

Morning Worship

March 4, 2018

Worship Leader — Don Beavers Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Scripture Reading Matthew 28:16-20 Don/People

Hymn # 576 *Take the Name of Jesus with You* Don/People

Worship Prayer Allan Lane

Missions Moment

Hymn # 589 *Ye Servants of God* Don/People

Hymn # 577 *The Old Ship of Zion* Don/People

Offering Prayer Bill Schottel

Offering Music Marcia Hart

Children's Worship (Children are dismissed)

Scripture Reading 1 Peter 4:7-19 Allan/People

Message "Living Beyond Suffering" All

Hymn # 277 Take My Life, and Let It Be Don/People

Strengthened by Suffering

1 Peter 5:1-14

God calls believers to serve Him faithfully by ministering to others, especially in the body of Christ. By focusing on others rather than on our pain, we can turn our sorrows into service. Helping others transforms our self-centered preoccupation into Christ-centered praise.

1. Serve like a Shepherd . (verses 1-4)

a. Follow Christ's Example

Some think Peter is primarily speaking to preachers here. And we can see how Jesus wants me to serve: Faithfully, properly, willingly, unselfishly, eagerly, gently, and expectantly. God wants me to be a servant-hearted leader like Jesus. He calls me to be an example as your pastor. And one reason why is because God has called

all of us to serve. Because some translate the word elder as simply those being more mature in the faith. Because of the context, where he goes on to speak of "younger" believers, perhaps this is true. He's speaking to all mature believers. Therefore, we all see some examples of service in the closing verses of Peter's letter (4:12-14).

b. Freely Love Others .

Encourage other people: That's a big thing, because it can have a big impact. Testifying about God grace is an even bigger thing. Every Christian has testimonies: The testimony of our salvation, plus testimonies of God's ongoing work in our lives.

Greeting one another may seem like a small thing. But small expressions of love can also make a big difference in peoples' lives.

2. Serve in Submission . (verses 5-7)

a. Humbly Accept Authority.

In verses 5 & 6, Peter communicates God wants His followers to put on servant-hearted humility. Peter said in verse 5, "Be clothed with humility." The original word for "be clothed with" is an unusual word in the Bible. This is the only place where it can be found. The word picture is "to tie a knot," but not just any knot. Slaves in that day wore aprons when they went out to work for their master. Those aprons were tied with a knot, and this is the kind of knot God is talking about here.

God used this word picture to help us put on servant-hearted humility. A. T. Robertson tells us that as Peter wrote those words, he may have been thinking back to the night before Jesus died on the cross. The Lord wrapped Himself in a servant's towel and began to wash His disciples' feet. That's the humble attitude God wants us to have. God wants us to live in Christian victory. -- So humble your heart.

b. Humbly Cast Our Burdens.

In verse 7 Peter tells believers to be "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." The idea here is to do it quickly. Don't wait around. Throw your cares on the Lord.

John Piper said: "This word 'casting' occurs one other time in the New Testament, in Luke 19:35. It's Palm Sunday and the disciples have been sent to get the donkey for Jesus to ride on. Then Luke 19:35 says, 'They brought it to Jesus, and casting their garments on the colt, they set Jesus on it.'

"So the meaning is simple and straight forward. If you have a garment on and you want an animal to carry it for you, you 'cast' the garment on the animal. In this way you don't carry it anymore. It's on the animal not on you. The donkey works for you and lifts your load."

Then Piper explains: "Well, God is willing to carry your anxieties the same way a donkey carries your baggage. One of the greatest things about the God of the Bible is that He commands us to let Him work for us before commanding us to work for Him." Some other verses that instruct us the same: Matthew 11:28, Psalm 55:22, Isaiah 46:4.

Sometimes when your world is crashing in, you may be tempted to think that the Lord doesn't care for you. But always look back to the cross. God has done a million good things for us. But if He never did another thing, the cross would be enough. Jesus died on the cross to take the full punishment for our sins. And He rose again to give eternal life to all who will trust in Him. The cross of Christ forever proves God's care for you.

One college student said something that was really inspirational. She had been stressing-out about a lot of things in her life. But she said that she prayed about it. And as she prayed, the Lord seemed to impress upon her that she should imagine a box. Then she should put all her worries in that box and give them to Him.

A little while later she caught herself worrying about something else and she said, "Oh. -- that goes in the box."

-Job trouble. -- That goes in the box.

-Financial trouble. -- That goes in the box.

-Family problems, health issues and struggles with sin. Put them all in the box.

3. Serve with Seriousness . (verses 8-14)

a. Because of our Adversary .

Be determined to resist the devil. We must remember that we have an evil enemy. Peter talked about him in verses 8 & 9, where he gave us a warning. The devil is the ultimate reason why there is so much suffering in this world. He is the number one enemy of believers in Jesus Christ, and so, we have to resist him.

