



THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

September 17

Our Next Gospel Meeting

Today through Friday

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 2 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

October 6, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ

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TRUSTING GOD

Learning to trust God can be difficult for us, especially when we don't understand why things are the way they are. Why did God make us this way? Why isn't the Bible clearer on this or that topic? Why does Jesus say it that way? Why does God allow this person to suffer? On go the questions to which we often don't have the full answers. For some, this kind of problem can be something that creates a crisis in faith. How can we live with unanswered questions? How can we accept a God who doesn't tell us everything we want to know?

Jesus taught, *"Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all"* (Mark 10:15). The key issue here is that of trust. From the time we were born, we learned to trust our parents. We didn't know anything about the world. We were entirely in the hands of our caretakers — innocent, ignorant, and with no way of knowing how to care for ourselves. Yet we trusted.

We may have cried, struggled for independence, and asked, "Why?" as we were growing, but we know now that the only way to get by was through trusting those in charge. It is, in fact, only reasonable that those who know less and have fewer experiences should learn from those who know more and have experienced more.

Yet think of how much greater God is. He holds the universe in the palm of His hand. *"Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and marked off the heavens by the span, and calculated the dust of the earth by the measure, and weighed the mountains in a balance and the hills in a pair of scales?"* (Isa. 40:12)

Members Needing Our Prayers

The Reynolds' family, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Janett Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Blake and Brianna Ratliff, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Michael Edwards, Alyse Nash, Mary Bishop, Helen Thomas, Patty Hill, Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Family of Valari Butler-Jones, Charlie Hoy, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, 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.

We do not have the knowledge of the Holy One. We cannot gather the winds in our fists. We cannot wrap the waters in our garments (see Prov. 30:4). So how much more should we then learn to trust that God knows what He is doing!?

So much of Scripture is devoted to the power of God, urging us to trust His wisdom. The book of Job perfectly illustrates this. When God finally spoke, they were reminded of their ignorance and of the power and wisdom of God in this creation (see Job 38ff). Job needed to learn to trust God, even when he didn't understand all the reasons for his own personal suffering.

Faith allows us to live with unanswered questions. Yes, we keep searching and learning, but our knowledge will not be filled to the brim. It may be that some answers are beyond our grasp, but the bottom line is that we are still the children who don't know how to care for ourselves. We are not so innocent, but God takes care of that if we will trust Him. He has made all the arrangements. If we trust Him, we can live through the difficulties and know that it will all be worthwhile in the end (1 Cor. 15:58).
Doy Moyer

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

