



The Messenger

Living Hope Baptist Church

September 2011

From Pastor Dave's Heart . . .

What Do Your Friends Think of Jesus?

Many people have theories about who Jesus was and what he taught, but they have never really studied these matters for themselves. Their opinions are often based on what they've heard or seen, including fictional sources such as novels, television shows, or movies. We should listen to their views, remembering that many of these views are held deeply, but we should also encourage them to take some time to look into these matters. The best place to start is with the New Testament itself, reading in the four Gospels what Jesus actually taught.

Who did Jesus say He was?

One important clue is Jesus' habit of referring to Himself as the "Son of Man." Jesus did this 82 times in the Gospels. What did Jesus mean by calling Himself the "Son of Man"? Many modern readers might assume that the title simply indicated His humanity. But that's because they didn't live in the first century and understand that He was referring to Daniel's Old Testament prophecy.

Daniel 7:13-14 says "one like the Son of Man" was going to be presented to "the Ancient of Days" (God the Father) and receive authority to rule over the world forever. That's what Jesus thought of Himself! This person referred to in Daniel has sovereign power and is worshiped by "all peoples, nations, and men of every language." Only God can be legitimately worshiped. So Jesus was identifying Himself as the One who would rule forever over all nations, all peoples, all over the world, for all time.

Jesus affirmed He is God by repeatedly referring to Himself as the Son of Man, relating to the divine figure of Daniel seven. What's more, in Mark 14, during His trial prior to the Crucifixion Jesus used this title for Himself and specifically tied it to the Daniel passage. He was answering a question from the high priest: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" To this Jesus replied, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming in



Pastor David Schutjer

the clouds of heaven" (V. 61, 62). These words were astounding to his listeners, because by tying the Son of Man with the description of coming on the clouds of heaven, Jesus was claiming that He was the divine person described in Daniel 7.

The group response at His trial said it all. Mark 14:63-64 *Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror and said, "Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard His blasphemy. What is your verdict?" "Guilty!" They all Cried, "He deserves to die!"* If Jesus were merely claiming to be human, He would not have evoked this strong negative reaction. Clearly, He was making the claim of being deity. The people in your life need to know about the real Lord Jesus Christ—**Who is the eternal God!**

Pleasant Valley School Report

On Saturday, August 13th, 17 people from Living Hope joined Principal Laurie Ernstrom at Pleasant Valley Elementary and helped get the school ready for the new school year. We worked from 8 a.m. to noon sprucing up the grounds and sanitizing student desks and chairs. Living Hope also donated \$150 from our Sharing Ministries to help offset supplies used to maintain the campus.

At the end of our time we asked God to bless this year's staff, students, and their families. Principal Laurie told us how much she appreciates our help and that Pleasant Valley Elementary was the only Centennial school that was contacted by a church to coordinate a school care day this year.

Sharing ... being Jesus to those He came to save.



Taiwanese Tidbit: Taiwan has a diverse landscape. It has mountain ranges, foothills, tablelands, and coastal plains and basins. The Chungyang Shanmo (Central Mt. Range) covers 2/3 of the country. The highest peak, Yu Shan (Jade Mt.), reaches 12,959 ft.

Heffner Requests and Praises:



Pray for God's leading in those from LHBC considering a mission trip to Taiwan.



Pray for the new school year – Daniel in Chinese school and Anna Li in Morrison Academy.



Pray for good relationships as Mark teaches English and Laura takes Blaze to events.



Pray for LHBC as we begin Phase II – learning about Taiwan and the Taiwanese people and continuing to grow in our relationship with the Heffners.

Men's Bible Study

Join us this Fall in a study of James.
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning September 20
"Genuine faith will inevitably produce good deeds.
This is the central theme of James' letter, around which
he supplies practical advice on living the Christian life."

Sign up today at the Information Center.

YOUTH

When I was in high school, we were told that it took three months to make something a habit. I was challenged to find something and try that theory out, so I chose to see how I could see God working each day. Some days, that challenge was a little harder than other days, but I did it for the full time, and even continued after the three months ended. Now however, I have stopped doing that all together, but I still think about the challenge quite often.

This fall, I am going to make a similar challenge to our youth group. I am going to provide everyone with a notebook with a sheet for each day, challenging them to fill out a "Spiritual Walk Journal." The idea with this will be a few things; 1) to have a place they can write down where they see God working each day, 2) to write down the things that they are praying for each day (and each other's prayer requests, and 3) a spot to write God's responses to the prayers they are making. Each Sunday, they will have the opportunity to share what they have written during the week so we can all be encouraged when we see how God is working in each of our lives. Hopefully, as we see God working more and more, we will be drawn closer and closer to Him, and the desires He has for us.

If you want to try this challenge out too, all you need is a notebook and a pen. Challenge yourself to write down how God is making a difference in your life, and how He answers prayer. It may just make a huge difference in your life, as I know it will make a difference in the lives of our youth!



**Pastor Andrew
Miller**



Women Connecting to the Vine

Ladies, please circle September 16 on your calendar. We are planning another dinner/movie night. The movie will be "Soul Surfer", the amazing story of a young girl's encounter with a shark. Bring a friend. We have also planned more events so please keep "a look-out" for information.



Women's Bible Study starts Tuesday, September 20th. In "The Shelter of God's Promises" DVD based Bible Study, Sheila Walsh searches Scripture for what God has promised us, what God's promises mean and how Christ is the fulfillment of God's unrelenting commitment to us. Sheila uses vulnerable storytelling and in-depth teaching in this study on ten bedrock promises from God. We will discover together that God is the only promise maker who is always a promise keeper! Register at the Information Desk on Sunday or email Lori Palmiter at ll.palmiter@comcast.net

Guys!

**It is Roundup
Time
At Tadmor**

September 9 - 11

UPCOMING EVENTS @ LIVING HOPE

Aug. 31 – All Staff AWANA meeting

Sep. 1 – Bible Fellowship & potluck

Sep. 7 – AWANA begins

Sep. 9 – 11 – Men’s Round-up @
Tadmor

Sep. 16 – Ladies’ Dinner/Movie night

Sep. 20 – Men’s & Ladies’ Bible
Studies begin

Oct. 14 – 16 – Ladies Fall Retreat @
Seaside, “Standing On His Promises”

Nov. 6 – Time changes “Fall back”

Nov. 6 – 5:00pm Harvest Potluck

Nov. 19 – “Ladies Time Out”
Breakfast

Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Day

Dec. 10 – Angel Tree Breakfast

Dec. 21 – AWANA Christmas
program

We are to be channels of God's truth – not reservoirs.