We must be determined to resist the devil. Peter said in verse 8 to "Be sober and vigilant." The NIV says, "Be self-controlled and alert." And the Amplified Bible says, "Be vigilant and cautious at all times." "Be on the alert!" Then Peter tells us why.

1) Be on the alert first because we have a dedicated enemy. Peter said our adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. The devil is dedicated to be our adversary. There are no neutrals in this war. We must not fool ourselves into thinking we can sit it out on the sidelines. Satan is our enemy. Be on the alert because we have a dedicated enemy.

2) Because he is a destructive enemy. In John 10:10 Jesus said that the devil comes to steal, kill and destroy. Peter tells us that our enemy is like a lion. Lions are huge and powerful, up to 500 pounds and 9 feet long.

Years ago at a little country store in Georgia, out in the parking lot they had a bobcat in a cage, a cute little thing, only two or three times bigger than a cat. One visitor said when he walked over to that cage, and when he got about three feet away, it was like a bomb went off. That cute little cat turned into a raging monster. It was like a tornado in that cage. That thing was mean, vicious and wild. He was about to stick my finger in that cage and say: "Here Kitty, Kitty," but that stopped not a moment too soon.

Now a lion is twenty times bigger than a bobcat. And the devil is trillion times more dangerous and destructive. Be on the alert because we have a destructive enemy.

3) We are in a dangerous place, his place. We are in enemy territory tonight. Peter points us to this truth when he tells us that the devil is a roaring lion. You see, lions do not roar when they are hunting. They roar for several other reasons. One of the main reasons why they roar is to protect their territory. And this world is the devil's territory.

Sometimes we sing the hymn "This Is My Father's World," and of course that's true. But in John 12:31, Jesus called the devil the "Prince (or ruler) of this world." In a very real way he is, at least for now. Kidnapping and murders, bombs blowing up babies, pornography crime and corruption: None of these things belong to God.

The world is filled with evil. And when we see that, there should be no doubt that we are in the enemy's territory. That's why 2 Corinthians 5:20 says that we Christians are ambassadors for Christ. We are ambassadors serving the Lord in the devil's

territory. Satan does not want us hurting his evil kingdom, so like a lion, he roars to scare us away.

Christians: Be on the alert because we are in a dangerous place.

4) Because we have a deceptive enemy.

In verse 8, Peter said that the devil is walking around "seeking whom he may devour." But how does a lion hunt? Have you ever seen a cat stalking something? That's how a lion hunts. Most animals that lions eat are faster than the lion, so he must surprise his prey. Moving slowly, close to the ground, the lion stalks, creeping closer and closer. Then it rushes forward, grabs its prey and pulls it down.

The devil is not going to walk up, tap you on the shoulder and say, "I want to devour you, if that's O.K." No. If he wants to devour your marriage, he will build walls between you and your spouse. He will put you in the office with an attractive, friendly co-worker who sympathizes about your trouble at home. One thing can lead to another. Friendship can cross over the line to attraction. Then one day the trap slams shut, and he's got you.

If the devil wants to devour your life with alcohol, he is going to do it with slick ads showing beautiful people having a great time drinking.

If he wants to devour your life from Christian service, he will stir up trouble in the church, or try to discourage you, or try to distract you with something else that seems perfectly harmless or even good.

We must stay alert. But we also must take action. Peter said in verse 9 that we are to resist the devil, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. We must "resist" the devil. That word means "to stand against." God wants us to take a stand. But how do we do it?

First we stand in the faith. We can never do the work of the Lord in the strength of our flesh. It must be "in the faith," as we are trusting in the Lord. And it must be in the family, as we take a stand together. No one is singled out in verse 9. All of us are called on to resist the devil. Peter mentions our "brotherhood" as believers. That includes all Christians. We all have to resist the devil. But we never have to resist him alone. God has some great news for us in James 4:7.

b. Because of our Calling .

Count on God to complete what He started. This is Peter's faith-filled prayer for us in verses 10 & 11. We can count on God to complete what He has started in our lives. 1) Through His calling God has surely started a good work in our lives. Verse 10 tells us that "the God of all grace" has "called us to His eternal glory by Jesus Christ." Right now, Jesus Christ is preparing an eternal home for us in Heaven. And one day, He will call us home.

But it's not because of our goodness. It's because of His grace. He really is "the God of all grace." None of us is good enough to go to heaven on our own. All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. And the only way to get into Heaven is by the amazing grace of God, the grace that he showed us when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Three days later, Jesus rose again to offer salvation by grace through faith to anyone who will receive Him as Lord and Savior. It's all about Jesus:
-Trusting in Him.
-Placing your faith in Him.
-Receiving Him.
-Having a personal relationship with Him.

