



January 17th , 2024 #1,020

Truth

My devotion this morning included these words **from John 17.17, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."** These were words from the high priestly prayer of Jesus that he prayed on the night he was betrayed. This verse comes from the section in which he was praying for those who have come to believe in Jesus. Although we are not named, this prayer is for us as well and not just the disciples.



Most people don't really want the truth. They just want constant reassurance that what they believe is the truth.

This verse describes where truth comes from. It comes from God the Father. His words are true. This is why in John 14.1, Jesus could declare that his disciples trusted and believed in the Father, because he is truth. The Father speaks the truth and only the truth because that is his character. If we want the truth we go to the Word of God, which is the written word, the Bible and the living Word, Jesus the Christ. Jesus only spoke the truth of God the Father. (John 17.8) This seems like a no brainer to those of us who believe.

But sadly, the sentiment in the picture attached to this article is true for many in the world today. People in our world believe certain things that are in fact not true, but they desperately want those things to be true. They hold onto many of these things even when the evidence seems to be contrary to what they believe. When we try to show them that those things are not true, they become hostile, or they passively close the door on the conversation. They refuse to hear the truth.

So, what do we do? First, we stay grounded and rooted in the truth of the Word of God. We continue to study and internalize it so we know it so well that when we hear something that is untrue, red flags go up immediately. Secondly, we pray for those who "can't handle the truth." We pray that God will open their hearts to the fallacy of the "truth" they are holding on to and will be open to hear God's truth. Thirdly, we look for those open door opportunities to share the truth that God shows us.

Through our belief in God we have the truth that people need to hear and believe.
In Christ Alone

Prayer & Praises



- Merv Good requested prayer for the Good Family to recover from the flu.
- Brett & Pam Miller shared praise last Sunday that Sutton was born on January 4th to Kayla & Ben. And now they have a praise that they are going to be grandparents again. Larissa & Dan are expecting a baby in July.
- Please continue to pray for Mark Lipsitz as he recovers from Covid.
- Please pray for Victor Riddle's pain to be relieved.
- Please pray for the Julius family. Marilyn's mother, Frances Kunkle has been released and sent home on hospice. Please keep them in your prayers during this difficult time.
- Flossie Deardorff shared praise that her 3rd great-grandchild was born last Tuesday.
- Jerry Stiffler shared that Virginia Stiffler is getting better. Thanks for the prayers.
- Victor Riddle requested prayer for Cheryl {parent of a child he had in school} who has been stricken with cancer throughout her body.
- Please pray for Kathy McWilliams. Her surgery for this past Friday was canceled due to her illness. Please pray that it will be able to be rescheduled soon.
- Please pray for Joanne Miller's sister Linda Whiteford admitted to Lancaster General with difficulty breathing. The lung with the mass has filled with fluid. She also had a cyst removed from her neck this past week. She finally has an appointment with oncology on January 19th.

Ongoing Health Concern Prayers

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| *Kathy McWilliams | *Sarah Sabold (Smeltzer) | *Ken Warren | *Mary Fisher |
| *Alyssa Leakway | *Gloria Gerber | *Missy Braden | *Bryce Baublitz |
| *Julie Waggoner | *Bill Barley | *Brandon Little | *Derek Meck |
| *Josh (Bonnie Tyson's Grandson) | *Ruth Cook | *Victor Riddle | *Mark Lipsitz |

Cancer Special Prayers

- | | | | |
|------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| *Julia McCartney | *Greg & Sandy George | *Butch Warren's brother | *Ted Erb (Traci Kauffman family) |
| | *Kathy McWilliams brother-in-law Phillip | *Tom Kimmel | *Bob (Ron Engle, friend) |
| *Sandy Harlacker | *Ellie Basko | *Mark Yonker | *Keith Kauffman (Kerry Kauffman's brother) |
| *Jean Beck | *Donald Moore | *Butch Warren | |

CBC and CBC Region 3 Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following congregations and pastors:

- Kapernaum Congregation in Tanzania, with Pastor Elisha Rugigele Saudi.
- Sugar Ridge Congregation in Custer, Michigan, with no current pastor.

Important Dates and INFORMATION

This week

Wednesday 1/10

*Sisters Bible Study 9 am

*Life Group 6:30 pm

Saturday 1/13

*Holiday Dinner

Sunday 1/14

*9 am Come Worship!

*Widows/Widowers Luncheon Noon

Next Week

Wednesday 1/17

*Life Group 6:30 pm

Saturday 1/20

*Men's Bible Study Breakfast 7 am

Sunday 1/21

*9 am Come Worship!

*Widows/Widowers Luncheon Noon

You are Invited!

Women's Fellowship will be visiting

with the Fruitbelt Farmworkers

Tuesday, January 30th at 5:30.

We will be taking them a small gift to take home to their wives and or moms or children. We will have a time of sharing, perhaps Bible study or having a message as well as some singing hopefully. We will be sharing dinner and dessert with them.

This group of workers will be returning to Honduras in March. We would love for more people men and women to come and join us! We do need to know however if you will be joining us. We will carpool from the church at 4:30. A signup sheet will be posted on the bulletin board. **RSVP by January 21.** Thank you for your consideration!

