

*1st Sunday*  
**Lent**   
**2021**

FEBRUARY 21, 2021 — 10:00 A.M.

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**.....*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

**WELCOME**.....*Jim Loeffler*

**INVOCATION**

**PRELUDE**.....*“Lord, I Need You”*

**PRAISE SONGS**.....*“Friend of God”*  
*“Lord, I Need You”*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** .....*Adrienne Morton*

**TESTIMONY OF FAITH** .....*Elna Morton*

**OFFERING A PRAYER OF OUR GIFTS & THANKS TO GOD**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN #526**.....*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

**SERMON**.....*Pastor Keith*

**“What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?”**

Ephesians 2:8-9; Mark 10:17-30

**SONG OF RESPONSE**.....*“Forever Reign”*

**BENEDICTION/BLESSING**

**EXIT SONG** .....*“Only A God Like You”*



Set your calendars for Saturday April 17 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center!

**SPARK one-day youth event! See Sue for more details!**

**Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** at 5:00 pm there will be a SHUMY parent meeting in the Multi-purpose room to discuss plans for SPARK and a fund raiser. If you are unable to attend, please let Sue Fuller know and we will send a zoom link so you can join us virtually or get the needed information through email.

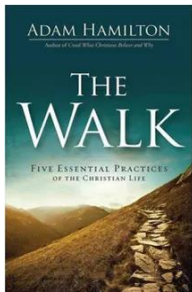
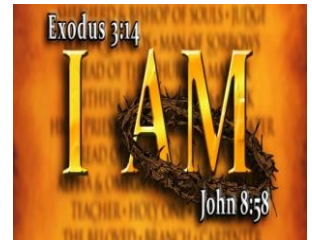


Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. we will be featuring a 20-minute LENTEN DEVOTIONAL with Pastor Keith called –

## JOURNEY TO THE RESURRECTION

**Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.**

- February 25: “I Am the Bread of Life” – knowing God’s satisfaction
- March 4: “I Am the Light of the World” – knowing God’s guidance
- March 11: “I Am the Good Shepherd” – knowing God’s care
- March 18: “I Am the True Vine” – knowing God’s power
- March 25: “I Am the Way, the Truth & the Life” – knowing God’s way
- April 1: “I Am the Resurrection & the Life” – knowing God’s possibilities



## NEW BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN...

Longing to get into a Bible Study? “The Walk” *Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life* by Adam Hamilton will begin on Wednesday, February 24 at 6:00 p.m. and will end March 24. It will be held in the multi-purpose room.

Please let Linda Morey know or leave your name with the church office at 899-5962. Masks and safety protocols will be used. On the narthex table, you can view the book & sign up!



## Free Worship Night with Christian Artists @ SHUMC

SHUMC will be hosting a virtual event. It is a free, online worship night with several Christian artists. We will live stream it at SHUMC and follow all COVID precautions.

It will be held Saturday, Feb 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM. We will open the doors at 7:30 PM. Here are a few artists who will be performing: Casting Crowns, Building 429, We The Kingdom, Austin French and Rebecca St. James.

### Support Our Active Military



For our active service men and women, we thought it would be a great idea and a great honor to write them letters and messages of appreciation, support, or just send some news from their hometown (send them a newspaper or newsletter to keep them connected here at home).

**BUT --** We need your help with **NAMES**. If you have a son, daughter, relative, friend, neighbor who you may think could use a warm word, news from their hometown, or a note of gratitude. You can contact Gordy Locke or give Barb a call at the church office or e-mail us at: SHUMHH@aol.com



With the increasing guidelines from the State of Pennsylvania we must continue to be perseverant and aware of our compliance with these rules. For the safety and well-being of **ALL** of those choosing to worship with us ‘in-person’ we ask that everyone who attends ‘in-person’ worship be aware and follow these rules:

- 1) Masks and distancing apply to **ALL** (that includes the parking lot).
- 2) Post-service lingerings and gatherings in the narthex must be avoided.
- 3) Family units with children and that reside under one roof may sit together.

Otherwise, sitting groups must be limited to no more than 4 people.



**Live-streaming of the services can be seen on . . .**

- ❖ [www.facebook.com/southharborcreekumc](https://www.facebook.com/southharborcreekumc)
- ❖ You Tube @ south harborcreek umc

- ❖ Website: [southharborcreekumc.org](https://southharborcreekumc.org)
- ❖ SHUMC app

# “What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?”

The Gospel of Mark writes about an encounter between a good man and Jesus. The man asks “WHAT MUST I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?” To everyone’s acknowledgement the man was prominent, obedient to the law, and generous beyond measure ... certainly in his thinking and that of the world around him (including the religious leaders) the man was well on his way to being recognized by God as ‘righteous’ and fully acceptable to enter into the presence of God with a close and personal RELATIONSHIP with God ... perhaps, even as King David “a man after God’s own heart.”

Jesus was pretty direct with this well-meaning man. Jesus knew the man’s heart. The man was proud of his accomplishments and his good works... **WANTING TO DEPEND UPON HIS OWN GOOD WORKS RATHER THAN DEPEND UPON ANYTHING OTHER THAN HIS OWN CONTROL.** The man was willing and wanting to GIVE MORE and DO MORE to assure God’s embrace as beloved, friend, and child of God. The man was convinced that his good life would assure him spiritual salvation and a place at the eternal table of God.

