

EQUIP ~ ENGAGE ~ EDIFY

CHRISTIAN CENTER NEWSLETTER

for the equipping of the
saints for the work of
ministry, for the edifying
of the body of Christ,
Ephesians 4:12



A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE

We talked a few weeks ago about the Church at Ephesus having "left their first love" and how essential it is for us to prioritize our relationships with the Lord as the primary part of our lives. Like Mary having chosen to sit at Jesus feet, she would have that good part that would not be taken away from her. We, too, would be filled up and equipped to operate out of the overflow of our relationship with Jesus.

A few days after that message I was reading in Deuteronomy 11 where three separate times in that chapter it equated obedience with love. Here is one example.

Deuteronomy 11:13-14

'And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil.

It caused me to remember that God's desire for us is to be in relationship with Him and to love Him. And to love Him is to keep His commandments - putting us in the center of His will, right where He wants us to be...with our First Love.

Thank you to everyone who helped with all of the events this season, especially the Harvest Festival and The Celebration of Light. There is a lot of work that goes into preparing for these events and we couldn't do it without all of your help. God Bless You,

Pastor Steve





HARVEST Festival

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY MARIAN MELLOR

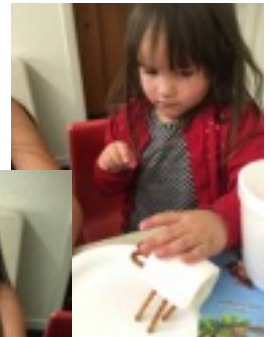
"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" 2 Corinthians 9:15



encouraged me that I could at the very least give Jesus my self and try to live my life to please Him.

It is a blessing to be a part of the Body of Christ and to witness the gifts that the Lord has given to each of you, my brothers and sisters, and to see how you use them for God's glory. Thank you to those of you who serve in the Children's Ministry, giving to Jesus as you pour yourselves out to teach the younger generation about their Lord and Savior. And thank you to those of you who give in so many other ways – may we "play our drum for Him" faithfully!!! Blessings,

Marian



MEN'S MINISTRY

By Brian Schmaderer



One of the things I love most about men's breakfast is no matter how much I study to prepare for the chapter I usually learn more through the conversations guys have about whatever topic is being discussed. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Imitate me just as I also imitate Christ." Paul makes this statement as he is living a life aiming to please Jesus, similarly Jesus lived a life aiming to please the Father (John 8:29). When I go to men's breakfast I get to hear insights and stories of men's lives who have been walking with Jesus longer than I've been alive and have an invaluable amount of examples to follow. I invite all men to come to Men's Breakfast Saturday mornings at 7:00 for great food and reading the Word together. Please keep me in your prayers.

Brian Schmaderer



**Join us again for the 2017 Men's
Retreat at Murrieta Conference
Center, January 27th-29th.**



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

By Debbie Dillahunt

What a joy it is to study God's Word together each week! On Monday mornings we've been blessed with the rich study, The Armor of God by Priscilla Shirer. In the book of Ephesians, Paul explains that we're dealing with spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly realms. We have a very real enemy who schemes against us and targets us in a variety of ways. Thankfully, our loving God has supplied us with everything we need to counteract this evil. He has given us His armor which is designed to protect us and supply us with His strength. We just need to remember to use it - daily! As Priscilla reminds us, "Satan's suggestions can never stand up against the light of God's Holy Word." Paul encourages believers to "...be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might." Ephesians 6:10. We need to stay in God's Word in order to "stand firm against the schemes of the devil." As we "put on the full armor of God", we also need to remember the importance of prayer. Scripture is filled with reminders of God's love and provision for us. We are loving this wonderful study!

May God richly bless each of you as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus.
"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"

2 Corinthians 9:15

Debbie Dillahunt

WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

BY DENISE SCHMADERER

"And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness." Acts 4:29 and "We must obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29 these two verses so far to me are the most convicting and encouraging verses in Acts.

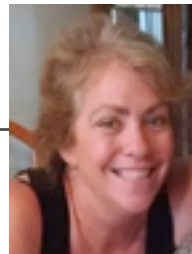
Our Monday night study has been so awesome as we gather together to worship, learn and lift each other up. I am learning more and more that Jesus left us the Holy Spirit to equip us to share His word with boldness, to step out of my (our) comfort zone. My desire is that all would know, "there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

When we accept Jesus and put our trust in Him, we all have the power of the Holy Spirit yet so often we leave it unused!

We would love to have you ladies come and fellowship with us on Monday nights at 6pm.

May you all have a blessed Christmas. Jesus is the only True Reason for the season.

Denise Schmaderer



UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 24TH

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
6:00 pm

JANUARY 6TH-8TH

High School Camp

JANUARY 27-29TH

Men's Retreat

FEBRUARY 20TH

Annual Church
Dinner 5:30 pm

FEBRUARY 24TH-26TH

Women's Retreat

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