

## Morning Worship

August 11, 2019

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ ---

Worship Leader — Romey Keith Davis

Piano — Alva Lou Schottel

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

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship

Allan/People

Scripture Reading

Romey Keith Davis

Hymn # 138

*At Calvary*

Romey/People

Worship Prayer

Allan Lane

Hymn # 242

*Pentecostal Power*

Romey/People

Offering Prayer

John Lewis

Tithes and Offerings

People

Offering Music

Hymn # 193

*One Day*

Romey/People

Hymn # 256

*Father, I Adore You*

Romey/People

Special Music

Message

Bro. Allan

Hymn # 489 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Romey/People

Prayer Concerns

Allan/People

Closing Chorus # 608 *We'll Work, til Jesus Comes*

Romey/People

## Jesus Heals Our Faith

John 4:43-54

There is not a person here this morning that has not, at some point, faced some kind of difficulty, challenge or adversity where the choices were few and the solutions were difficult. Sometimes those adversities can be handled with hard work, sometimes it takes creativity. Then sometimes neither hard work nor creativity will get us through – it takes an act of God.

Booker T. Washington was a man who believed in hard work. Born a plantation slave, as a child he carried the books of his master's children to school. But Washington loved to learn. He wasn't allowed to own books or to attend places of higher learning, so he became a self-educated man.

Ultimately, through hard work, he became a wealthy landowner, the founder of an institution, an advisor to two United States Presidents (Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft) and a man who influenced many others.

Without a doubt, he is one of the most significant African Americans in the history of the United States. He was a hardworking man who found that, to get through life's adversities, it sometimes takes hard work.

Then there are other times where it takes more than just hard work – it takes creativity. I like the story Dale Galloway told in his book, "Dream a New Dream." It involved a man who owned a little store back East. In his store, he sold some groceries, pharmaceuticals and notion needs. He had a good business until Urban Renewal moved in and threatened his business.

As bulldozers came in and took out the old buildings, on his right in their place was a beautiful grocery store, and on the left the bulldozers knocked down homes and a discount store was built where people could buy more for less. The man went home discouraged knowing that there was no way his business would be seen in the shadow of those two buildings.

Then he got an idea...he would spend his savings on a sign. It was to be as big as his store. He would have the finest company in town make it. The sign had only three words on it, but those three words revolutionized his business! The bright bold sign read: MAIN ENTRANCE HERE!!!

Sometimes it takes hard work, sometimes it takes creativity. And then sometimes it takes an act of God. That's where the man in John 4:43-54 is: no amount of money would solve his problem, no amount of hard work or creativity would heal his dying son – he needed an act of God. As we look at him this morning, we learn some lessons on faith.

How do we demonstrate faith in Jesus? It's easy to express a surface faith in which there is no depth. Many today demonstrate a faith that has no content. Ultimately, surface faith will be tested and found wanting. This happened to so many in Israel, despite all the miracles Jesus performed there. Today we see one who is confronted in his faith and his response to it.

### **1. Take God Your Problems and More .**

So many people only want God to be their personal problem solver: "God if You just will get me out of this problem." "God if You will just heal this person." "God if You will get me that job or that relationship." Janis Joplin wanted the Lord to buy her a Mercedes Benz. And here is the good news – God answers prayer! **But if who God is means less to you than what He can do for you, then you have missed the message entirely.**

**John 4:43-44**, After the two days he departed for Galilee. (For Jesus Himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.)

After Jesus turned the water into wine in Cana, he went to Jerusalem for Passover. While He was there He cleansed the Temple, did many signs, and encountered the Pharisee named Nicodemus. Then earlier in chapter 4 He had been in Samaria where He encountered the woman at the well and they received Him. They not only received Him, they believed He was Savior. But in Galilee, the people were more interested in His miracles than His mission.

**Luke 4:23-24**, And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown."

In other words, "Jesus, stop the preaching and get to the healing. We aren't interested in who you are, we just want to be entertained with the things you can do!" And that's what we see in John 4:45.

After meeting the woman at the well, notice we are now back at Cana where the wedding took place, so we've come full circle. The purpose of the first miracle at Cana was so the disciples might believe. He went to Jerusalem, cleansed the temple, did miracles there and people believed, but it wasn't a saving faith. The people in Jerusalem were curious about the miracles, but they were fickle in their faith, which shows us miracles don't necessarily lead to saving faith. The Samaritans believed without seeing miracles (John 4:46).

The word for official is basilikos, from the root for "king." So this is an "official of the king" or a "royal official," probably an official of Herod Agrippa who ruled Galilee.

This official was a man of wealth, power, of influence. Some speculate it was a man named Chuza, Herod's steward, listed in Luke 8:3. If it is or isn't, this royal official's son was sick, very sick (John 4:47, 49).

