



April 30, 2023

Pastor Note:

Some things are true of all of us. We are all breathing, have beating hearts, and blood is flowing through our veins. We all have a hue, take up space, and don't do well without water and food. We all have our quirks, laugh at some things and frown at others, and certainly, none of us is perfect (if you think you are, we just identified one of your imperfections). And we are influenced, shaped, and eternally impacted by prophets, priests, and kings.

Prophets. The voices we listen to, respect, and heed. Those who shape our values, our morals, our sense of right and wrong. They don't have to be religious to impact us in a religious way. Of course, true prophets are always religious because they are spokespersons of God, always speak the truth (even if we don't like it or refuse to hear it), and never have the luxury of making false predictions. Historically, false, self-proclaimed, and godless prophets are vastly more popular because they are good at telling people what they want to hear instead of what they need to hear.

Priests. Those who mediate between us and our gods, are our spiritual advisors, hear our confessions, and who have a remedy for and absolve us of our sins. They too are not necessarily religious, but every system of belief or unbelief has them. Of course, true priests, like true prophets, are first of all servants of the only true God. Serving anyone or anything else but God alone disqualifies anyone from being a true priest and mocks what a priest is supposed to be.

Kings. Who or what rules and leads us, who or what we are submitted to. Of course, kings, like prophets and priests, don't have to be religious to rule us. In fact, we are more prone to give kings a religious exemption, and for good reason, too often we have seen them use religion as a mere tool of power. Nevertheless, we benefit when those who rule us are themselves submitted to and ruled by God. This is also true of each one of us personally, there is nothing and no one better to rule our hearts, minds, and lives than God, than Jesus Christ.

"The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him" Deuteronomy 18:15 (HCSB), Acts 7:37.

"We have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, ..." Hebrews 4:14 (NLT2). **"Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. And the psalmist pointed this out when he prophesied, "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek"** Hebrews 4:14, 7:16-17 (NLT2). **"There is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"** 1 Timothy 2:5 (NASB).

"On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords" Revelation 19:16 (NLT2). **"God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"** Philippians 2:9-11 (NLT2).

Who are your prophet, priest, and king? Your answer will determine both your life here and now and your eternity. Only Jesus Christ is worthy to be Prophet, Priest, and King. Only Jesus Christ is the eternal and faithful Prophet, Priest, and King. Only Jesus Christ is the God-appointed Prophet, Priest, and King. Choosing, listening to, and serving any other prophet, priest, or king is both an affront to God and the most serious and far-reaching mistake anyone can make. So, who has your ear? Who mediates between you and God? And, who or what rules your life? Make sure it is Christ on all three counts.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

Sermon Notes:

PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Karen Souza, Shirley Wolfenbarger, Mabel Mayes, JoEllen, Rickie Jeffers, Willis Parrish, John King, The Family of Genevieve Alldrin, De-Leta for the passing of her Grandson Travis, Family and Friends, Our Church's Ministries

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Phillip, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray, Farney, John Boykin, Peter, Mariah Ellis, Jimmy, Shyrlee Stagner, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Mike Sharland, Noah Martin, Rebekah Wilhelmy, John Michael Chavez, Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Dylan Werner, Brian Sula, Michael Thomasson, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen, Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski, Christopher Sula

CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862 and/or an e-mail to: **BATTprayer@yahoo.com**

Prayers:

Being a Church that Cares Well

Why?

“The American church is facing an abuse crisis. Is your church doing all it can to be safe for survivors and safe from abuse? Churches should be a refuge for those who have experienced abuse. But, too often, survivors haven't found the protection they deserve and the care they need from the church. Are you ready to join us in changing that?”

Yes. We are committed to being a safe place for everyone from babies to elderly and we will continue to keep ourselves educated and trained in order to be able to love, love, love. In order for that we will have once-a-month trainings for 4 months for our church staff, Deacons, Board, Children and Youth Leaders, Women's Leaders, Men's Leader, and Food Basket Leaders, and any other adult that may be interested in attending. Each meeting will be at the church from **6:00-8:30 pm.**

Meeting 1: 2/13/23

Meeting 2: 3/13/23

Meeting 3: 4/17/23

Meeting 4: 5/08/23

The videos are survivor stories, educational training, and explaining why the church's response to abuse is a Gospel issue (meeting #1).

In addition to providing these monthly meetings, our leaders and administration will commit to protecting our children and church by training as Mandated Reporters and have a live scan background check.

If you would like to join our monthly meetings, please let Susie Frei know so there is a seat for you (skfrei@gmail.com) or 209-247-9234) or let Jannett know.

May Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.**
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
- Communion Sunday - Today
Deacon Board Meeting every 4th Sunday after service

Fellowship Time Snacks
were provided

By - *Hans' Class*

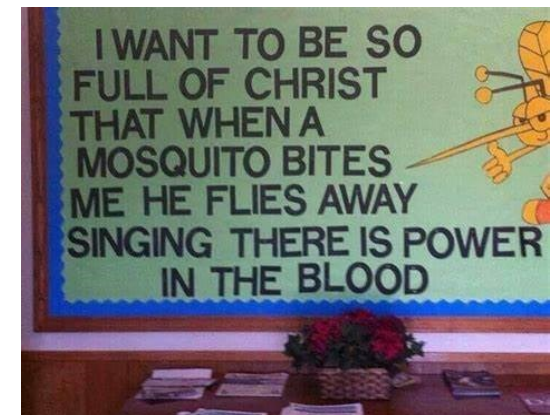
Thank you

Next week Dan's class is up!!

MEMBERSHIP!!!

If you are interested in Church Membership,
please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

A Bit of
Humor
Corner



Giving

April 23, 2023

Offering:
\$3,291.00

Missions:
20.00

Facilities:
\$50.00

Annie Armstrong:
\$270.00

Attendance:
68

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM
Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM
Grief Share - 6:30 PM (On Hiatus)

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

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S H A R E



1 Timothy 6:18



May 1st - May 7th

DAY 1 - Acts 16
(Proverbs 1)

DAY 2 - Acts 17
(Proverbs 2)

DAY 3 - Acts 18
(Proverbs 3)

DAY 4 - Acts 19
(Proverbs 4)

DAY 5 - Acts 20
(Proverbs 5)

DAY 6 - Proverbs 6
DAY 7 - Proverbs 7

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.