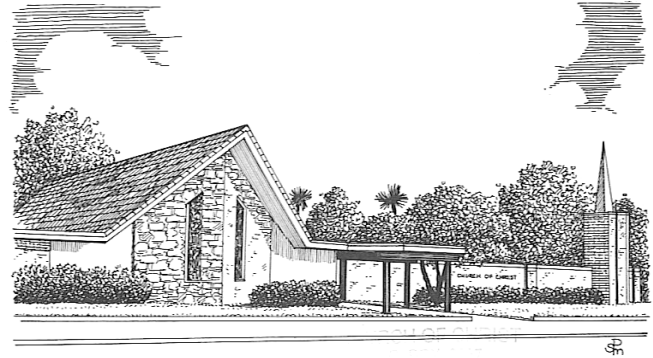


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9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
October 1, 2023



Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

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The Parable of the Net

Read Matthew 13:37-52

There are a number of ways in which the parable searches our hearts:

1. Are we content merely to be among the professing people of God?: There are untold numbers of people who are content to be in the net. They look at those outside the professing church and pride themselves that they are comfortably heading into the future. They think all is well simply because there are other professing Christians nearby and believe that they are heading to the same place. Paul warned the Corinthians,

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not ... that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? 2 Cor. 13:5 This is the warning from Christ in this parable.

2. Do we see ourselves as God sees us?: The great dividing line between the two groups of fish was between good and bad (literally, clean and unclean). God is not concerned about what we tend to be concerned about – size and beauty. His eye sees the slightest trace of defilement. By nature, we are dead, spiritually, and God looks at us as we would look at dead and rotting fish, and even worse. While still in this life, we need to begin to see ourselves as God sees us and we need to value what He values. The Bible makes clear that without holiness, no person shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14).

When God works in our lives by His Spirit, He gives us to see something of the fountain of uncleanness within our hearts and we turn away in horror. We begin to question: “Is that how I truly am?” But then He shows us His dear Son, who was “**holy, harmless and undefiled**” (Heb 7:26), and we begin to understand what God’s standard is. He then also begins to show us that, through faith in His well-beloved Son, we can receive all we need in order to be justified and sanctified. He does something that never happens in the world of fish: an unclean, defiled, dead sinner is renewed and remade after the image of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ went through death and the judgment of God in order that He would forever remove His people from the wrath and judgment of God. Do we value God’s Son? Do we value His righteousness and holiness?

3. Do we reckon with the truth of hell?: Hell is a doctrine that many have tried to eliminate from the Bible. More people say they believe in heaven than in hell, and most people who believe in hell think they are not going there. However, Christ is teaching the doctrine of hell in this parable:

And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 13:50: Here and elsewhere, Christ is very graphic while describing hell as a place of torment for both body and soul. There will be darkness and fire, suffering and screaming, gnashing of teeth and endless torment. If you have never before reckoned with this reality of hell, Christ is bringing it before you in this parable. Unless we flee from the wrath to come, it will come upon us without mitigation, relief, or remedy – forever!

Some people think that we should not seek the Lord merely out of fear of hell. But if the Lord sanctifies the doctrine of hell to us so that we flee from the wrath to come, let it be the *first step away* from the precipice of hell and into the arms of Him who gives His people heaven with Him forever (Luke 3:7).

-adapted from the article, “The Parable of the Net”, Gerald M. Bikes, christianstudylibrary.org

We have a commitment, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
To give glory to God
To be unified in reaching others
To be living witnesses for Christ



Welcome to the Palm Springs Church of Christ

Welcome to worship! Here let us seek to see God more clearly, love God more completely, and serve God more certainly. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. (Ephesians 6:18)”

Pray for our Church family:

Please keep Wanda in your prayers as she was admitted into the hospital after suffering a TIA this past weekend as well as Byron as he continues to suffer from chronic headaches. We also ask that you continue to pray for the improved health of: Mae Britton, Kerry Britton, Lynette Brink, Sue Collins, Phyllis Francis, Wanda Goodenough, Brenda Jones, John Leonard, Roy McDonald, Jeff Mercer, Jerry Munn, Dail Paramore, and Francis Pati.

Pray for family & friends:

Pray for Marjorie Counts who is in hospice care, for Dustin Parker’s dad, Mike who continues to recover from a stroke and for Kerry’s co-worker, George Dagnino who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Pray for the improved health of: Michelle Candelario, Jim & Mary Ann D’Arcy, Mary Fields, Joy Gabel Filippone, Keith & Lisa Britton, Kathy’s husband Kevin, Derek Fields, Dail’s friends Marie C. and Teddy K.

First responders: Please keep those who are serving their communities in your prayers: Alisha K. (EMT); Joanna Carter (Nurse), Luther Carter (Naval Officer), Jody Huggins and Jory Huggins (both MI Patrol Officers); Dr. Janice Massey of N.C.

Military:

Jeff Mercer’s son-in-law Brandon Deusenberry, Glenn Fields, and Kathy’s family T. Burgess and T. Cairo.

Prayer Warriors Corner

Our Father, we honor You as the source of all light. Help us to let the light of Jesus glow in us and drive away the darkness. We pray in the name of Jesus, the light of the world. Amen.

Power For Today: Richard N. Ady, 5-8-2023
Read: John 3:16-21

News:

October potluck is today following worship service! Please bring finger foods, sandwiches and desserts. We hope visitors and members will join us in this time of fellowship.

Indio Church of Christ will be having their Fall Gospel Meeting (Oct. 8-11). If you are interested in attending, their information is posted on our bulletin board.

The Community Food Bank: At this time, the most critically needed items are: soups, vegetables, canned beans, 1 lb. packs of rice or beans and quart size storage bags. Other Non-perishable items such as: Ramen/Cup of Noodles, Rice-A-Roni, canned tomatoes, & canned fruit are needed. Thank you for your continued support, your donation is greatly appreciated.

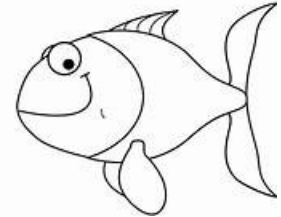
In Search of the Lord’s Way: Watch excellent Bible-based messages every Sunday, 7:30 a.m., on KCWQ, VHF channel 2 or UHF channel 26. Also Available ANY TIME online with You Tube. Just enter: SearchTVMinistry and pick a sermon. <https://youtu.be/FxMzZ6ZKMdQ>

Scripture Readings: Matthew 13:47-52

Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. “Yes,” they replied. He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

Sermon Topic:

“All kinds of fish”



Birthdays:

Mario Fuentes:	10/1
Camelia Munn:	10/22

Bible study: Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship service: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

WORSHIP ORDER

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

716: Sing to Me of Heaven (1-3)

364: Come, Share the Lord (1-3)

COMMUNION & OFFERING: 1 Cor. 11:23-26

869: We’re Marching to Zion (1,2 & 4))

870: Beyond This Land of Parting (1-3)

SERMON

INVITATION

911: Bring Christ Your Broken Life (1-4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING PRAYER

Sermons on line: For the most recent locally recorded sermon, simply go to the Palm Springs Church of Christ webpage and click on the “sermons” category at the top of the page.

<http://www.crenshawchurchofchrist.com>

Tri Lakes Church of Christ in Monument, Colorado