



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 30, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

May 7

Our Next Gospel Meeting

TBA

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

February 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ

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“BY ITS LIGHT WILL THE NATIONS WALK”

Since preaching the recent series about Heaven, I have been thinking about the incredible unity that can and should exist among people of God. You may recall reading Revelation 21:24, 26 in that series. John is speaking about the light provided by God and the Lamb within the heavenly kingdom. He says, “By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it...they will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.” As I told you at the time, I believe this passage speaks of the inclusiveness of Heaven. All among the nations who submit to Christ, from kings to paupers, will be welcome into Heaven to be with God in eternity.

In a nation so divided it seems that very little can bring us into true unity in our own country, much less those beyond. And yet, Jesus has made possible what can be achieved in no other way. Namely, unity among those so deeply different in almost every conceivable way.

Let’s engage in a thought experiment. Suppose a table with six chairs has been prepared. Each seat has a card listing the name, occupation, and country of its occupant. In chair one sits Ishaan, a janitor of the worker caste from India. Chair two is occupied by Champei, a member of the National Assembly in Cambodia. Seat three is reserved for Jie, an elderly Chinese woman housebound and infirm. In seat four we find Jessica, a freshman in college right here in Kentucky. Seat five is reserved for Diego, a farmer from outside Mexico City. In seat six is Tebogo, a veterinarian in an animal habitat in Botswana. For the sake of this exercise, let’s remove the language barrier.

Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary and Riley Mae Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Patty Hill, Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Fay Thomas, Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

What would these six people possibly have to talk about? Their cultures are not only different, in some cases they are in opposition. Their politics are so different as to seem alien to one another. Their clothing is worlds apart. Their diets differ dramatically. Their hobbies are not even available to each one at the table. It is far more difficult to find similarities than differences among this group. What possible unity could exist here? *None*, besides being human beings.

But if we learn that each has been washed in the blood of Jesus Christ and follows him faithfully, their commonalities become, to borrow the language of Paul, "much in every way!" If they can speak of nothing else, their shared experience of God's word, grace, mercy, and love provides them an endless well from which to draw. The glory of these nations (Revelation 21:26), such as they are, enter into the heavenly kingdom through these individual souls and are put to use honoring the very One who brings them together and invites them to one blessed table. Nothing and no one else can provide such wonderful unity. One day, we will experience its fullness in Heaven. Praise God and the Lamb! Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
	Marcus Lake	
	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