Scholars estimate that at that time in history, only 50% of children lived to age 5. We may not specifically know his age, but by the term he was a young child. So this was a desperate situation. Jesus was at Cana so this royal official came from Capernaum, which was about 16 miles away.

If you're a parent who has been through the trauma of having one of your children sick to the point of death, you know the feeling of this man. All the money in the world is of little value – the 401k, the business, the house – you'd trade it all for your child's health. The power, the prestige, the influence, they all dwindle in significance when compared to the life of your child. When it says in verse, "...he went to him and asked him...", he didn't just ask once. He repeatedly asked. This man was desperate (John 4:48). If Jesus' answer seems harsh, let me point out a few things.

First, His response is very similar to what He said to His mother Mary the last time He was in Cana (John 2:3-4), "Woman, what does this have to do with me?" And how did she respond? His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:5). She wasn't offended. Someone said she saw a yes in His no. If you're waiting on God for an answer to your situation, can you see a yes in His no? Can you trust Him?

Second, Jesus is not only talking to the man. There is a crowd (John 4:48). The "you" is plural. It isn't just directed at the man, it's directed to the crowd of thrill seekers.

Third, Jesus wants to do more in your life than just answer your current request. Meeting your need is important, but if God heals you and you go to hell because you never understood He is the Savior, what good was the miracle? If God meets our needs but we never really come to know Him as Lord, as Savior, as Friend, then we have missed it. Go to God with your problems, but go to God for MORE than your problems. In Mark 8:36 Jesus said, "For what does it benefit (profit) a man to gain the whole world yet lose his life (soul)?"

## **2. Believe God's Word, Not Your Worries .**

In John 4:49 it is apparent the official expected Jesus to drop everything and go with him. He said, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

Now catch this ... he was expecting Jesus to come and lay hands on his son or some other way. He had a preconceived idea of how Jesus should do it. Ever been there? "Jesus, this is what I need and this is HOW I need You to do it!" I need you to stop this, start that, go here, or have them go there. And we have a wonderful plan all mapped out in our mind as to how God should work. That's this man. "Jesus if You are there with my son, my son will be healed."

But in John 4:50a Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." Jesus isn't going to walk the 16 miles to Capernaum right now. Jesus isn't going to work in this man's situation the way this man has visualized it.

At that point, this man was faced with a HUGE decision. Jesus had given the man His word so now the question for this man is: Will you believe Jesus or not? Jesus says, "I'll meet your need." Our response more than likely would be but Lord, I need a sign; but Lord, I need you to do it this way; but Lord, I have to see You working ... then I will believe; but Lord, let's go see my son together. The biggest issue we face is not whether or not God is able or if He is willing. The biggest issue we face is whether or not we will believe. A lot of folks miss out on God's miracles because they

won't believe. They won't take God at His Word. They have more faith in their worries than they do in God's Word. But if we are going to receive from God, we have to believe God's Word and not our worries! You have to Doubt your Doubts.

He took Jesus at His word and went on his way. You read that and you would think that he immediately headed back to Capernaum. That would be the normal response, wouldn't it? If you had a child near death in Saint Joseph, and you heard Jesus was in Kansas City and he told you that your child would live, you would jump in the car and head back to Saint Joseph, right? But that's not what it appears this man did (John 4:50b-53a). The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. He went on his way; he didn't go home until the next day or possibly later. It was one o'clock in the afternoon when he spoke with Jesus. He could have gotten on his donkey and gone home. But he didn't because he believed God's Word not his worries. He was trusting in the promises of God, that God would keep His Word.

### **3. Make Faith A Family Priority.**

This man walked away by faith and it affected everyone else in his home (John 4:53). Moms and Dads, is that how it works in your home? Do your children and grandchildren see your faith in action? Do they see God as the number one priority in your life, not just on Sundays, but on Tuesday evening when you lose your cool? Do you apologize? Do they see you loving your spouse? Do they hear you talk about God, about His Word, about how He has been working in your life and what He has been speaking to your heart and showing you? Do they see you read your Bible, do they hear you pray? Can they bring you their spiritual questions? Do you help them process their life through the lens of faith?

This dad didn't let his kids figure spiritual things out for themselves – he had a living faith and it spread to the rest of his household. He believed and everything changed. I pray you will

Go to God with your problems but go to God for MORE than your problems. Believe God's Word and not your worries. Make your faith a family priority by the way you live.

### **Conclusion:**

Jesus is looking for the nobleman's faith, desiring that this kind of faith might be found in us. How do we come to Him? Do we come like so many in Israel as demanding and unthankful children? Do we honor Jesus with our lips while having hearts that are remote from Him? These are painful questions that we must ask ourselves. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus anyway? In the midst of our life struggles, if Jesus were to confront us personally the way he did the nobleman's son, and He will, how will we respond?

