

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal



Sermons for the Lord's Day

The Living Redeemer

Announcements Alisal Weekly

1. **Romans Class This Wednesday at 6:30 pm** - Chapter 12 #2
2. Wednesday Invitation - David
3. **Think!** *How would you prove that you put Christ first in your life?
What will your answer be?*

Prayer List

1. **Norma Decker** - for better health and strength to be with us.
2. **Teresita Sagun** - for remission of her cancer.
3. **All Mothers** - for a blessed special "Mother's Day".
4. **Teresa Battle** - for comfort with the loss of her fiance and other issues.
5. **Bobby Glover** - for wisdom to teach the lost.
6. **Beverly Pereira** - for a consistent way to attend worship services.
7. **David & Vicki Ryal** - for peace and good health.
8. **Raymond and Virginia Elliott** - for good health and strength to continue teaching those in and outside the body of Christ.
9. **Don and Sheri Blackwell** - for full recovery from their injuries.
10. **Those serving the Lord** - for physical and spiritual strength in their service.

The Great Invitation

Rodney Nulph

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden..." (Matthew 11:28a). This is without doubt the greatest invitation that has ever been given! Of course, the One Who gave this invitation really desired and desires that everyone will accept it. "For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16). Most everyone would like to enjoy what this invitation brings—rest, forgiveness, joy, peace, love and among other wonderful blessings, an eternal home in Heaven when life as we know it is over. While it is true that we can never earn this invitation (it is freely given), each one must accept the invitation on God's terms. Sadly, not everyone has the spiritual ambition to accept our Lord's invitation. What is involved in accepting this Great Invitation?

Firstly, there must be an awareness. In order to accept Christ's invitation, one must be aware of his or her condition. If one is not aware that he "labors" and is "heavy laden" without acceptance of this invitation, then why would anyone "come"? On another occasion, Jesus put it this way, "...if any man thirst..." (John 7:37b). If one does not know he is thirsty, why would he seek water? Sadly, many folks are walking around "spiritually dehydrated" and never even know it! On still another occasion, Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst..." (Matthew 5:6a). Until we are aware that without Christ our spiritual bellies are "growling," we can never accept the Great Invitation!

Secondly, there must be an apprehension. Simply stated, one must feel concerned and uneasy about his or her spiritual hunger and thirst! Sadly, some seemingly know they are lacking but are not really concerned about the remedy. Think for a minute physically. If a person is hungry, usually everything gets put on hold and life's activities somewhat cease until he or she is fed. Even when a loved one dies, we usually have a dinner and partake of necessary food. Yet, far too often, spiritual hunger takes a "backseat" to life's activities. We frequently allow the smallest interruption to keep us from our spiritual food. However, the blessing ("being filled") goes to the one who is not satisfied about being hungry and thirsty (Matthew 5:6). The blessing ("rest") goes to the one who is not content with "laboring" alone and being "heavy laden" (Matthew 11:28). It is the one who is completely dissatisfied with spiritual dehydration that is filled with "living water" (John 4:10; 7:37). We will never be filled with heaven's "bread and water" (John 6:35; 7:37) until we are no longer happy to empty!

Lastly, there must be an action. In the Great Invitation, the action was clear, "come" (Matthew 11:28). In John 7:37, the action was clear "come and drink." This is a personal choice on the part of each individual. This is one of the most difficult parts of sharing the message of Jesus that we often face. We desire for a certain person to obey and find this awesome storehouse of spiritual food and water, and yet, individually he or she has little or no desire. Christianity is a personal choice! Sadly, some make the choice not to accept Christ's invitation. While Christians plead and encourage, there is a choice each accountable person must make! We will never experience the bounty of the Lord until we make that personal choice to do so.

As John closed the Book of Revelation, some of the last words were a plea to accept Christ's invitation, "And the Spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that heareth say, come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

A Worthy Woman

Gary C. Hampton

It is obvious King Lemuel's mother wanted the best for her son (Proverbs 31). She warned him against improper relationships with women and the dangers of alcohol when carrying out the important duties of a king. She also gave him a beautiful picture of the type of woman who would make a wonderful wife.

The worthy woman has her family's respect. Her husband places his full trust in her. "She does him good and not evil All the days of her life" (Proverbs 31:10-12). She is such a help to him that he is known among the leaders of the city in which he lives (Proverbs 31:23). Her children speak well of her, and her husband praises her (Proverbs 31:28-29).

The wise use of money is characteristic of the worthy woman. Her hands are busily at work, toiling well into the night making yarn (Proverbs 31:13, 16-19). Her labors include making things to sell to merchants. She watches her family and provides for their needs (Proverbs 31:24, 27).

Food will be prepared for her family, even when it means getting up well before the sun rises (Proverbs 31:14-15). Every member of her household has warm clothing. She strives to look nice, wearing fine linen and purple (Proverbs 31:21-22).

The words of a worthy woman are filled with wisdom and kindness (Proverbs 31:26). She is not like the young widow who spends her time gossiping and telling others how to conduct their business (1 Timothy 5:13). She would not be a false accuser like the devil (Titus 2:3).

Reverent service to the Lord is the worthy woman's most beautiful attribute (Proverbs 31:30). She cares for the poor and needy (Proverbs 31:20). The good works of a worthy woman are well spoken of in the gates of the city, where the leaders sit (Proverbs 31:31).

We are blessed beyond measure by mothers who are worthy women. Praise God! We should regularly give thanks for our mothers and strive to imitate their hard work and reverence for God.

Happy Mother's Day

May God bless all your wonderful efforts!

May 12, 2019

Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Colossians 4:5-6



"What will Your answer be?"

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am Class - 10:00 am & 5:00 pm Worship

Wednesday Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:30 pm

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