

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 24, 2016

TITANIC LESSONS

Proverbs 9:9 "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser. Teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning."

A wealthy investor has announced plans to build a replica of the ill-fated Titanic that so famously sank when it hit an iceberg after boasting that it was "unsinkable." The Titanic II will launch in 2018. Their marketing director did promise that the ship will have a better hull and "modern evacuation plans." I have never been on a cruise ship. I have always wanted to go on a cruise to Alaska, but I don't think I will take my first cruise on a ship named Titanic. Now I can't decide if building a new Titanic is an enormous example of the courage to try, try again, or the folly of repeating the same mistake twice. I guess the difference between the two is how much we are willing to learn from our past mistakes. Doing the same thing over and over but expecting different results is the definition of insanity. However, changing based on learning is the definition of progress and growth. A mark of a growing Christian is that he is always teachable. A disciple is a learner. Make sure you have a titanic desire to learn, not a titanic ego. And along the journey watch out for icebergs.

- Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 25, 2016

Love That Does Not Die

Song of Solomon 8:7 "Many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it."

Love is an interesting thing. Dr. Seuss says, "We are all a little weird and life is a little weird and when we find someone whose weirdness is compatible with ours, we join up with them and fall in mutual weirdness and call it love." Love is a beautiful thing. Researchers in Europe have studied thousands of older couples and not surprisingly they found their level of happiness tended to match one another. Happy husband, happy wife, and vice versa. What did surprise the researchers was that the link between spouses went on even after death. If a widow's husband was happy when he died, the widow tended to be happier even years after his death. We make vows in marriage to love until death do us part. But I think this study is a beautiful reminder that God uses human love to show us something even more fundamental: that the power of love is greater than the power of death. Through our connection to one another, God's ultimate purpose is to show us His love for us--a love that never ends. As the Bible says, "many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it."

- Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 26, 2016

Wisely Chosen Words

Proverbs 10:19 "When there are many words transgression is unavoidable. But he who restrains his lips is wise."

Researchers claim that children need to hear 30 million words by age 4 in order to have their best shot in school and in life. One company has developed a device your child can wear that actually listens to and keeps count of all the different words your child hears. It even makes suggestions on words and sounds to work on with your child. Now I'm not sure how valuable a wearable word counter will be. I'm not sure it's how many words you speak. The issue is what words are you speaking? The Bible teaches us to be careful with the words that we say, and it reminds us that a person who speaks less is considered wise. Regardless of how many words your loved ones hear, make sure they are words of love. Words of support, encouragement, gratitude, appreciation, comfort, acceptance and understanding are words that people long to hear. 30 million words may be important, but there are three words that are the most important: I love you. Are you speaking those words to those who are most important to you?

- Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 27, 2016

Who Jesus Prays For

John 17:9 "I pray for them. I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, for they are yours."

I was thinking about something this week that I have not given much thought to, and when I started thinking about it, I was really thankful. I am thankful that Jesus is praying for you and me. Did you know that? Isn't that cool? The Savior, the King of kings, the Light of the world, the Conqueror of death, is praying for you and for me. Now I am always moved when someone says he is praying for me because that is often the most powerful and loving thing we can do for one another. James 5:16 says, "The prayer of a person who is living right is powerful and effective." But think about Jesus' praying for you. The prayer of a good person on this earth is powerful and effective but how much more powerful and effective are the prayers of the totally righteous one who is Jesus. He is praying for you. I love the quote, "The nicest place to be is in someone's thoughts, the safest place to be is in someone's prayers, and the best place to be is in God's hands." It makes me feel thankful, safe, and good and well-loved to know that I am in the thoughts and prayers and the hands of Jesus. Don't forget He is praying for you and for me. If you will read John 17:1-19, you will find Jesus is praying for your peace, for your protection, and for His purpose to be accomplished in your life. I don't know about you, but it makes me feel good to know that Jesus is praying for you and me.

- Tim Thompson, Senior Pastor

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

SANCTUARY - FEBRUARY 21, 2016

WORSHIP GUIDE & DAILY DEVOTIONS



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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
.....Fran Wilkinson, piano; Kelley Garrett, organ
Call to Worship: "Praise the King" (8 a.m.)..... Choir
"Jesus Loves Medley" (9:30 & 11 a.m.)... 4 & 5 Year Old Choir
Hymn #371: "I Stand Amazed in His Presence/Glory to His Name"
..... Congregation
Special Music: "Lord Have Mercy" Exaltation
Prayer of Confession

People: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Silent Prayer
Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not threaten us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

People: Glory to God!

Special Music: "At the Name of Jesus" Choir
Prayer, Announcements & Call for Offering Dr. Neil Epler
Offertory: "I'll Always Need Him" Exaltation
Doxology Congregation
Sermon Dr. Tim Thompson
Hymn #357: "Just as I Am" Congregation
Benediction Dr. Tim Thompson
Postlude: Recessional on "St. Anne" Kelley Garrett

SERMON NOTES

The Crux

Matthew 26:20-25 " 20 When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. 21 And while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." 22 They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord?" 23 Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 24 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." 25 Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?" Jesus answered, "You have said so."

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

Matthew 27: 1-5 "1Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. 2 So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor. 3 When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. 4 "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility." 5 So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself."

— 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 22, 2016

The Way of the Cross

Mark 8:43 "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross, and follow me." –Jesus

I believe we live in a culture of fear. The media wants us to live in fear because it creates viewers. Politicians want us to live in fear because it creates votes. It is hard to live well and make good decisions when operating out of fear. It's even more difficult to follow Christ. Following a Savior who went to the cross will not happen if we are consumed by fear. Perhaps this is why we turn Christianity into something easier or simpler like just being positive, prosperity gospel, four-line prayers, one hour on Sunday, being conservative (or liberal) etc.... We mold and shape Christianity into what we want because following the way of the cross is difficult. In fact, to the world the cross is folly. It doesn't make sense in a culture obsessed with the gods of success, efficiency, and image. I wonder sometimes if the church has fallen victim to these same gods. I'm praying that our church will avoid these idols. I pray that we embrace the cross as a way of life. I hope we will follow Jesus even when it doesn't make sense. I hope we will seek His calling even when it doesn't seem smart or efficient. I pray that our church is selfless, compassionate, and worship-full. I pray that we pursue these things not because they "work" but because this is how Jesus lived... and following Him is more important than anything else.

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

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 23, 2016

Made Perfect in Love

1 John 4:16-19 "God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face Him with confidence because we are like Christ here in this world. Such love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that His love has not been perfected in us.

We love each other as a result of His loving us first."

"We trust to love the Lord our God not only as we do now, with a weak though sincere affection, but with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. Indeed, we expect to be 'made perfect in love.' We look for power to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in everything." -John Wesley

Lord, help us to trust in your power and grace. Help us to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind. Grant us the strength to rejoice always and give thanks in everything. You are working, and with you all things are possible. Amen.

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