Let me go back to the beginning of today's message. How do we demonstrate faith in Jesus? There is a surface faith in which there is no depth. Many today demonstrate a faith that has not content. This is better described as credulity. Ultimately, surface faith will be tested and found wanting. This will result in renouncing the object of faith because it was based upon improper foundations. This is what happened to so many in Israel, despite all the miracles Jesus performed there. Today we will see how one is confronted in his faith and how he responds to it.

### ***How Will You Respond?***

## ***Awareness and Sensitivity***

The following is from Lance Witt, founder of Replenish Ministries. It's been edited to fit the

space. Hope it speaks to your heart as it has to mine.

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan ☺

*As a pastor, it is easy for me to get busy running my ministry and living my own life and as a result get disconnected from those who are far from God. This past week I was reading the story of the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts 8 and was struck by God's tenacity in getting the Gospel to this one man. In those early days the church was spreading like wildfire. And after Stephen is martyred in Acts 7, the first verse of Acts 8 says that "on that day a great persecution broke out against the church..." Yet, in the midst of the swirl of all that was going on, God goes to tremendous lengths to get the Gospel to one man from a foreign country.*

*It reminds me of Jesus' parable in Luke 15 about the man who leaves the ninety-nine sheep in his flock and relentlessly searches for the one lost sheep. If we are going to have the heart of God we must go hard after those who are far from God. In Acts 8, Philip has a divine interruption. Earlier in Acts 8 we find Philip in Samaria carrying out his ministry and then an angel of the Lord tells him to go to the desert road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza.*

*Now, you are not likely to have an angel tap you on the shoulder and give you specific instructions. But we can expect the Holy Spirit to prompt us. This is all about awareness and sensitivity to those opportunities that God brings across our path. What if this next week you put up your spiritual antenna and started being sensitive to opportunities to have God conversations with those in your community? When is the last time you prayed and asked God for opportunities to share the Gospel?*

*Just like in Philip's case we can have confidence that God is already at work in the lives of those around us. This is evidenced by the fact that this official from Ethiopia just happened to be reading Isaiah 53, one of the most powerful prophecies about the coming messiah. When this Ethiopian man asked Philip who the prophet was talking about, verse 35 says "Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus."*

*I love that Philip starts with Isaiah 53 and then takes the conversation to Jesus. Philip didn't focus on this man's moral condition, or talk about how sinful he was or invite him to a local church. No! He took the conversation straight to Jesus. It is a good reminder for me that ultimately it is an encounter with Jesus that transforms people's lives. This man needed to be born again.*

*As Christian leaders living in the 21st century, we find ourselves in a culture that is unfriendly to the claims of the Gospel. We are living in a post-Christian era. To declare that Jesus is the only way to heaven is not politically correct these days. When you declare that Jesus is the only way to heaven, you can expect to be ridiculed as intolerant, arrogant, and narrow-minded.*

*This is one of the non-negotiables of our faith and a cornerstone of our churches. We cannot let cultural pressure cause us to be unclear about the Gospel. When we boldly declare that Jesus is the only way to eternal life, we are not being arrogant or intolerant. We are simply declaring for Jesus what He declared for Himself. He said of Himself "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

*In 1 Corinthians 1:18, the apostle Paul said "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

*The cross is the dividing line in history. Paul says that the cross divides all of humanity into two groups of people. On one side, there is the group who would look at what we believe and what we stand for and say it is "foolishness." The word that Paul uses here is actually the Greek word that we get our English word "moron." Some would look at us and say we are morons for believing that a death on a cross could give us eternal life.*

*But Paul says that there is another group. For them, the cross is not foolishness, it is the power of God. The root word for power is the same word that we get our word "dynamite." The Gospel has explosive power to change a life. So, in this ever-changing culture, may you unashamedly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Don't back down from declaring Jesus as the only way.*

*It is widely believed that this Ethiopian eunuch was responsible for taking the Gospel to Africa. You just never know how God might use somebody you share the gospel with.*

## **Opportunities For Service**

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

**Sunday, August 11, 2019**

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, John Lewis, Bill Schottel, George Burgess

Alternate: Ken Nice

No Evening Worship.....

**Wednesday, August 14**

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

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

**Saturday, August 17**

Biblical Manhood Conference Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church 8:30 am-3:00 pm

**Sunday, August 18, 2019**

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Ken Nice, Fred Kerns, Don Sharp, Dillon Burgess

Alternate: LeRoy Bush

No Evening Worship.....

Concert ..... 6:30 pm

Van leaves by 5:30 pm

Bring a lawn chair!

