

***Good News Daily***  
***Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School***

**Volume XX**

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**Number 11**

**Sunday, March 15**

John 5:25-30 *“I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.”* (v.30b NIV)

The American culture is one of pleasure. We watch movies, spend the day at *amusement* parks, and even watch videos online of “satisfying” things that are meant to calm us. Yet many Americans complain of a feeling of emptiness. We are then told that the cure of that is to have some “me” time, to pull yourself back together having treats and doing nothing on the couch. We still feel like something’s missing, but the thought of getting up and doing something for someone else’s pleasure is repulsive.

We try to satisfy ourselves with worldly things, but the only thing that satisfies is our Lord, who created us, who is always with us, and longs to hold your heart in His embrace. God loves us, and He wants the best for us. By seeking to please Him in everything you do, you will find that you are at peace. You’ll find you are satisfied by doing things for Him and Him alone. Pleasing yourself makes you feel happy, but it doesn’t make you feel whole.

Only God can fill you.

Genesis 44:1-17; Psalms 93, 96; Romans 8:1-10

***Include in your prayers:*** Cindy Croushore, Sandy, Mirabelle Wrist, Janie Greene, Joey Mitchell, Wally Bates, Kaye Bischoff, Drew Fogg, Patricia Malloy, Patricia Vreeland, Roland and Josh Munoz, Ashley Munoz, Bob Sprague, Mark Connell, Stan and Shirley Connell, Margaret and Janet, Mindy Nash, Marty Conlon, Shannon Smith, Sally Loetell, Janet Hullihen, Nancy Giammusso, Frankie Clemon’s family, family of Donna Flavin, Scott Belair, Barbara Behl and family, Kavanaugh family, Margo Boll, Betz McGee, Landen J. Bishop, Alondrea French, Chrystal Taylor, Meg Gangitano, Steve Desvernine, Mary Imle, Marion Berger

**Monday, March 16**

Genesis 44:18-34 *“Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord’s slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers. How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? No! Do not let me see the misery that would come on my father.”* (vv.33-34)

I recently read through Genesis, and the story of Joseph caught my eye. Perhaps not the story of Joseph, but the story of the change in his brothers.

Joseph went through many tribulations, but God’s hand was over him through it all, performing miracle after miracle and leading him to be able to save many people, including the brothers that had put him there in the first place.

But I think a miracle most of us miss is Judah, who had been so jealous before that he was willing to sell his own brother into slavery. Now, he begs someone he believes is a stranger to spare his brother Benjamin, who is clearly his father’s favorite, just to spare his father grief. Not only to beg for Benjamin’s life, but to be willing to take his place—that is truly a miracle. The story of Joseph’s brothers’ transformation is proof that your persecutors may become your brothers.

Psalm 80; 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Mark 5:21-43

***Include in your prayers:*** Nico Clothier, Julia Montgomery, Sarah Lawler, Rob Steiner, Pam Heatley, Jimmy Gustafson, Carlos Salmán, Arnie Selna, Stephen Johnson, Jr. & Jennifer Corson, Todd Baron, Sean Uthe, Clay F., Jake Graybill, Joanne, Daphne Kraft, Donald Beebe, Spencer Steele, Floyd George, Beatrice and Pamela, Janet Koehler, Kristian Joseph, Barbara Davis, Kris Casey, Mike Graham, Renee Davis, Charles Cathers, Jr., Jessica Backman, Amanda Smith

## **Tuesday, March 17**

Psalms 78:1-39 *They forgot what he had done, the wonders he had shown them.* (v.11)

I've always thought of faith like a candle. The flames will ebb; they'll suddenly flare up, lighting up the darkness more than before. It doesn't go out until we are in front of God and have no need for faith anymore; He'll be right there in front of us.

There are times when you feel like the flame is gone. You are trying to survive, and you lock yourself into the mindset of getting through day after day. Your flame ebbs. We forget every good thing God has done for us, and our prayer time is begging for Him to fix all our problems, ignoring our call as Christians to spread the Good News.

Faith isn't supposed to be easy. There are seasons where we doubt, and we forget the mountains God has pushed aside before. But these seasons are temporary, and we can't let them form walls around the light that's supposed to shine over everyone.

We all hurt. We all doubt. But if the Holy Spirit is inside you, He won't let you burn out.

Genesis 45:1-15; 1 Corinthians 7:32-40; Mark 6:1-13

***Include in your prayers:*** Karin Armbruster, Ricardo Acuña, Charlie Gasperino, Joanna Aras, Kay Bailey, Frank Lepore, Peter Pawlikowski, Marie Buller, Jill Astoreco, Bob and Carolyn Meadows, Hank Gonzalez, Pamela Bayard, Linda Ann Galstaun, Cindy Isleib, Kailei, Peter Newsham, Evelyne Bates, Jim Long, David Gershenson, Bud Nuquist, Austin Nuquist, Karen Rupar family, Sister Terri Saul Michael, Christine, Haiti and Bondeau, Anastasio Juarez

## **Wednesday, March 18**

Psalms 119:97-120 *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.* (v.105)

People have told me all my life that when I'm struggling with a decision, I should run to the Bible, and the right choice will suddenly be made clear. So, I choose a passage and read through it, meditating on the words and praying. Sometimes, everything will click, and I know what to do next.

Sometimes, the passage I chose has nothing relevant to my situation, and I get discouraged and decide according to my logic.

People always expect that when they run to the Bible for answers, they'll miraculously open to the right passage every time. God will show them clearly and immediately.

We forget that He also calls us to be patient. We forget that He answers every time, no matter how long it takes. We forget that His light is constant and is not gone when the path seems dark. He is preparing a way, and He will make our path clear when it is time to move forward.