Jesus gave the man an impossible task. A task which the man was not able or willing to give, do or be.

Perplexed, confused, and put-off the man left Jesus (grumbling I’m sure) and thinking “if I can’t do it, WHO CAN?”

The disciples even asked in Mark 10:26, “WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED?”

And Jesus’ point was “PRECISELY!” .... NO ONE, NOT EVEN THIS GOOD MAN can earn a place at the table of God. (A real contrast to today’s political world where it seems that anyone with enough money could essentially buy themselves a place at the table).

## **SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

IF WE WANT TO BE A FRIEND OF GOD ... A PERSON AFTER GOD’S OWN HEART ...  
IF WE WANT TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ...  
WHAT MUST WE DO?  
WHAT MUST WE BE?

SUNDAY’S SERMON WILL ASK THE QUESTION, “WHAT MUST WE DO TO HAVE A REAL, GENUINE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ... and IN ESSENCE, HAVE A PLACE AT GOD’S ETERNAL & DIVINE TABLE?”

**POINT:** WE CAN DO NOTHING ... WE ARE HOPELESSLY UNABLE TO SAVE OR HELP OURSELVES.

IT IS ONLY GOD’S GRACE and OUR BELIEF (ACCEPTANCE) OF GOD’S GRACE THAT WE MAY ENTER INTO A PRECIOUS AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ... TO ACCEPT GOD’S INVITATION TO BE HIS FRIEND ... and THEN TO ENTER INTO REAL, GENUINE, RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ALMIGHTY .... (Ephesians 2:8-9)

## **“WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED ---- WHAT MUST I DO?”**

### **Key Texts:**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—  
<sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast.

**Mark 10:17 – 30** (note particularly 10:17; 10:26-27; 10:28-300)

<sup>17</sup>As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>18</sup>“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’” <sup>20</sup>“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>22</sup>At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. <sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"  
<sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup>The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"  
<sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."  
<sup>28</sup>Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!" <sup>29</sup>"Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel <sup>30</sup>will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.

WE, AS HUMANS HAVE AN INSATIABLE CURIOSITY TO KNOW GOD, TO KNOW GOD'S WAYS, AND TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

AS EXPRESSED BY THE MAN WHO APPROACHES JESUS IN MARK 10:17-27 ... **"WHAT MUST I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?"**

**I BELIEVE:**

I WILL INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE WITH GOD BECAUSE OF WHAT JESUS HAS DONE AND NOW OFFERS ME --- TO ACCEPT GOD'S OFFER OF A SUPERNATURAL & PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. THAT THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO ON MY OWN, WITHOUT GOD'S GRACE, TO SAVE MYSELF IN REGARDS TO THOSE MATTERS THAT EXTEND BEYOND THIS WORLD'S SPIRITUAL SALVATION WHICH ONLY COMES FROM AND THROUGH JESUS' REDEMPTIVE WORK AS EXPRESSED IN THE BIBLICAL EXPRESSION OF JESUS' LIFE, DEATH, RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION.

**KEY VERSES:**

**JOHN 3:16** FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON SO THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

**EPHESIANS 2:8-9** FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED, THROUGH FAITH, AND THIS IS NOT FROM YOURSELVES, IT IS A GIFT OF GOD ... NOT BY WORKS, SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST.

**HOW TO ACCEPT OR RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT:**

BIBLICAL SALVATION CANNOT BE EARNED OR DESERVED: ACTS 15:4

BIBLICAL SALVATION IS NOT ONE OF MANY WAYS : JOHN 14:6

BIBLICAL SALVATION IS NOT UNCONDITIONAL RECONCILIATION FOR ALL PEOPLE (universalism): REVELATIONS 20:11-15

A PRAYER OF FAITH TO ACCEPT GOD'S GIFT AND TO PLEDGE OUR COMMITMENT & DESIRE TO TURN FROM SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS TO DEPENDENCE UPON GOD'S ETERNAL & SUPERNATURAL POWER, STRENGTH & PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES.

***Dear God, I can't do this on my own, but you can. I believe in Jesus, who is God. I believe Jesus died and rose from the dead – to overcome the power of sin and death in my life AND TO open the door for a personal RELATIONSHIP with God – both for today and for eternity.***

***God --- I trust your promises and invitation to me to "believe" .. to "live by faith in You."***

***God --- I am promising to turn from living a life of self-reliance and to grow in the supernatural ability to live increasingly in the power of my personal relationship & reliance upon You. In Jesus Name, AMEN.***

SO WHAT???? WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THIS MAKE IN MY LIFE?

A TRUE & PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ... GIVES ME MORE CONFIDENCE, LESS WORRY, LESS FEAR and A SUPERNATURAL PRESENCE OF GOD IN ME AND WITH ME.

WE MAKE SEEKING AND LIVING IN SYNC WITH GOD A MOTIVATING DESIRE OF OUR LIVES

GALATIANS 2:20

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-17

WE LEARN TO WALK BY GRACE

GALATIANS 3:13

WE OFFER GRACE TO OTHERS

MATTHEW 18:21-35