Job 15:1-21:34
- Third set of speeches Job 22:1-31:40
- The speech of Elihu Job 32:1-37:24
- The reply of God Job 38:1-42:6
- **Epilogue** Job 42:7-17

Synopsis of last week

Job 3 (NIRV)

"May the day I was born be wiped out. "

Job's suffering not just physical but psychological and he is tormented.

His beliefs have been that great suffering indicates a great sinner, but he knows he is not!

His greatest fear has apparently come true and now he is cut off from God and he doesn't even know why!

depressed

According to Eliphaz, it is useless for Job to expect the people to support his protest against God's laws (5:1).

For Eliphaz, suffering does not spring up by itself. Suffering is caused by a person's sin, just as sparks are caused by a fire (6-7).

Eliphaz's suggestion is that if he were in Job's position he would stop complaining and leave the whole matter in God's hands, for he has infinite wisdom and power (8-10). God blesses the humble and the needy, though he opposes those who think they are clever (11-16).

Job 6 ¹ Job replied

Job explains his suffering is great but he has not sinned. He wishes his friends would love him even when he has no more hope. He wants God to kill him so he can die without speaking against God....

⁹ I wish he would crush me!
I wish his powerful hand would cut off my life!
¹⁰ Then I'd still have one thing to comfort me. It would be that I haven't said no to the Holy One's commands.

Job complains they are taking his honesty away from himself. He re-iterates he hates life and doesn't want to live forever

¹⁶ I hate my life. I don't want to live forever.

Job cannot think of any sin, and asks God to remind him of a sin if he has sinned!

Now starting this week

JOB 8 : Bildad the Shuhite now speaks

² "Job, how long will you talk like that?
Your words don't have any meaning.
³ Does God ever treat people unfairly?
Does the Mighty One make what is wrong appear to be right?



⁴ Your children sinned against him. So he punished them for their sin. ⁵ But look to God.

This was Job's fear, his "friend" is making things worse! Can Job know his children never sinned?

"I'm sure God doesn't turn his back on anyone who is honest. And he doesn't help those who do what is evil.

Is this true?

How would you feel if you were Job? How would you respond to Bildad?

SUMMARY of Bildad's speech

After rebuking Job for his wild words against God, Bildad tells him that God is always just.

Completely lacking in sympathy, Bildad reminds Job that his children have died, and cruelly concludes that it must have been because of their sin (8:1-4).

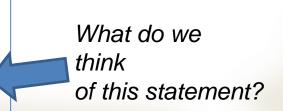
Job's suffering must also be because of his sin. If, however, he is innocent, he need only pray humbly to God, and God will replace his suffering with greater blessing than he had before (5-7).

For Bildad the traditional teaching is of first importance, and this emphasis characterizes all his speeches. Job cannot, on the basis of his short experience, question what all the wisest people of previous ages have believed (8-10).

8 "Find out what your people who lived long ago taught. Discover what those who lived before them learned.

⁹ After all, we were born only yesterday.

So we don't know anything.



SUMMARY of Bildad's speech continued

All disaster, in Bildad's view, is the consequence of personal ungodliness.

What about this?

According to Bildad, the reason for Job's terrible losses and tormenting suffering can only be Job's sin. Repentance will bring renewed strength, joy, victory and prosperity (20-22).

How would we feel if we were Job hearing this?

How would we respond to Bildad?

JOB 9: Job answers Bildad

- ² "I'm sure that what you have said is true. But how can human beings be right with God?
- ³ They might wish to argue with him. But they couldn't answer him even once in a thousand times.
- ⁴ His wisdom is deep. His power is great.

What do you think of this start to his reply?

Then Job continues

¹⁰ He does wonderful things that can't be understood.

He does miracles that can't even be counted.

- When he passes by me, I can't see him. When he goes past me, I can't recognize him.
- 12 If he takes something, who can stop him?

Who would dare to ask him, 'What are you doing?'

Do we get a sense of how amazing Job thinks God is?

JOB 9: Job answers Bildad

14 "So how can I disagree with God?
How can I possibly argue with him?
15 Even if I hadn't done anything wrong,
I couldn't answer him.
I could only beg my Judge to have mercy on me.

Do we argue with God? Do we agree with what Job says here?

Then Job continues

"God isn't a man like me. I can't answer him. We can't take each other to court.

³³ I wish someone would settle matters between us.

I wish someone would force us to work things out.

³⁴ I wish someone would keep God from punishing me.

Then his terror wouldn't frighten me anymore.

³⁵ I would speak up without being afraid of him. But as things stand now, I can't do that.

He show that God is so important that nobody is adequate to address him directly.

JOB 10: Job continues

⁷ You already know I'm not guilty. No one can save me from your powerful hand.

8 " 'Your hands shaped me and made me.
So are you going to destroy me now?
9 Remember, you molded me like clay.
So are you going to turn me back into dust?

Do you think this show he is accepting his situation?

Job's full answer summarized

While agreeing with Bildad that God is just, Job argues that ordinary people are still at a disadvantage. They cannot present their side of the case satisfactorily, because God always has the wisdom and power to frustrate them.

What chance does a mere human like Job have (13-14)?

Job knows he has not committed great sins, but he also knows that if he tried to argue his case before God he would still lose (15-16). He would surely say something wrong and so be proved guilty. God would crush him then as he crushes him now (17-20).

In bitterness Job asks God why he makes the innocent suffer, yet at the same time blesses the wicked (10:1-3). Is he like an unjust judge who punishes a person even though he knows the person is innocent (4-7)? Did God create Job simply to destroy him (8-9)? Has he kept him alive merely to torment him (10-13)? It seems to Job that it makes no difference whether he is good or bad. God's purpose seems to be to hunt him mercilessly and heap punishment upon him for even the smallest sins (14-17).

Job wishes he had never been born into a world of such injustice and suffering (18-19). He asks only for the briefest period of happiness before he dies (20-22).

What do you think Bildad would have thought of this answer?

Has Job sinned in his answer?

Is there anything in the response of Job that could show us how to respond similar tough circumstances?

Does God really expect perfection from us? If so how can we ever measure up?

ACTIVITY

DURATION EXPECTED

Prayer! Taking of collection for needs!

Praise and Worship Music (counting of monetary contributions, join in or get something to drink / eat at the same time)	15 min
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2. Heating wood provision: \$1000 with \$3000 owing (\$75/Emsdale cord \$80/Kearney cord)

Purses

Morry \$230 provision

Kathleen \$145 mission fund REST PAID

1-Jul-12	Income	460
1-Jul-12	Income Birchdale barbeque	370
1-Jul-12	Caissey deck surface and 4x4s	-350
1-Jul-12	M&L	-150
1-Jul-12	J&A	-200
1-Jul-12	Mission trip	-100
1-Jul-12	food bank	-100
1-Jul-12	website	-180
		\$ 375

I am every man Wonderful merciful saviour God of this city Heavens Joy awaits East is from the West While you were sleeping You raise me up Light of my life How great is our Great



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Closing prayer



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Helping our community with caring love while enabling them to find and follow Jesus!

Church for people disillusioned with church, who want to make a difference!