



February 12, 2023

### Pastor Note:

After the old man had died they searched his bedroom and then the house, when it was all said and done they had found numerous stashes of cash totaling over \$70,000. No telling how much they didn't find because he hid too well. Where do you keep your valuables, your treasures? In a Ziplock bag hidden in a brick in the water tank of your toilet – are you a spy or a dealer? A sock in your dresser – very old-fashioned? An empty cracker tin in your cupboard – really? Taped to the back of your nightstand – brilliant? In the tote of unused toys on the top shelf in the garage – brave? A watertight container buried four-and-a-half steps from the north side of the oak tree on the west side of the house – wow? The safe behind the family portrait? Safety deposit box at your bank? Can't remember – OH NO!

Generally, the logic is the greater the treasure the greater the safekeeping measures, the more sophisticated the safe, the more high-tech the surveillance and alarm. That's why 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 is so surprising, **“For God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us”** (HCSB). You would think God would be wiser than putting His treasure under the mattress or worse yet stashing it in an easily carried-off and easily-broken clay jar. But since we know that God's wisdom is flawless and all-encompassing He must have very good reasons for placing His treasure into fragile jars of clay.

First, we have to understand what treasure we are talking about. The treasure is the life, light, and eternally saving Gospel of Christ. It is more valuable than all of the world's treasures.

Second, we, meaning everyone who believes in and has received Christ, are the fragile jars. Listen to Paul describing just how fragile his and his companions' jars were, **“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed”** 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (ESV). Talk about shattered and super-glued vessels.

Third, God is not trying to hide the treasure of Christ, forgiveness and eternal life through Christ, on the contrary, He is trying to make it accessible to as many people as possible, it is the treasure everyone needs.

Fourth, the treasure of the life, truth, glory, and saving power of Christ is highlighted and made accessible to everyone by depositing it into frail and mortal vessels like you and me. We don't have to be super-special, super-human, or even super-spiritual to display and distribute the surpassing value of the Good News of Jesus. Listen to the Apostle Paul again, **“Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies. So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you. But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, ‘I believed in God, so I spoke.’ We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. All of this is for your benefit. And as God’s grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory. That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!**

**So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever”** 2 Corinthians 4:10-18 (NLT2).

Fifth, You and I might never encounter all the perils Paul mentions, but we are just as fragile, just as mortal, just as blessed with the treasure that is Christ, and just as called to display and distribute God's greatest treasure. We condemn our world, our family members, our friends, coworkers, classmates, neighbors, acquaintances, and people in our communities to hell when we tuck the treasure of Christ away for ourselves and only put on it on display during church huddles. The priceless Gospel of Christ is meant to be taken to the busy streets, the sinful corners, the godless halls of power, the debauched places of indulgence, the sewers of wickedness, the enclaves of meaningless comfort, the gutters of human misery, and the sinkholes of despair.

Sixth, we are not called to run and hide, to be safe and comfortable. No, we are called to be fragile, oft-broken jars. We are called to constantly illuminate and unleash the treasure of Christ.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



# Lord Hear Our Prayers

## PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Karen Souza, Shirley Wolfenbarger,  
Mabel Mayes, JoEllen, Jim & Gabi Cox, Chuck Arndt,  
Sue Hankemeier, Linda Bettencourt,  
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:

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**Order of Service**  
**02-12-23**

**“Since Jesus Came into My Life”**  
**“He Touched Me”**  
**“All My Hope”**

Opening Prayer-Welcome

**“There is Joy in the Lord”**

Kids Time

Baptism - John Smither

Offering // **“Amazing Grace-My Chains are Gone”**

Sermon

Response // **“My Jesus I Love Thee” or**

**“I Surrender All”**

Exit Song //

**“Redeemed How I Love to Proclaim It”**

Closing Prayer

## Being a Church that Cares Well

Training coming soon...

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 6:30-8:30 pm.

Meeting 1: 2/13/23

Meeting 2: 3/13/23

Meeting 3: 4/10/23

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](mailto:skfrei@gmail.com) or 209-247-9234) or let Jannett know.

# February 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.
- Church Board Meeting - **February 13th @ 6:30 PM**
- Communion Sunday - February 26th (Food Ministry)

Fellowship Time Snacks  
were provided

By - Dan's class

**Thank you**

*Next week Beverly's class & Youth is up!!*

A Bit of  
Humor  
Corner



O SPLENDID, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY LET  
MILDRED DO THE BULLETINS AGAIN

**Giving**

*February 5, 2023*

**Offering:**  
\$3,637.00

**Food**  
\$100.00

**Facilities:**  
\$150.00

**Attendance:**  
62

**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 PM

**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

**Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church**

**4175 Abeto Street**

**La Grange California 95329**

**209-852-2029**

**ldpbaptistchurch@gmail.com**

**www.ldpbaptistchurch.com**

**S H A R E**



*1 Timothy 6:18*



**February 13th thru February 19th**

DAY 1 - Romans 4  
(Psalms 13)

DAY 2 - Romans 5  
(Psalms 14)

DAY 3 - Romans 6  
(Psalms 15)

DAY 4 - Romans 7  
(Psalms 16)

DAY 5 - Romans 8  
(Psalms 17)

DAY 6 - (Psalms 18)  
DAY 7 - (Psalms 19)

**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.**