



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

*"Knowing the love of Christ together with all the saints." - Eph. 3:18-19*

Week Ending, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014



*"God, I thank you that I am not like other men..."  
[OR...] "God, be merciful to me a sinner."*

### Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

**Prepare for Worship!**: We encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts and praying for the worship of our God. For your preachers: "Pray us full, we will preach you full!" Our KCPC weekly newsletter *The Shepherd's Voice* can be a helpful guide for your time of prayer. **Remember on Sunday mornings to seek to use prelude time before worship to enter God's presence with honor and respect and great awe!**

**Sunday School on The Beauty & Glory of Christian Living!**: This week Elder Steve Davis will be teaching us about how we can glorify God in our vocations.

**Women's Bible Study**: Starting in October meetings will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend. Contact Stacy Halley for more information. Also needed for the study is someone available to do childcare.

**Remember to "Fall Back" this weekend on Nov. 2 at 2 am**: Set your clocks back one hour for Daylight Savings Time.

**Deacon's Offering this Lord's Day**: Please consider giving a special offering to the poor and those in need on November

2<sup>nd</sup> in the morning service.

**New Communicant Members**: "Let the children come to me...", our Savior says. **Elizabeth Grace and Melissa Joy Rodgers** met with us last Lord's Day and made a credible profession of their faith and love for the Savior, and desire to be full communicant members of His church, and were able to answer all five questions for membership in the affirmative. We will plan on receiving these two dear sisters into full covenant membership in our morning worship on **Lord's Day, November 9<sup>th</sup>**.

**Locust Street Film Night**: Come view and discuss one of the finest mystery-thriller films of all time: Sir Carol Reed's '**The Third Man**' with Orson Welles and Joseph Cotton on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Invite your friends: <http://www.ketoctin.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Locust-Street-Film-Night-Nov-14-14.pdf>

**Men and Boy's Breakfast on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**: Come join us from 8:30 – 10 am at church building. We will be discussing how to diagnose whether we are spiritually flourishing or spiritually apathetic as God's people.

**Pastoral/Elder Care-Visitation in 2015**: Your pastors and elders would like very much to visit your home specifically for a spiritual check-up and ~~prayer time~~ in the next few months. Pastor Biggs is making a schedule now for 2015, and if you would like to request a visit for first of year, then please email him at [crbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:crbiggs@comcast.net). The pastoral/elder visitation is normally in the evenings, intended for the whole family to be present, and it is a time focused on pastoral care. It usually lasts one hour. "*And every day, in the [public worship] and from house to house, [the pastor/elders] did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus Christ*" (Acts 5:42).

**Listen online to KCPC sermons** you missed and/or would like to hear again. Tune in for our Sunday school series on Reformed Spirituality as well at [www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc](http://www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc)

[www.opc.org](http://www.opc.org)

[www.ketoctin.org](http://www.ketoctin.org)

*"God's promises are like coins held out in mercy's hands for God's children to take."*

- Thomas Goodwin

## *From Your Pastors Are You Bruised?*

*ESV Matthew 12:18, 20: "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him...a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench..."*

"The bruising is required for us both before and after our conversion. **Before our conversion the Spirit must make way for Himself into our hearts by leveling all proud, high thoughts, and** that we may indeed understand ourselves to be what indeed we are by nature. A marvelous and yet hard thing it is to bring a dull and shifting, unfaithful heart to cry with feeling for mercy. Our hearts, like malefactors, never cry for the mercy of the Judge. **The bruising also makes us set a high price upon Christ as Redeemer and Savior of sinners.** When we realize how precious Christ is, then the Gospel is truly the Gospel! The fig-leaves of our morality will do us no good then. And we become more thankful, those who were formerly so cold and barren and ungrateful to God.

**After conversion we need bruising as God's sons that we might be constantly reminded that we are reeds and not oaks.** Pride remains deeply lodged in our natures, and we need to know that we live by mercy alone. Think of Peter's being shaken by His Lord when he denied His dearest Lord. This bruising was not only for Peter, but also for God's disciples who know that they are weak. Peter's weeping bitterly can be used by God to remind us all of our weakness, and to be encouraged by God's grace. This reed (Peter), til he met with this bruise, had more wind in him than faithfulness ("Though all forsake you, I will not"). The heroic deeds of God's great worthies do not comfort the church so much as their falls and bruises do, because we are subject to these same falls and bruises, too!

**Let us not pass too harsh a judgment upon ourselves or others when God does exercise us with bruising upon bruising; there must be conformity to Christ, to our head, who was "bruised for us"** (Isa. 53:5). We must know how much we are bound to Him in our union. Christ will not break the bruised reed, though he will bruise. Physicians will put their patients through much pain, but they will not destroy nature, but raise up by degrees. A mother that has a sick and diseased child will not cast her away. And shall there be more mercy in the stream than in the Spring? Shall we think that there is more mercy in ourselves than in God, who plants the affection of mercy in us??!

Christ shows mercy to all His bruised reeds. He is our husband, shepherd, brother and by His grace will fulfill what He has called them to. He is described as lamb and even hen to reveal his gentle mercy to the humble hurting; He "heals the broken-hearted" and "Blessed are those who are meek and mourn..."

*"Come unto me," Jesus says. "I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28-30).*

Jesus has died for His enemies, and He now lives to intercede for His own dear ones—He will lose none of them. As He has beams of beauty and majesty, so He has bowels of mercies and compassion. He is a physician and will bind up the broken-hearted. He will not show His strength as the Lion of Judah to those who prostrate themselves before Him as needy, humbled souls, who have no hope apart from Him!" – Richard Sibbes, Adapted from 'A Broken Reed'

Let us pray that God would forgive our ungodly and unbiblical thoughts about Him. Let us pray against our tendency to pride and apathy. Let us be reminded that we are those who are bruised with Christ, but that we are being healed, and this is a glorious thought!

*In Christ's Love,*

**Pastors Biggs and Halley**

*"Meditation on the Glory of Christ in His Person, Offices, and Grace as revealed in Holy Scripture, will carry us cheerfully, comfortably, and victoriously through life and death, and all that we have to conflict withal in either of them."*

**- John Owen**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Sermon Title: "What Must I Do?"**

– Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson:** Matthew 5:17-20; Romans 3:19-26

**Scripture Text:** Mark 10:17-22

**Theme of Worship Service:** A disciple of Jesus needs to know the right place to go, the right question to ask, and to have the right answer when asked by the Savior. What is the “one thing” we lack that we all so desperately need from God?!

## Questions to Discuss with Family and in Fellowship:

- \* **Children: Read Mark 10:17-22.** Does the rich young ruler know the right place to go for answers? Does he ask the right question? What is wrong with his response to Jesus?
- \* Why does Jesus recite the commandments of God to the young man? What does Jesus desire for the man to understand?
- \* Sketch what kind of person the rich young ruler was. How can you see yourself at times in him?

\* How is Jesus revealed in this passage toward sinners?

## Hymns

1. A Mighty Fortress Is Our God- 92
2. Jesus Paid It All - 308
3. All to Jesus I Surrender- 562

“Self-satisfied they live, and self-satisfied too often they die...Ignorance of the Law and ignorance of the Gospel will generally be found together. He whose eyes have really been opened to the spirituality of the commandments, will never rest until he has found Christ.”

- J. C. Ryle