Prayer Shawl

Ministry

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 25th, 2024

10 am – 2 pm

(weather permitting)



The Servant Schedule for the new year is posted on the bulletin board. Please consider volunteering your time and talents by signing up! Thank you!

Nurture Commission



**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**

NEXT MEETING

3rd Saturday each month

January 20th, 7 am

Dover Valley Restaurant

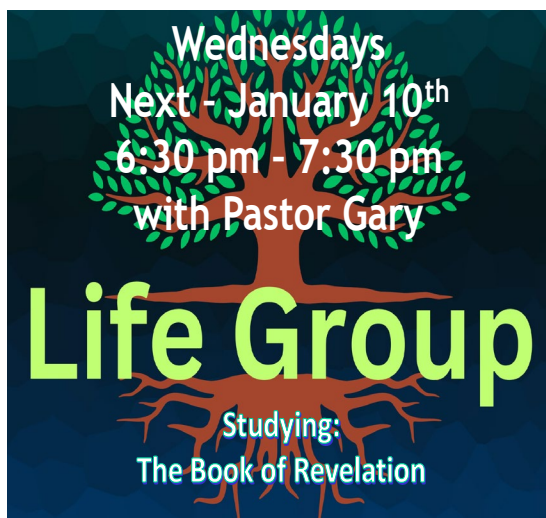
SERVANT OUTREACH TEAM

In the sermons this past October and November we spent some time focusing on how we can outflow, overflow the marvelous blessings of God in Christ to those around us. As we closed that series I gave an invitation to the congregation to be a part of a team who would brainstorm ways that we could reach out to our community with the love of Christ. After some brainstorming, the team would then make the plans, solicit helpers and then implement the outreach ministry. The hope is that this will be an ongoing ministry. We hope many of you will be interested.

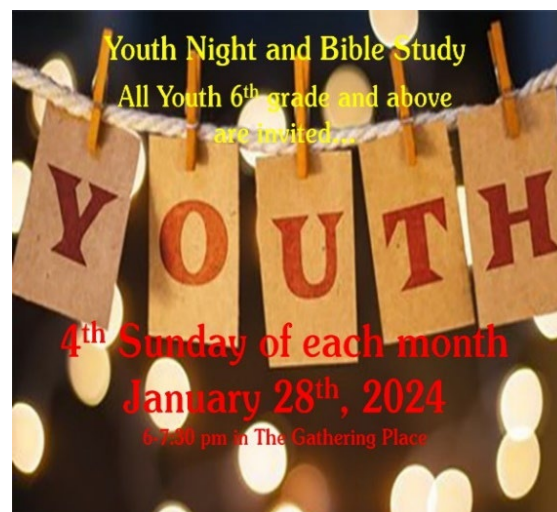
We are setting January 25 as the date to gather to begin to organize around this ministry. There will be a gathering at 10:00 AM and a gathering at 6:30 PM on that day.

A sign-up sheet will go up this week for individuals to sign-up for one or both of those times. On the sign-up there will also be a place for those who don't want to be on the team per se, but will be willing to be called on to help.

Please, begin now to pray for God's leading in this.



Wednesdays
Next - January 10th
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
with Pastor Gary
Life Group
Studying:
The Book of Revelation



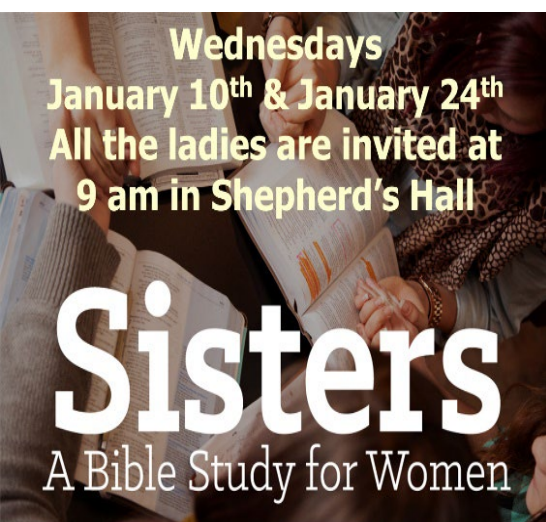
Youth Night and Bible Study
All Youth 6th grade and above
are invited...
YOUTH
4th Sunday of each month
January 28th, 2024
6-7:30 pm in The Gathering Place

Directory Updates

Directories will be printed in early 2024. Please complete one of the forms and put it in the Secretary's mailbox. You can also email the office with the information you have to change. bermudiansecretary@gmail.com

- Name
- Address
- Phone numbers (cell and/or home)
- Email
- Birthday
- Anniversary

time to
UPDATE



Wednesdays
January 10th & January 24th
All the ladies are invited at
9 am in Shepherd's Hall
Sisters
A Bible Study for Women



Ruth's Harvest
a cooperative ministry with the Abbottstown-East Berlin Food Pantry and Bermudian Springs School
Furnishing food items for children with inadequate nutrition at home. January 24th



COLLECTING AGAIN
Thank You for your faithful giving!