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Pastor's Portion

Recently some horrific murders have taken place in Orlando. A question arises how should we respond? Politicians and political action committees have been quick with their responses. But is there a Biblical parallel to draw upon? I believe there is.

A tragedy occurred in Jerusalem and Jesus was asked about it. Here are the verses from Luke. Luke 13:1–5 (ESV) There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

Notice the following items:

- 1. Jesus *does not* assign blame either in the political arena or the natural disaster. He does not condemn the folks from Galilee, Pilate or the builders of the tower.
- 2. Neither does Jesus excuse any persons' action—such as Pilate needs a pass because he ruled under a tyrant himself.
- 2. Our Lord does acknowledge that the folks suffered. 13:2
- 3. The Messiah makes it clear these that suffered were *no "worse"* than any other person. 13:2.4
- 4. The Creator/Redeemer forcefully points out our need for repentance.

I would like to make the following points. A. The 49 killed in the night club were no worse or better than you or me. We need to repent of sin that plagues us. B. We don't need to give a pass to the shooter either saying he must have had a difficult life or his father probably was abusive. Or a thousand other excuses people give. C. Families and individuals are suffering. We who love Jesus should have compassion—at least pray for the victims' families. D. Our need for National repentance that begins with each of us is huge.

The words of the Lord to King Solomon in 2 Chronicles is right on: 2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV) ...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Sins we need to confess are smugness, pride, a judgmental spirit to name a few. May God help our land, may God help us!

July 2016

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"...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Vacation Bible School



Join us for VBS this summer to Discover God's Love! August 8th - 12th, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

VBS is for children 3 yrs old through 6th grade, but we never turn down older kids!

Hey Kids! Start working on memorizing 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, our theme verse, for a special prize during VBS week!

Interested in volunteering? Contact Jessica Bowe for more information.

We will be having a float in the Bloomer Parade again this year! We will be passing out bottled water so your donation would be greatly appreciated!



Parade Float work day is on Saturday, July 30th at 9:00 a.m. Join us!

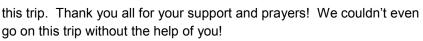
Contact Jessica with questions!

Sr. High Youth Group

Hi Church Family!

We're looking forward to our mission trip this month. We'll be serving with World Changers and P2 Missions in Cleveland, OH. We

leave on July 15th and return on the 23rd. The team is: Erin Crowell, Hannah Paschke, Soren Sigurdsen, Joey LaBudde, Nathaniel Bogle, Ben Ream, and Caleb Woodhull. Luke Woodhull, Amanda, and I will be leaders on the trip. Most of the team will be working on construction projects for low-income families and sharing the love of Christ in a practical way with them while sharing the gospel with them as well. Hannah and I will be working with a newly-planted church to help in their outreach to international students. Please be praying for our safety and health, a good response from the people who we are ministering to, for boldness in our words with those we encounter, and for God to show us ways to minister to those closer to home with the lessons He will teach us on





Yours in Christ,

Children's Church

7/3 - Culver/Onasch

7/10 - Culver/Carlson

7/17 - Gotham/Carlson

7/24 - Gotham/Carlson

7/31 - Bruxvoort/Carlson

July Cleaning

7/7 - Bowe & Beal

7/14 - J. Gotham & Bruxvoort

7/21 - Clements & N. Lundgren

7/28 - Sigurdsen & Heinze

Nursery

7/3 - Misner/Wundrow

7/10 - Gilberts/Crowell

7/17 - Jones/Bischel

7/24 - Engstrom/Fossum

7/31 - Brindle/Lundgren

"Coffee & Compassion"

Sunday, July 10th at both services

Ben and Kristy Carlson will be speaking to us about their missions ministry. Come for coffee cake and fellowship between services at 9:45 a.m.





Church Opportunity Fair and Picnic @ BBC

Sunday, August 28th

Plan to come with your family and enjoy a day of fun and fellowship with our church families.

Children's Church is being offered again during 2nd service for the summer. Contact the office or Sue Carlson if you're interested in helping!



Check out www.abcamp.org or grab a flyer in the Fireside Room about summer camps for the kids and for the whole family. Ask the office about scholarships!

Men's Renewal Breakfast at Main St. Café

Saturday, July 9th at 8:00 a.m.

\$7 buffet



Thematic In A Year ~ Daily Bible Reading Guide

7/1 - 2 Kings 15; Mark 13

7/2 - 2 Kings 16; Mark 14; Psalms 88

7/3 - 2 Kings 17; Mark 15

7/4 - 2 Kings 18; Mark 16

7/5 - 2 Kings 19; Psalms 76; Nahum 1-3

7/6 - 2 Kings 20-21; Psalms 82; 2 Kings 22

7/7 - Psalms 101; 2 Kings 23-25

7/8 - Psalms 45; Song of Solomon 1-6

7/9 - Song of Solomon 7-8; Ecclesiastes 1-4

7/10 - Ecclesiastes 5-8; Psalms 73

7/11 - Ecclesiastes 9-12; Malachi 1-2

7/12 - Malachi 3-4; Luke 1

7/13 - Psalms 89; Luke 2

7/14 - Luke 3; 1 Chronicles 1

7/15 - 1 Chronicles 2; Luke 4

7/16 - 1 Chronicles 3; Luke 5

7/17 - 1 Chronicles 4; Luke 6

7/18 - 1 Chronicles 5; Luke 7

7/19 - 1 Chronicles 6; Luke 8

7/20 - 1 Chronicles 7; Luke 9

7/21 - 1 Chronicles 8; Luke 10

7/22 - 1 Chronicles 9; Luke 11

7/23 - 1 Chronicles 10; Psalms 125; Luke 12

7/24 - 1 Chronicles 11; Luke 13

7/25 - 1 Chronicles 12-13; Luke 14

7/26 - 1 Chronicles 14-15; Luke 15

7/27 - 1 Chronicles 16; Luke 16; Psalms 62

7/28 - 1 Chronicles 17-18; Luke 17

7/29 - 1 Chronicles 19-20; Luke 18

7/30 - 1 Chronicles 21; Luke 19

7/31 - 1 Chronicles 22; Luke 20