**Wednesday, August 21**

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

## **Up-Coming Events .....**

**August 14 — Prayer Warriors**

**August 17 — Biblical Manhood Conference**

**August 18 — The Ball Brothers, Clarksdale, MO Park 6:30 pm**

**September 14 — Missouri Baptist Children's Home**  
**Apple Festival, Raymore, MO 1-3 pm**

## **GROW Team**

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

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## **Urgent Prayer Need** **Youth Sunday School Teacher**

Since the passing of our dear brother Don Beavers Martha and Mike Green have been graciously teaching grades 5th through high school in one large group during Sunday School. They have been willing, even through all the difficulties Mike has faced this past year. It hasn't been too much of a problem since we were all aware of the situation and still sensitive to our grief. However, it is time to move forward and seek someone to teach the older youth.

First, would you commit to pray for this need? Secondly, would you consider how God might use you? We recognize that not everyone is gifted and able to work with youth. We must pray for God to provide the right person. Please seek God's will in this need.

## **Sunday Night**

We will not have Sunday Night service tonight so Bro. Allan and youth can attend a Youth Rally. Next week we will take the van to The Ball Brothers Concert. Come be a part!

## **Wednesday Night Prayer** **and Bible Study**

We are really enjoying the *Anxious for Nothing* study by Max Lucado. Won't you please attend and pray for the direction of our church?

## **Biblical Manhood Conference:** **Men On Mission**

August 17, 2019  
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Frederick Boulevard  
Baptist Church

We need to know today who is planning to attend. Sign up on the table in the entryway.

## **The Ball Brothers in Concert**

*(in the Park)*  
Clarksdale, MO  
Sunday, August 18, 2019  
6:30 pm

We will plan to take the van, leaving the church before 5:30 pm. Bring a lawn chair and bug spray! A love offering will be taken.

## **Missouri Baptist Children's Home Apple Festival 2019**

First Baptist Church  
Raymore, MO  
September 14  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

## ***Thank You***

Thank you for your donation of food products to our pantry during July. Your continued support of us is a blessing.

God Bless You,  
Cheryl Meeks  
Patee Park Food Pantry

## **Youth Rally Tonight**

5:30 – 7:00 pm  
Van leaves by 5 pm

## ***For the Record***

### **Attendance: August 4, 2019**

Sunday School.....27  
Visitors..... 0



Total.....27  
Contacts Made.....0  
Morning Worship..... 43  
Sunday Night.....N/A  
Children's Worship .....N/A  
Wednesday Night ..... 7

**Financial Record:**

Weekly Budget ..... \$ 2,286.39  
Offering Received ... \$ 2,452.00  
Long Family – July .... \$ 165.00

**Offering Received by Mail:**

**August Counting Team:**

Bill Schottel and John Lewis

**August Van Driver:**

Joe Coats  
Call 232-3747 before 8 am

**August Member Birthdays:**

09...Dottie Wildberger  
18...Tonia Meers  
22...Beverly Lewis  
24...LeRoy Bush

**August Anniversaries**

David and Annette Schottel  
August 5, 1989  
  
LeRoy and Ruth Anne Bush  
August 5, 1966  
  
Tim and Sharon Waters  
August 10, 1985

***Prayer Requests ...***

John Lewis  
Jack and Flo Conard  
Jeanette Shirley  
Brigida and Jim Winans  
Curtis Conard  
Chuck and Gloria Stewart  
Family and Friends of Alicia McKinnon  
June Fritchle—infection recovery  
Mike Green—knee recovery  
Lillie Williams—surgery recovery  
Gary Hurst—cancer  
Susie Long—Alice Coat's Sister

Swymeller's Grandsons—kidneys  
Shirley Wilson—strength and recovery  
Sandy and Stanley Wilson  
Ruth Anne Bush—healing  
Sharri Duty  
Linda Huff—PTL! Cancer free!  
Romey Keith Davis—Music  
Marcia and Don Hart—blessings  
Arlette Duty—strength  
Peggy & Gary Fewins—Peggy's health  
Donna and Bill Dunn—health  
Karissa and Matt Long and family  
Stephanie & Jason Terpack—guidance  
Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister  
Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim  
Bill Clinton—Don and Mae's son-PTL!  
Lisa Bowers—Conard's daughter-PTL!  
Zella Davis —Doris Richardson's sister  
Doris Richardson      Elmer Mayse  
The Waters Family      Kevin Duty  
Betty Campbell      Tim Izer  
Dottie Wildberger      Ann Riddle  
Keon McKahan      Nellie Reynolds  
Jozy Winans      Kenny Duty  
Pat Means      Buddy Means  
Bill & Juanita      Debbie Sands  
Pat Puckett      Curtis Conard  
Brenda Burgess      Seth Long  
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church  
David and Deborah Grace  
Our Nation and Leaders  
Our Military Service Women and Men  
Terrorism in our world  
**Today's Prayer Requests ...**

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**Our Nation and our Leaders ...**

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**Five More New Families...**

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