TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Don Taylor /Opening Prayer by: Jerry Mallernee

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Danny Balch

#452 Standing on the Promises
#678 More About Jesus

Scripture Reading by: Parker Balch
#383 Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross
Lord's Supper and Contribution

#432 How Shall the Young Secure Their Hearts
Sermon: Biblical Graduates
Joshua 1:9

#947 Jesus Is Tenderly Calling
#753 Farther Along

Closing Prayer by: Andre Jones

Elders	Deacons	Minister
Ken Coleman	Daniel Balch	Bryant Perkins
Bobby Rader	Danny Balch	
Don Taylor	Phillip Strickhausen	
Robert Ward		

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"
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Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship
Wednesday: 6:30pm — Bible Study Classes

May 30, 2021

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"

Galatians 5:1

Reminder:

Tomorrow is Memorial Day, a time that our nation has set aside to commemorate those military personnel who died in the performance of their duties. That concept of memorial is one that is worth deeper consideration. The ability to remember is a wonderful gift that God has given to us. Over the years, I have talked often about this at funeral services—memorial services—that I have officiated. But God is also aware of the fact that, sometimes, we forget. When that happens, he has given us reminders to help jog our memory.

He promised Noah he would never destroy all life in a flood again. Then God stated, "*I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth*" **(Gen 9:13)**. Every time we see a rainbow, it serves as a reminder of God's promise.

Or consider a story from **Joshua 4** as the Israelites prepared to enter the Promised Land. They came to the Jordan at flood stage, uncertain of how to cross it. God instructed Joshua to have the priests carry the Ark of the Covenant into the middle of the river; when they did that, the water stopped flowing, and the people crossed on the dry ground. But in the process, God commanded one man of each tribe to gather a rock from the riverbed in order to make a monument. *When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever* **(Josh 4:6-7).**

There are special days and times in Scripture designed to help us remember specific events. Let's consider 3 that are especially meaningful. We know the stories behind each one of these, but see how God jogs our memories and calls us to remember important things.

The Feast of Passover
The Israelites had been sojourners and then slaves in Egypt for over 400 years. Then God called Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let the people go. Moses complied, but Pharaoh refused to listen. So to reinforce his demand, God sent plague after plague upon Egypt, finally culminating in the death of the firstborn.

Family News & Notes

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our Sick

Oscar Cantu is taking chemo treatments

Ronnie Riggs will be having surgery soon**.**

Lynn Taylor, Don Taylor's sister in law, had surgery and is at home.

Wayne Noonkester had a pacemaker put in on Friday.

Gayle Coleman will be having a MRI on her head.

Continued Prayers
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Joe Edd Stifflemire, Winston Leifester, Caitlin Smith, J. C. Whitfield

Shut Ins
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Larry Hicks, Catherine Parker

Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

Upcoming Activities

Today May 30th will be Senior Sunday. We have 6 graduating seniors. Brooks McKelroy, Tristan Strickhausen, Aly Wingfield, Eric Caballero, Isabella Leal and Khoa Tran. We will have a congregational meal after service.

We will have a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, June 1st at 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, June 2nd we will be having a meal at 5:45 p.m. with evening service at 6:30 p.m.

Primetimers will be going to Marcella's Italian Grill on Tuesday, June 8th at 6:00 p.m. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

VBS is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 19-Thursday, July 22nd. For more information, see Abbey Perkins.

We will resume Sunday evening service on Sunday, June 6th. The new time for evening service will be 5:00 p.m.

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But before he did that, God gave instructions to the Israelites: each family was to choose a year-old lamb without spot or blemish, kill it, drain its blood into a basin, and roast it. They were to take the blood and spread it around the doorframe of the house, so that the Lord would pass over them when he struck the households of the Egyptians. God did everything that he said he would do, and as a result, the Egyptians set them free. And that is why the Passover was to be celebrated. *This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast* **(Exodus 12:14).**

The Lord's Supper

The night before his crucifixion, Jesus met with his disciples to celebrate the Passover—to remember, as God had commanded them long ago. But as they ate, Jesus gave them something new and greater to remember. *[The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"* **(1 Cor 11:23-25).**

The Passover meal was no longer to be a reminder of release from Egyptian bondage; now the bread and cup were to be eternal reminders of the new thing God had done in Christ, who is our Passover lamb without spot or blemish, taking away our sins (**1 Cor 5:7; 1 Pet 1:19; Jn 1:29).**

The Day of Assembly

We meet to eat this meal together on the first day of the week. The Jews had a day set aside for remembrance every week: the Sabbath, a day for rest commemorating God's consecration of it at Creation. In a similar way, the first day celebrates God's action in the resurrection of Jesus. That's when the earliest Christians met to encourage one another and worship God.

In the book of Revelation, John speaks of this as the *Lord's Day* **(Rev 1:10).** And so it is that we assemble on the Lord's Day to eat the Lord's Supper and corporately worship.

We have so much to remember, in all aspects of life. But it is especially true in our spiritual lives. Let's not forget the faithfulness God always exhibits toward his people. Let's not forget to come together to worship him. And when we do, let us especially remember what God has down for us in Christ: the sacrifice that calls us together and the resurrection that guarantees our own.

Bryant Perkins