God has surely started a good work in our lives.

2) And He will finish it. Hebrews 12:2 tells us that Jesus is the "author and finisher of our faith!" We can always count on Him. In verse 10 we are told that we may have to suffer a little while before we go. But God Himself is going to "perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle" us. This means He is going to restore us, support us, strengthen us, and put us on a firm foundation, until the day He calls us home.

One day D.L. Moody was walking down the street, and he came to a little girl who was terrified by an approaching storm. The sky was dark and black. The frightened little girl said: "Brother Moody, the world is coming to an end!"

And Mr. Moody answered: "That's all right honey. We can live without it, for this (world) is not our home. We are just passing through to a better world."

Conclusion:

We are passing through to the best world. On the way, God wants us to live in Christian victory. So serve like the Savior. Humble your heart. Cast your cares on the Lord. Be determined to resist the devil. And count on God to complete what He started. We can live without this world.

We Can Live Without It!

Thank You, Dr. Graham

The following, written by Tobin Perry, came from the echurch website article entitled, "What Billy Graham's Ministry Teaches Us about Technology. It was interesting to me and I thought you might enjoy it as well. God Bless You!

Bro. Allan ☺

As the world comes to grips with the loss of arguably the greatest evangelist since Charles Spurgeon, you'll read lots about Billy Graham in the coming days. And that's good. Soak it all in.

Read about all the people who came to faith in Christ through Graham's ministry. Read about the times he comforted the nation during great tragedies. Read about his meetings with presidents and prime ministers.

But don't miss the story of Graham and technology. In fact, you really can't tell the story of Graham's impact on the world without talking about technology.

THE RADIO APPEARANCE THAT LAUNCHED A GLOBAL MINISTRY

Last week, Pushpay co-founder Chris Heaslip shared some of that story in his keynote message at Summit 2018. Heaslip began his message by describing a despondent Graham after three weeks of barely-adequate crowds during his famed Los Angeles crusade of 1949.

One night, as Graham showed up at the venue, he noticed a swarm of people. He turned to one of the reporters and asked, "What's going on?"

The reporter told him a radio appearance of his had been covered in a local paper and started a flood of publicity. During the next eight weeks, 350,000 people attended those meetings.

Though Graham had been ordained a decade earlier, it was that Los Angeles crusade that launched his global ministry. And the most important communications technology in history at that point, radio, played a key role.

THE BIRTH OF TELEVISION PREACHING

As his ministry grew in the 1950s, Graham looked for ways to get the message out to more and more people. In the opening service of his 1957 New York City crusade, Graham preached to over 18,000 people. But that wasn't enough. If there was any way he could get the gospel

out to more people, Graham wanted to do it.

On June 1, 1957, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association broadcast the New York City crusade on ABC. More than 96 million people switched on their televisions to tune in. The BGEA began to broadcast Graham's sermons on a regular basis.

Put this into perspective. Today, televised preaching is hardly controversial. But in 1957, it was innovative. Other preachers had been on television, but nothing at Graham's scale. Graham ushered in a whole new way to get the gospel message out.

In following decades, Graham's ministry would use satellite technology to open even more doors for proclaiming the gospel to all people.

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL BY ALL MEANS

Graham took to heart Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 9:22 to reach out with the gospel "by all means." But Graham didn't stop with television. A year earlier, before the televised New York City crusade, Graham founded the evangelical news magazine Christianity Today. In 1960, he started Decision Magazine, which now reaches more than 400,000 people.

When the internet revolution came in the 1990s, Graham leaned into the web to amplify the gospel message, launching the billygraham.org website in 1996. Since then, more than 4 million people have come to faith in Christ through this website.

In 1995, Graham broadcast one message from Puerto Rico live in 48 languages around the world. Some say his series "Global Mission" was heard by more than one billion people. "Billy understood one key thing: People feel wanted when we engage them through technology and culture," Heaslip told church leaders at the Summit.

You don't think about Billy Graham when you ponder technology, but it's really hard to imagine the breathtaking impact of his ministry without it. While many church leaders reflexively pushed back against technology, fearful of its potential for evil, Graham saw the potential in it for gospel proclamation. "I am amazed at the wonders of technology and am grateful for the ways in which we are able to use it to share the gospel around the world," he once said.

TECHNOLOGY'S LIMITATIONS

But Graham also understood technology's limitations. Twenty years ago, in the early days of the digital revolution, TED invited Graham to give what has become an iconic speech about the role of faith in technology. He left talk about microchips and processors to the technologists in the room. Instead, Graham did what Graham does. He preached the gospel. It became one of the most memorable TED talks of all time. He reminded the technology leaders in the room that as powerful as technology would be in the coming years, decades, and centuries, it couldn't cure what truly ails the human soul.