Genesis 45:16-28; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 6:13-29

***Include in your prayers:*** Leslie Hahn, Patty Hart, Richard and Margaret Downing, Lance Block, Sue Drinkwater, Bernie Parker, Joe Bishop, Lori Zenobia, Connie and Joe D'Alessandro, Carolyn Tefft, Jim Rannie, Linda Thornbloom, Alan Lavitola, Daniel Bishop, Derreck French, Earl Cook, Charlie Allen, Michelle Shoshan, John Hogan, Penny Gallagher, the people of the Bahamas, family of John

and JoAnn Dube, Alison Clark, Becky Mahoney and family, Adam, Bill Browne, Bill Collins, Brody Boomhauer, Jeffrey Hardin, Dan Meehan, Darcy Munoz, Dennis Uthe, Ed Bowers and Nancy Michaleski, Jackie Schidbauer, James Robertson, John Motsko, Joseph Weilner, Karen Fuller

### **Thursday, March 19**

Mark 6:30-46 *“How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.” When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”* (v.38)

The Feeding of the Five Thousand is an amazing miracle. It’s a reminder that God always provides, no matter the circumstance.

But the part that people are often to forget is the person who offered the five loaves and two fish. In John 6, it is revealed that the person with the fish and bread was a boy.

If it were me, I would’ve thought it to be so small that it was inconsequential to give Jesus the food. But a little one offered up his food to Jesus, maybe doubting it was worth anything but doing it anyway. His little offering ended up feeding five thousand people.

Wow.

Some of the things that we do for Christ may seem so small to ourselves, but God may be using it to nourish so many others. We are called to have the faith of a child and to give without limits, even if it seems inconsequential.

We are called to give it all to Jesus, even if we doubt that it’s worth anything. He can make it into something miraculous.

Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34; Psalms 42, 43; 1 Corinthians 9:1-15

***Include in your prayers:*** Ruth Dans, Kristi Bronkema, Debbie Rannie, Lois Berning, Grace Wasko, Shirley Hazen, Howard Smith, Nancy Scarpa, Peter Smith, Sam Couillard, Fran Labossiere, Marilyn Pariseleti, Anne Romanchule, Scott White, Sheila Willis, Nathan Long, Brandon Bryant, Ken Jackson, Elaine Jackson, Vahan and Nancy Vrijian, Steve Parson, Curt Dawson, Jane Dawson, Wilson, Dale Ann Lawler, Burite, Katie, Hildy, Rochelle, Dimitri

### **Friday, March 20**

1 Corinthians 9:16-27 *Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly.* (v.26a)

Half the time when we ask how a person is that morning, they’ll moan and say they’re exhausted. This culture praises busyness, a stress that comes with pushing yourself to the breaking point.

We push ourselves to run faster, to do more, to work *harder*. We’re running, but most of us are running aimlessly.

We are driven to succeed. We desire to be satisfied, and we think that the only way to be satisfied is to work until it’s perfect. And then, when we fail or finish the project, we move on to another one, certain that this one is the one, *this one* will satisfy us.

We were made to glorify God. That is our purpose in this life and the one beyond that will last forever. That is where we will find the greatest peace, where we will feel purposeful, and where we will never tire of running the race.

We run to glorify God and help others reach His kingdom. Any other path will make us stumble and grow weary.

We are called to run to Him.

Genesis 47:1-26; Psalm 88; Mark 6:47-56

***Include in your prayers:*** George Dzama III, Keith Van Cleave, Phil Toren, Wendy Williams, Richard Dunstan, Cristian Clothier, Carley, Anne Gibb, Bud Wright, Heather, Susan Sakin, Eleanor, Bob Montheard, Laurie & George, Bernice Wadas, Teresa Miller, Zoran and Beatrice, Jerry Berger, Dennis and Janet Grote, Lee Mariggio, Laurette, Julia and Katharine, Clyde, Karen Weitz, Joseph Devan, Laura Devan, Maureen Devan, Liz Bardin, Kathryn Smith, Luca, Marlene Islieb, Mike Roman, Pat, Trish, Tom, Joe Hagerty, Nancy Cole, Ray Constable, Ron Phipps and Bonnie Pflieger, Tamlyn, Timothy Turnball, Tony, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Waterford Health Center

## **Saturday, March 21**

Psalm 90 *A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by.* (v.4a)

I'm a paranoid person. I tend to read into every detail and hold grudges against people for things they didn't even realize had hurt me. As humans, we tend to take every second seriously and believe that one sin we've done is the end of the world.

We forget that we have an eternal God. We forget that we are forgiven and keep living under a burden He's already taken from us. We forget that we are free.

We get upset at tiny things that truly don't matter; we get annoyed when answers don't immediately come. We feel useless when we are in a period of resting and aren't doing things that aid God's kingdom in a large way.

God isn't in a rush. He will heal us of our hurts that seem so small. He will provide an answer. He will give us opportunities to serve.

We can't live in this world's mindset of time. God is *timeless*. Everything will get done; things will be fixed. All it requires is patience and trust that He knows what He's doing.

Genesis 47:27—48:7; Psalm 87; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Mark 7:1-23

***Include in your prayers:*** our country: for wisdom and guidance for our leaders and the leaders of all nations: for our armed forces, especially those now in danger: including: Harold Fitch IV, Sarah Fitch, Gregory Campbell, Nicholas Beswick, Brandon Baila, Dean Joseph Parker, Capt. Griffin Bird, Austin and Mary Willis, Lieutenant Ryan Morie, Houston, General John Shepherd, Russell Clark, Peniel Reid, Lt. Michael Keller, and their families. Pray for our enemies; for peace, justice and reconciliation in all places where there is conflict, especially among the peoples of the Middle East. Please pray for Todd and Patsy McGregor and the people of Madagascar.

*by Hanna Wohlever*

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