



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, May 14th, 2016



Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

Prepare for Worship: Your pastor and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts for the Lord's Day, and praying for the worship of our God. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing on preaching of word and fellowship!

Women's Bible Study: The study meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend. Women are presently studying the **Book of Daniel**. Contact Margaret Biggs for more information, to order new book, or to join: missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net

Evening Worship and Evangelistic Outreach Sermon Series this Summer!: The Gospel of John will be beginning this summer in June. This series will be designed with the primary goals of Christian edification and Gospel outreach in mind.

Pray *expectantly* for this series to be fruitful, and that we will see new converts to Christ. Plan to attend, invite your friends and neighbors to come and hear the good news!

KCPC ONLINE

www.ketocin.org
www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc
www.opc.org

May Home Fellowship this Lord's Day: The Vermette's in Round Hill will be hosting our May fellowship. Please see details on deacon's email and sign-up.

The Rev. Ben Hopp, OP Missionary to Haiti Visit: Pastor Ben will be our visitor on Lord's Day, June 5th. We will hear about the mission, what Christ is doing by His Spirit, and pray for the Hopp Family.

Locust Street Film Night for June: LSFN proudly presents our Summer Sci-fi-fantasy Series beginning with [George Lucas' 'Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back'](#) (1980) in June. Come join us for dinner, fun and discussion! For July: ['Forbidden Planet'](#) (1956).

Men's Breakfast in June: Join us for food, fellowship and prayer on **June 18th** from 8:30-10 am. **Guest speaker Dr. Michael Kucks** who will be speaking on the Christian's vocation.

Labor Day Family Camp at Machen Retreat: Make plans now to join Pastors Biggs and Flora for a wonderful time of teaching, prayer, fellowship, and refreshment on September 3-5. Theme: *Trinitarian Spirituality from the Gospel of John*.

"What was produced [by the Spirit in Jesus] was fully realized human holiness. He was the incarnation of the blessed life of the covenant..."

- Sinclair Ferguson

From Your Pastor “Extraspective Faith”

**“We See Jesus...Consider Jesus...Looking to Jesus,
the Author and Perfecter of our Faith”**

(Heb. 2:9a, 3:1, 12:2a).

Faith is extraspective, always looking out of oneself to Christ. As one of our forefathers put it well, our faith is always looking for Christ throughout one's day. Faith humbly looks up to receive Christ's forgiveness, looks around for Christ's help and fellowship, and looks down to see Christ's light on the path. Faith keeps its eye on Christ the Author and Perfecter of our faith (Heb. 12:2). Faith looks up humbly to receive Christ's grace from the beginning of the Christian life. As we walk by faith in this present age, our faith continues to look around and find Christ in each situation, in each and every circumstance, as Habakkuk said: *“I will stand on the watchtower and look out to see what you will say to me,”* (Hab. 2:1), so faith is always looking outward, extraspectively to take hold of Christ in His fullness of grace and truth (John 1:16-18).

From the beginning of our conversion or union with Christ through the Spirit's work in our effectual calling, faith is like a holy seed implanted by the Spirit of God in believers as a gift (Eph. 2:6-10; 2 Cor. 4:13; James 1:21)—a gift that keeps on giving—and *growing* (2 Pet. 1:5ff; 1 Thess. 1:3-5; Gal. 5:22; Heb. 10:22)! God-given faith is supernaturally active in looking to Christ alone as the justifying and sanctifying Savior as He is revealed in and through the Word of God (Acts 13:48; John 6:37). As the Westminster Confession says: *“The principal acts of saving faith are, accepting, receiving, and resting upon Christ...”* (WCF, 14.2).

Faith trusts in Christ alone for *“justification, sanctification, and eternal life”* (1 Cor. 1:30; cf. WCF, 14.2). We find and receive by faith both our justification before God and our definitive and progressive sanctification (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Heb. 2:9-11) of being conformed into the image of Christ (Rom. 8:29). Faith trusts Christ for justification by faith alone apart from works (Rom. 4:4-5), but also trusts God for sanctifying conformity to Christ (Phil. 1:6; 2:12-13). Christians are created in Christ Jesus to do good works (Eph. 2:10), and have been set free to be a people for Christ's own possession who are zealous for good works (Tit. 2:14).

While justification is by faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone, it is not a faith that is alone; it is always a working faith. This means that faith is never separate from, or empty of good works; true and saving faith is a *working faith* (Eph. 2:10; Tit. 2:11-14; 1 Thess. 1:3; cf. Rom. 2:6-7). Without good works, we have no true faith (James 2:14-18). Faith takes hold of a whole Christ, and in Him we find all that we need for life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3-4). Faith receives a whole Savior who can save us from both the guilt and power of sin (Rom. 10:13-17). As the hymn writer Toplady wrote: *“Be of sin the double cure, save me from its guilt and power!”* The Christian trusts in Christ “for salvation not only from wrath, but also from sin; not only for salvation from the guilt of sin, but also from its pollution and power; not only for happiness hereafter, but also for holiness here” (R. Shaw, ‘Commentary on Westminster Confession’).

Faith is the empty hands that receive all that we need for life and godliness in Christ alone. True faith struggles against sin, weaknesses, and against all obstacles to take hold of the strength and grace that are found in Christ, to become *“imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises”* (Heb. 6:11-12). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6). With extraspective faith, looking to Christ, we please Him, knowing confidently that He is, and that He rewards those who diligently seek Him! Let us seek Him in Christ!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Biggs

“The work of the Spirit is essentially a ministry of uniting us to Christ, and then unfolding to us and in us the riches of God's grace which we inherit in Christ.”

- Sinclair Ferguson

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon Series: “Acts of the Exalted Lord Jesus”
Title: “Joseph Barnabas”
- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Acts 4:36-37; 9:27; 15:35-36; Galatians 2:11-14
Scripture Texts: Acts 13 (various verses)

Theme of Sermon/Worship: By the grace and Spirit of Jesus, Joseph Barnabas was a son of encouragement among God's people!

Thoughts and Meditations for Preparing Your Heart and Family for Worship:

* **Children:** When do you need the most encouragement in your spiritual life? **Read Psalm 42-43.** How can you be discouraged?

* Read 1 Thess. 5:11. What does the Apostle Paul teach us here? How can we specifically do this as brothers and sisters in Christ at KCPC? Name three specific ways you're going to seek to encourage this week. Think of three specific people you're going to seek to encourage.

* Why *wait* for the encouragement when we can *be* the encouragement?

Hymns

1. Come, Thou Almighty King - 101

2. O Zion, Haste, Your Mission High Fulfilling - 444

3. Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing - 457

“... Union with Christ by the Spirit is grounded in His union with us in our humanity. It is from this that our transformation is resourced through the Spirit...the goal of the Spirit is transformation into the image of God as that is expressed in Christ's humanity so that believers become progressively more truly and fully human.”

- Sinclair Ferguson