

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

WHAT IS TRUTH?*John 14:6 "Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.'"*

There is an old fable about two artists and both of them were extremely talented and had their own audiences of followers. They lived in the same town so eventually a decision was made to host a competition to determine which of the two was really the best artist. On the day of the judging, many people came to watch, and it was decided to hold the contest outdoors. Because of the sun and the wind, and perhaps to raise the suspense just a bit, both paintings were to be covered with draperies until each was revealed and judged one at a time. The drapery was removed from the first painting. It was a still life of fruits and flowers. It looked so real. The colors and the shadings were so authentic. In fact, some birds flew down from the trees and tried to pick the grapes on the canvas. People were so moved by the painting that the judges even wondered if they even needed to look at the second painting, but they decided they needed to. The judge tried to remove it from the painting. As he looked closer he found he could not remove the drapery. The drapery covering the second painting was, in fact, the painting itself. The best artist was selected. One painting looked real enough to fool birds while the second one was so real it fooled everyone. Sometimes we have trouble picking out the real from the unreal, the true from the untrue or only the partially true. How do you know what is truth? I would invite you to go back to God's word and hear the words of Jesus who said, "I am the truth." You want to know what is true? Center your life in Jesus Christ and in His word, and you will discover truth.

- Dr. Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 18, 2016

Warts And All*II Corinthians 4:7 "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that the all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."*

I meet Christians all the time who wish they were a little bit different. They tell me they want to be further along in their Christian walk. They tell me some flaw, some perceived short-coming, and say if they knew more Bible, if they had more of this and less than that then they would lead a small group, they would teach a class, they would mentor a young Christian. They point to some wart in their lives and say if it weren't here then God could use them. Newsflash! You are not a liability to God. When you are saved you stop being a liability to God. Even when we mess up God is still going to use it somehow for our or someone else's good. Stop saying to yourself that God can't use you yet. God can and will use you just as you are if you allow Him to. Your body is the exact vessel God wants to use, warts and all. The question is-will you stop focusing on yourself and instead focus on God and offer yourself to God for His use. You are the vessel. You carry Christ. The treasure is not you, the vessel. It isn't about how you look on the outside or even how you feel about your body or your warts. The treasure is what is inside of the vessel. Your purpose, no matter whether you are a young Christian or mature in Christ, is to allow the life of Christ to flow through you onto others. God wants to express Himself through you and use your warts to do it. People are not attracted to your perfections. People sympathize and people lay down their defenses because of your warts. Your humanity is how God touches the world..

- Virginia Thompson

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 19, 2016

Learning from Other People's Mistakes*Ephesians 5:1-2a "Follow God's example in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love for others."*

As you read through the gospels, you cannot help but be amazed by the grace and kindness of Jesus. Yet, His boldness and audacity are equally amazing. Jesus was not afraid of confrontation. The majority of his conflicts seemed to take place with the Pharisees. He calls the Pharisees hypocrites, white washed tombs, and blind guides. Why did Jesus and the Pharisees have so many disagreements? What can we learn from their many mistakes? First, we learn that outward actions of religion do not necessarily equal a relationship with God. The Pharisees were models of piety. Yet, all their religious activity was fake. Jesus calls them "whitewashed tombs" because their beautiful outward appearance covered the emptiness of their inward lives. In similar fashion, Christians can fall into this same trap. We do all the right things and say all the right words, but ultimately it is all show. We are dead and empty on the inside. It is crucial that are religious activity be the overflow of our love relationship with Christ. Second, the Pharisees' lack of mercy and compassion bothered Jesus. The Pharisees were more concerned about the technicalities of the law than the condition of people. They often missed the miracles of healing and forgiveness due to their own legalism. Again, Christians are tempted to make the same mistake. Often our religious activity can be divorced from our love for God and love for people. If our faith begins to make us increasingly impatient and insensitive, we may need to examine who we are following. Scripture is clear: the fruits of the Spirit are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control."

