

way of living rather than grudgingly dividing up whatever we have because that is the rule.

As I read through the lenses of the early disciples who record the life of Jesus, this approach in his life comes out strongly. Each of these men recount stories from the life of Jesus that communicate the message of how he lived, which in turn informs our lives. From disciples who felt that Jesus was primarily concerned with the choices of adults, imagine the shock when he encouraged the little children being brought to him. Others just knew that rejecting Jesus justified calling down fire from heaven, but they were the ones who he identifies as disappointing him. On and on the stories from his life can be told, with shifts and twists and turns as disciples come to learn what God is really like.

I find myself envious of those early followers. Witnessing the interaction of Jesus with the multitudes, and seeing his reaction to them. Can I make him smile? Is he showing pride? Does he nod in agreement? This year I want to try to take you on a journey. The life of Jesus, as told in the four Gospels, covers events from about 45 days. Each week I want to walk through the events of one of those days. What did Jesus do and how did it shape those who followed him? My goal is that it shape you and me the same way.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

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Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.



St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

January 3, 2016

²⁴"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. Matthew 10:24-25a

For those who seek to follow Jesus, this is a theme verse. Our desire to be like Jesus defines us. As a result of that, we want to spend as much time as we can reading the accounts of the Gospels, the life of Jesus.

As I make the effort to influence my sons or grandchildren, I don't formulate a list of rules and regulations. I am not attempting to fence them into a rigid system of behaviors. Instead I am attempting to give them guidelines or a "style of living." It is an approach to life that we try to pass on.

I don't make a rule that "Ferial's will approach life with flexibility." I attempt to demonstrate flexibility in my approach to life. I talk about options, choices, along with expectations. So, when the time comes to share, it is a

SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
Afternoon Service—1:15 pm
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Carl's)
ELDERS: Richard Breising, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Breising

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JANUARY 3, 2016

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 9:23-26
SONGS: No. 416—Footsteps of Jesus
No. 417—Where He Leads I'll Follow
No. 412—Jesus, Hold My Hand (vs 1, 3)
No. 396—No, Not One (vs 1, 3)
PRAYER: Tom Turner
SONG: No. 366—By Christ Redeemed
COMMUNION: Garland Mansel
Jon Mansel
Fred Johnson
Teddy Gingrich
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 853—When We All Get to Heaven
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)
PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! Please stay for lunch right after services.

NEW MEMORY WORK FOR 2016

Matthew 10:24-25a

English Standard Version

24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master"

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

- April 15-16; Hartman Arena, Wichita, KS
- Let Janet know if you want to be registered with the group who is going (we can get a discounted fee until January 31st)
- We will be registering our group in the next week or so—hopefully you can join the 9 women who have already made a commitment to attend!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jorge & Latisha Serrano, in Oaxaca, Mexico, are the proud parents of a baby girl. **Violeta Estefania** was born December 22, weighed 8 lbs 4 oz, and was 20.5 inches long. She is welcomed home by big brother Aaron and big sister, Emily.

**NEW
BABY
GIRL**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Chris Mansel—was in Stafford Hospital last week; home now
Kay Kinnamon—torn rotator cuff; will need surgery
Brenda Staub—recent thyroid surgery for cancer
Landon Neidig—Gingrich's great grandson—sick this last week
Darlene Stimatze (Amber Turner's mother) - recent hip surgery
Dan Hampton—recent surgery
Michelle Rose (Vanessa Roger's aunt) - in a nursing home for rehab
Marilyn Thornburg—recent knee surgery
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
John Laudick (Marla's brother-in-law)
Pam Herrenbruck—cancer treatment
Jonathan Batten – chemotherapy
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Myron Breising (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org