



January 21, 2024

Pastor Note:

How many chance encounters do you remember? And in how many of those encounters did you have a clear sense that God was orchestrating the whole thing? George comes to my mind. We had finished another two weeks of intense ministry with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters, and on the redeye flight from Arusha to Amsterdam I sank into my window seat dead tired. All I wanted to do was sleep, and, glory to God, I had an empty seat next to me – stretch out and sleep, “Thank you, Lord!” Forty-five minutes later the plane made its customary stop in Dar es Salaam, and that’s when George Mpeli Kilindu woke me up and kindly asked me to get my stuff out of his seat. I was tempted to give him the stare, for which I am told I have a reputation, but he was just too nice.

We got to talking, and before long, and after he found out that I was a preacher, our conversation turned to marriage and spiritual things. For some reason, I mentioned the song, “It’s Sad to Belong to Someone Else, When the Right One Comes Along.” His eyes opened wide, and he said, “That’s my parent’s favorite song, but no one knows this song. What are the chances!” He was right, God orchestrated this, it wasn’t a chance thing. And in the years since we have kept in contact, I invade his life every now and then, pray with him, and get to count him among my friends.

Paul and Silas were spending a rotten night in jail at Philippi. They certainly hadn’t volunteered to be there, nor had they asked to get a flogging. I might have contemplated which lawyer I would call once released, or how to post this injustice on social media. Paul and Silas, however, decided to have a prayer and praise worship service and seemingly let everyone who could hear them know about Jesus and their need to be saved. We know this because a little while later all hell broke loose when an earthquake struck. The jailor thought all his prisoners had escaped and was ready to kill himself (Roman jailors were responsible for their prisoners with their lives). Paul stopped him and let him know that none of his charges had run off. The jailor’s response was not what you’d expect. He ran up to Paul and Silas, fell down before them, and said, **“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”** (Acts 16:30, NASB). Clearly, he had put two and two together and realized that nothing that happened that night was by chance, that God was at work and was giving him an opportunity to be saved. Paul and Silas told him, **“Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household”** (Acts 16:31 NLT2).

I venture to say that at the beginning of that day, this jailor gave no thought to “being saved” or anticipated that this might be the most spiritually and eternally significant day of his life. He probably didn’t have the slightest idea what “being saved” meant or that he needed saving. Most likely he thought whatever he believed was good enough, sufficient. And yet, it wasn’t. He, like you and me, needed Jesus to save him because there is no other way to be right with God, be forgiven of our sins, and be granted eternal life, **“There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved”** (Acts 4:12, NLT2). **“Anyone who believes in God’s Son, Jesus Christ, has eternal life. Anyone who doesn’t obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God’s angry judgment.”** (John 3:36, NLT2, italics mine).

No one hears the Gospel, the truth of Jesus, by chance. No one is given an opportunity to be saved by chance. It might appear so on the surface, but behind the scenes the Spirit of God is orchestrating it all. So, if you have been hearing about Jesus and your need to be saved don’t dismiss it, God is calling you. If you somehow end up sitting next to a devoted Christian or, heaven forbid, a preacher, connect the dots like the Philippian jailor. Or, if you have read this pastor’s note, written by some obscure preacher in Don Pedro California, to the very end, don’t dismiss it, God is at work.

Are you saved?

Here is the rest of the jailor’s story, **“Paul and Silas went on to spell out in detail the story of the Master, Jesus—the entire family got in on this part. They never did get to bed that night. The jailer made them feel at home, dressed their wounds, and then—he couldn’t wait till morning!—was baptized, he and everyone in his family. There in his home, he had food set out for a festive meal. It was a night to remember: He and his entire family had put their trust in God; everyone in the house was in on the celebration”** (Acts 16:32-34, MSG, italics mine).

Be saved.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

NAMB - Missionaries Nathan & Katie Kasper (Hope Fellowship), Dom & Megan Grotti (US Army Chaplain), The King Family, Mabel & Richard Mayes, VBS 2024

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray, Farney, Peter, Jimmy, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing,
Noah Martin, John Michael Chavez,
Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Brian Sula,
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 Rachel Aratin - (209)206-5236
Prayer Request e-mail to: **Judy Mahar** ldpbepayer@gmail.com

Church Board Members:

Hans Frei - Pastor . Richard Mayes - Head Deacon , .
Sue Kluding, Gabi Cox, Chuck Arndt,
Sue Hankemeier, Barb Deibler

Ministry Opportunity

Our children's department is seeking help for our Wednesday night class to assist the teacher. No teaching or prep is required - just show up to help as needed.

For more information, contact Susie Frei

(phone: 209-247-9234) or skfrei@gmail.com).

Where are you uniquely wired to serve??

- Multimedia
- Music
- Prayer Team
- Facility & Grounds
 - Youth
 - Kitchen
 - Food
 - Missions

Let us know. There's a place for you

January Announcements

Sermon Notes:

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- Women's Morning Bible Study— Wed. @ 10:00 AM
- Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
- January 28th - Communion Sunday

Dennis Welch will be Baptized TODAY!!!!

Fellowship Time Snacks were provided
By - "*Beverly's Class & The Youth*"

Thank you

Next week Merle's class is up!!

Happy New Year

If you notice someone has been absent from Small Group or Worship Services for awhile, why not call them or stop by to let him/her know that they have been missed. A kindness that cost you nothing could mean everything to someone who is suffering in the silence of self-exile.

Don't forget to check out the sermon on our website:
ldpbaptistchurch.com for you and your whole family.
Maybe even a neighbor ;)

Giving

January 14, 2024

Offering:
\$1,232.00

Food Basket:
\$.00

Facilities:
\$50.00

Missions:
\$35.00

Attendance:
77

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 - On Hiatus

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

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LAKE DON PEDRO
BAPTIST CHURCH

Be Saved

Acts 4:12

Sunday Services 10:30am & 6:00pm

LDPbaptistchurch.com



January 22nd - January 28th

DAY 1 - Gen. 31-32
(Prov. 22)

DAY 2 - Gen. 33-34
(Prov. 23)

DAY 3 - Gen. 35-36
(Prov. 24)

DAY 4 - Gen. 37-39
(Prov. 25)

DAY 5 - Gen. 39-40
(Prov. 26)

DAY 6 - (Prov. 27)

DAY 7 - (Prov. 28)

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.