

nuts is that we don't allow room for nuance. No one word perfectly fits.

Jesus experienced a very similar reaction to his life and ministry. He was a rabbi, unlike other rabbis. He was the son of God, but didn't fit the concept that the religious folk of his day held about God. As a result, there were a lot of questions about him. Some of the questions caused others to withdraw from him, finding time with him too damaging to their units of classification.

Since he didn't fit their notion of God, some labeled his power source as being Beelzebub. Others knew, because of what he did, that he had to be a teacher coming from God, but it just didn't fit cleanly into place for them.

For the most part, those who had the greatest need were drawn to him. Parents brought their children who struggled with illness or infirmity and walked away healthy. A blind man, blind from birth, was asked by the religious establishment to classify Jesus. His response was, "All I know is I was blind but now I see."

I often get the reaction, "You don't seem like a preacher." It is because being a preacher is to fit in a certain box. My response is, "I hope I seem like a friend."

My suggestion for the week, Be slow to put folks in a box. In fact, be slow to get in the box yourself. I am a bit of this, a bit of that. I want to find what works, what joins us rather than separates us. It is a better way.

Grace and Peace,

Carl



St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

January 17, 2016

I live in a world of classification and categorization. When I work in my shop, the head on the bolt is a "1/2" or "9/16" or some other "fixed" measurement. Metric or SAE, varying length - each thing distinguishes that bolt from others and lumps it into a particular bin.

I receive forms from other therapists, clinical assessments, or client histories that have the same function. "Mr. X was raised in a centripetal family of origin, the youngest of 3 children, all male and about 2 years apart. He remains very close to his siblings with whom he is enmeshed and struggles fully engaging with his wife and her three children. He describes himself as being isolated, alone and unable to trust his new family."

Each of the clinical terms is a shortcut to bring to mind certain characteristics that are to describe the gentleman.

In churches we are either conservative or progressive, fundamentalist or modernist, right or left, and hundreds of other "isms". The difficulty in describing people (who by nature have inconsistency or flexibility) compared to machined parts like bolts or

St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
P. O. Box 241
St John, KS 67576

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

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 Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JANUARY 17, 2016

SONG LEADER: Stan Aldrich
GATHERING SONG: No. 71—As the Deer
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 53 (Gary Hornbaker)
SONGS: No. 57—Great is Thy Faithfulness
No. 517—Heaven Came Down (vs 1, 3)
No. 464—Because He Lives
No. 227—On Zion's Glorious Summit
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich
SONG: No. 364—Come Share the Lord
COMMUNION: Tom Turner
Joe Cornwell
Jerry Kinnamon
Fred Johnson
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 251—The Lord thy God
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 674—I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (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.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

All Are Invited!

When: **TODAY** - 4:00 pm (*or whenever you can get there*)

Where: Jeff & Lory Scott's home

What: Games & Visiting for Everyone

Who: Everyone—there will also be activities for the kids

What to Bring: Your Favorite Game; Light Refreshments will be Provided

Why: Because it is great to spend time together!!

Directions to Scott's House

From St John Motel on Hiway 281:

Go east on old Highway 50—travel 4 miles to the curve that turns right (south). Instead of following the curve south, turn LEFT (north) onto 40th Ave. The first house on the right will be a yellow house with green metal roof. You have arrived at Jeff & Lory Scott's home!

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

- April 15-16; Hartman Arena, Wichita, KS
- Let Janet know this week if you want to be registered early (we can get a discounted fee until January 31st)

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Chris Mansel—scheduled to have more tests
Kay Kinnamon—torn rotator cuff; no surgery will be done
Joy Monroe (Marilyn's daughter) - surgery last week
Stan & Orvalee's daughter—surgery last week
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - shoulder replacement scheduled for Jan 21st
Larry Berg (Tom's friend) - chemo
Ty Hewitt (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - acute leukemia; seeking treatment
Clay Rodgers (infant son of friends of Ben & Baylee) recent surgery for a rare birth defect
Pati Waters Risley—recent stroke
Dan Hampton—recent surgery
Brenda Staub—recent thyroid surgery for cancer
Darlene Stimatze (Amber Turner's mother) - recent hip surgery
Michelle Rose (Vanessa Roger's aunt) - in a nursing home
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 Breensing (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