



September 23, 2023

Pastor Note:

Revelation – Speculation - Preparation

I can testify, there was life before cell phones, and it wasn't as terrifying and terrible as that might sound to some. Living in those pre-cellular, Neanderthalic times was different, you had to do more than make sure your phone is charged so you can google solutions or call for help, you had to be prepared. For example, living an hour from the nearest town, I learned the importance of being prepared for possible car emergencies, which involved three basic things.

- **Checking.** Checking the oil and other fluid levels regularly. Checking the tire pressure, especially in your spare tire because, FYI, a spare is worthless without air in it. You only need to have a flat and a flat spare once halfway home in the middle of the night to learn that lesson.
- **Fueling.** You made sure had at least half a tank of gas before the Don Pedro Market closed, enough to make it to town and back. You only needed to run out of gas once halfway home ... to learn that lesson.
- **Emergency supplies.** A can of oil, a spare engine belt, a container of water, baling wire and duct tape, some basic tools, points, and a matchbook for any car without electronic ignition, fuses, a working flashlight (which meant you added it to your check regularly list), jumper cables, car jack and lug nut wrench, toilet paper, a blanket, first aid stuff, and some drinking water. All of these got stored under the seat, in the glove compartment, and an empty cardboard box in the trunk. You only needed to have an emergency once halfway ... to appreciate the value of having these items on board.

Also, without a smartphone, OnStar, or some other satellite emergency communication, you remembered to pray a lot sooner, because that has been the one sure connection since the dawn of mankind.

Jesus, preparing His disciples for both His absence and difficult things to come kept telling them, "Look to yourselves," "Watch out," "Be on your guard," "Anticipate," and "Stay alert, awake, and vigilant" (Mark 13:5, 9, 33, 35, 37). He knew they and we would face the challenges of being misled, being wronged and persecuted, and facing difficult and terrible times. All of these are easier to navigate and endure if we are prepared and vigilant.

I've lost count of how many times I was able to help someone who was broken down on the road somewhere halfway between ... and home (although not always in the middle of the night). The same has been true in other ways. It is a lot easier to care for someone else when your own tank isn't empty, to help someone when you have some emergency supplies (the Good Samaritan comes to mind, Luke 10), and you have paid attention to your own maintenance, especially your spiritual maintenance, your heart, mind, attitude, habits, and relationship with God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

There is a big difference between "I think I have enough gas to make it to town," and "I know I have enough gas to make it to town because I filled the tank before I came home for dinner." Speculation generally isn't very helpful, but preparation is, Jesus certainly thinks so.

Be prepared, it brings God glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

Sermon Notes:

PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Mabel Mayes, Lori Newton,
Cherlyann (health), Colton & Olivia (car accident), Judy Ingalls,
Rose Powers, Elena Saucedo, Carolyn Jeffers, Rachel Aratin,
And that we SHARE.

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.

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/or an e-mail to: **Judy Mahar** ldpbcprayer@gmail.com

Church Board Members:

Hans Frei - Pastor . Richard Mayes - Head Deacon
Russ Young . Dan Hankemeier . Sue Kluding .
Gabi Cox . Chuch Arndt

September Announcements

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

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.
- Grief Share - Wed. @ 630 PM
- Communion Sunday - September 24th
Deacon Board Meeting every 4th Sunday after service

Fellowship Time Snacks
were provided
By - "Dan's Class"

Thank you

Next week Beverly's and Youth's Class is up!!

A Bit of
Humor
Corner



"If you're ever headed the wrong way in life, remember the road to Heaven allows U-turns."

Giving

September 17th

Offering:
\$ 2,229.60

Facilities:
\$50.00

Books:
\$5.00

Attendance:
80

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

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

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S H A R E



1 Timothy 6:18



September 25th - October 1st

DAY 1 - Heb. 2
(Ps. 113)

DAY 2 - Heb. 3
(Ps. 114)

DAY 3 - Heb. 4
(Ps. 115)

DAY 4 - Heb. 5
(Ps. 116)

DAY 5 - Heb. 6
(Ps. 117)

DAY 6- (Ps. 118)

DAY 7- (Prov. 1)

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.