-- Rev. Brandon Dasinger/ Teaching Pastor and Director of Missions

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 20, 2016

Waiting on God*Psalms 27:13-14 "13 I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD."*

Sarah, the wife of Abraham. God told Abraham to go to the land of Canaan, and Abraham obeyed. Sarah didn't know much about the plan, yet she knew one thing. She was going where Abraham was going. Tim is walking inside God's path. I don't know much about the plan, but I am going where Tim is going. God has whispered to Tim that it is time to retire, but He hasn't let us in on the next step. So... we wait. We wait. We wait for God to reveal the plan. Where will we live? We don't know. What other work in ministry will we be given? We don't know. God will let us know when He is ready. And, with patience, we will trust Him because He asks us to trust. Waiting is something God asks us all to do. At some point in your life, God will ask you to trust Him in the waiting. We don't always see His hand or know the plan, but God is working in the wait. If you are in one of God's 'waiting rooms,' know this, God is preparing a place for you. God is preparing you for the place. God is preparing people for you to meet, and He is preparing work for you to do. And God is making all these preparations, while we wait, in order to work His plan and purpose. Our task as His children is patiently and prayerfully and with great trust in God – wait.

*- Virginia Thompson***TRADITIONAL SERVICE**

SANCTUARY - FEBRUARY 14, 2016

WORSHIP GUIDE & DAILY DEVOTIONS



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FLOWER DEDICATION

Flowers are given in memory of Joe Hall, father and former friend of all, by Kathy and Laslie Hall.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Prelude: “Pachelbel Canon/Tell the Good News” (Arr. Ford) Kelley Garrett, organ
- Call to Worship: “Praise the King” Choir
- Hymn #384: “Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling/Change My Heart, O God” Congregation
- Prayer of Confession
- People:** Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.
- Silent Prayer
- Assurance of Pardon
- Leader:** Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
- People:** Glory to God!
- Special Music: “I Am Not My Own” Choir
- Prayer, Announcements & Call for Offering Kim Hendrix
- Offertory: “In the Garden ” First Light
- Doxology Congregation
- Sermon Dr. Tim Thompson
- Hymn: “Jesus Paid It All” Congregation
- Benediction Dr. Tim Thompson
- Postlude: Fanfare on “St. Gertrude” (Young) Kelley Garrett

SERMON NOTES

The Crux

Colossians 1:15-23 ¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.”

— Dr. Tim Thompson

Watch today’s sermon on WFRZ-TV or online at frazer.church/media. You may also order a CD of today’s service at the Connection Point desk.

MONDAY

FEBRUARY 15, 2016

HERE AM I

II Chronicles 7:14 “If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and I will forgive their sin. I will heal their land.”

My friend, John Cunningham, Jr, an active member of Frazer, wrote this piece on Facebook, and I think it is a good word for us to ponder today: “Yale University 1789: Its students took pride in being sinners and infidels. Yale University 1795: Timothy Dwight becomes the President of Yale and fires all of its ungodly professors. He begins to carefully rebut the philosophical arguments the students had against Christianity, which they had taken from the philosophers of the French Revolution. Yale University 1802: In its chapel services Dwight preached the Bible in a scholarly manner and point by point rebutted the French Revolution’s philosophers.” This sparked a revival on the campus and led to about one-third of the student body becoming born again Christians. This was but one phase of what became known as America’s Second Great Awakening. America 2016: From no matter how low our society has sunk, God can always raise up men and women of God like Timothy Dwight and use them to bring our country back to Him. Why He might even raise us up to do it, if we make ourselves available. - Dr. Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Marriage: A Beautiful Mess

Ephesians 5:31-33“A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.”

I think marriage is beautiful because here we see the mysterious union of two becoming one. I think marriage is messy because here we see two sinners trying to be one. Not easy. This is why marriage requires divine grace. I am very aware that God has blessed me with a unique person for a wife. My wife, Kelli, is sweet, compassionate, and strong. Most people (including her) would not perceive her as “strong.” In our culture we think of “strong” in terms of outgoing, outspoken, and controlling. Kelli is none of these things. She is a shy introvert who would rather jump out of a window then speak in front of a large crowd. Yet, she has what the Bible calls quiet strength. She is faithful, selfless, and available. She confirmed our decision to move to Kentucky so I could attend Asbury Seminary. She was vocal about our need to sponsor a child through World Vision even though I was in graduate school and we barely had enough to get by. She was the one who said “Let’s do it!” when we discussed adoption. And now we’re being certified as Foster Care parents. Let’s face it... most people would not want the life we have. Most spouses want new cars, jewelry, amazing vacations... not mission trips and adoptions. I am so grateful God blessed me with such an amazing wife. Don’t get me wrong, sometimes we are a mess just like any other couple. But our marriage is a beautiful mess, and I love our life together.

-- Rev. Brandon Dasinger/Teaching Pastor and Director of Missions