"The Bible says the problem is within us, within our hearts and our souls," Graham told those listening to his TED talk. "Our problem is that we are separated from our Creator, which we call God, and we need to have our souls restored, something only God can do."

Graham never forfeited an opportunity to share the gospel, even if that opportunity arose amidst a growing secular culture.

THANK YOU, BILLY GRAHAM

We have much to thank Billy Graham for today—for all the people who heard and responded to the gospel through his ministry, for a lifetime of modeling integrity and faithfulness in ministry, and for his influence on some of the most powerful people on the planet (and some of the most common) with the gospel.

But let's also be thankful he cared about the gospel message enough to use all means necessary to share it. Graham's model of innovation should be an inspiration as the church marches into the future. Graham said:

"I see no contradiction between the old, old story and the newest means to transmit it. It is time for the church to use the technology to make a statement that in the midst of chaos, emptiness, and despair, there is hope in the person of Jesus Christ."

Thanks to Billy, millions were reached with the message of the gospel. And for that, we are grateful.

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Choir Rehearsal.....9:00 am

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Ken Kirkpatrick, ? ? ?, Larry McKahan, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Monday, March 5

Food Kitchen.....5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 7

Prayer / Bible Study.... 6:30 pm

Worship Team 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 10

Daylight Saving Time (Please turn clocks forward one hour.)

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ?, Don Sharp, Ken Nice, Fred Kerns

Alternate: ? ? ?

Evening Services.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 14

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Worship Team 7:30 pm

Up-Coming Events.....

March 4 — January Bible Study at Noon

**March 11 — Daylight Saving Time (Please turn clocks forward
the night of March 10.)**

March 14 — Prayer Warriors 10:00 am

March 17 — St. Patrick's Day

March 18 — Business Meeting and carry in dinner at Noon

— Collect for Longs

March 22 — Food Pantry Day

March 25 — Palm Sunday

March 26 — Workers Meeting

March 29 — Maundy Thursday

March 30 — Good Friday

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

We will resume our Sunday night Bible Study next Sunday, March 11. Come join us beginning at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

Come pray for the direction of our church. Please plan to attend and pray at 6:30 pm and enjoy a time of fellowship and Bible Study.

January Bible Study

Our last January Bible Study will be today, March 4, with Don Beavers leading Session 5 and Bro. Allan Session 6.

Please plan to join us!

Thank you for you gift!

Missouri WMU
Madge Truex
Committee

Food Kitchen

We will serve Monday, March 5, at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to join us as we show the love of Christ and minister to those in need.

Daylight Saving Time
Next Sunday
March 11

Please remember to spring forward one hour the night of March 10.

Prayer Warriors

Wednesday, March 14
at 10:00 am

Business Meeting and Carry-In Dinner

We will have our regular business meeting and carry in meal

immediately following the morning worship service
Sunday, March 18.

For the Record-

Attendance: February 25, 2018

Sunday School.....	24
Visitors.....	1
Total.....	25
Contacts Made.....	0
Morning Worship.....	36
Children's Worship.....	6
Wednesday Night	8

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,286.39
Offering Received ...	\$ 1,437.54
Long Family-January....	\$ 100.00

Offering Received by Mail:

March Counting Team:

Bill Schottel and Mike Green

March Van Driver:

George Burgess
Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

March Member Birthdays:

01...Ken Nice
05...Sharon Yarbrough
13...Tim Ford
16... Don Sharp
16... Aleana Lane
20... Betty Campbell
27... Jim Winans

March Anniversaries

Fred and Linda Kerns
March 14, 1969

Prayer Requests ...

Those with illnesses
Donna Dunn—recovery and treatment
Jack and Flo Conard
Katie McIntosh—surgery recovery
(Dillon Burgess's girlfriend)
LoLeta Middleton
Peggy & Gary Fewins—Peggy's health
Rick and Mary Bruntmeyer
Brigida Winans—scooter free!
Arlette Duty—carpal tunnel
Gina Harr—recovery and strength
Don Beavers—heart and health
Curtis Conard—recovery
Emily Jones & baby Liam
Cynthia Burdick—cancer recovery
Karissa and Matt Long and family
The Waters Family—guidance
Stephanie & Jason Terpack
Shawna Hughes—home isolation
Larry Danner—cancer
Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister
Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim
Bill Clinton—Don and Mae's son
Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter
LoLeta Middleton—strength
Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law
Zella Davis —Doris Richardson's sister
Rev. A. B. Brown Betty Campbell
George Ferbert Kevin Duty
Ellen Blanton Lois Ulmer
Jim Winans Nellie Reynolds
Madeline Swink Ann Riddle
Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Pat Means Buddy Means
Bill & Juanita Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Judy Anderson
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts Tim Izer
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
