

NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Sidewalk Sunday School



Sacrifice is Required

"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." John 10:9

In the Old Testament, the Israelites who wanted to come near to God had to come to the door of the tabernacle. The tabernacle was the place of worship and of sacrifice. The Lord Jesus in the New Testament says, "I am the door." He invites us to draw near to Him and to receive forgiveness and eternal life.

There's no way to enter the sheepfold, to go to heaven, but through Jesus. We're taught to attend church to worship Jesus. What we tend to neglect is the sacrifice required in addition to worship. The Church is the place of worship and of sacrifice. By entering the sheepfold we're choosing a life of submission and service to the Shepherd.

When we show up to serve the Lord, to worship Him, great sacrifice is required. Entering into the sheepfold is also entering into a world filled with predators. The sole desire of predators is to destroy us, to keep us away from Jesus. We cannot allow the predator to lure us into the temptation of being comfortable.

Sheep follow the voice of their shepherd. Jesus is the Door but He's also the Good Shepherd. As sheep in His pasture, we have a responsibly to follow our Shepherd. Entering through the Door, committing our lives to follow the Shepherd, can be quite uncomfortable because it cost us everything.

We come together with the children and their families to worship the Lord but we also come together to sacrifice our lives unto Him. We can't expect the Church to make sacrifices unto the Lord if we aren't willing to make sacrifices ourselves.

We've had to challenge the kids lately to make a decision. The playground looks great, there's a lot of other places they could be, things they could do. Decide today if you are going to come to Church but you can't have one foot in the sheepfold (on the tarp) and the other foot in the world outside.

Sacrifice is required but the reward is great. In the sheepfold, we learn to truly experience what it means for the Good Shepherd to be our Provider, our Guide, our Protector, and our Companion. In the sheepfold we don't experience what we've often come to understand as the church; we experience the presence of God as we are the Church.

Few may know or understand the cost required to enter through the Door, to follow the Good Shepherd, but in due time, as we've seen, we will reap the harvest. Praise the Lord for all He's doing and all He's done. Let us grow into men and women willing to embrace the sacrifice that is required to serve the Lord.

but him

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FMORIZE









SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

11/4: God Speaks

11/11: God will Provide for You 11/18: It's Not Thanks-Taking, it's Thanksgiving

11/25: God Desires to be Your Father

12/2: Christmas is all about Jesus

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/18: Sidewalk Thanksgiving

12/2: Fall Series Ends

Appreciation / Year-End Recap /

2024 Vision Night (JOIN US!)

12/9: Visitations / Outreach 12/16: Sidewalk Christmas

12/17: Start Winter Break and Spring

Preparation

UPCOMNG BIRTHDAYS

11/3: Liom 11/13: Gavin 11/16: Savanah 11/18: Kayla 11/21: Angie 11/24: Gratel



PRAISE REPORT

- 1. Sidewalk Sunday School is now officially a ministry of Faith Project, Inc. Check us out at www.faith-project.org.
- 2. For the first time several kids have been bringing their bibles every week. They are coming hungry asking questions and desire to know Jesus more. What a wonderful gift this has been!
- 3. We've been asking the Lord for more laborers and He's heard us. Several more people have come on board to help us.
- 4. God continues to amaze us by how He's putting the pieces together and providing for our upcoming Sidewalk Thanksgiving.
- 5. Not only has God provided laborers, He's provided a handful of people who are also fluent Spanish speakers. They've been able to translate the message for our Spanish only speaking friends. There is literally no one out of reach from the Lord!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Pray. Participate. Provide. Partner.

Ongoing Needs: Volunteers, Meals 4 Kids, Prizes for Kids (ages 4-12), Snacks for Kids, General ministry and benevolence support.

Sidewalk Thanksgiving: We anticipate feeding around 150 people. We need volunteers for November 18th. We need people willing to help us cook and prepare food. If you have freezer space where we can store temporarily what we cook let us know.

Sidewalk Christmas: Christmas Gift Request Forms have been disbursed throughout the community. Many of our families have difficulty and/or are unable to provide gifts for their kids. These forms will allow us to assess the specific needs of each family. We need volunteers, finances, and/or gifts for the kids. We'll have more information available as forms are received.

HOW CAN YOU PRAY?

- 1. Pray for the Pineda family as they struggle to pay rent and experience various challenges living in the community.
- 2. Pray for Xavier who's struggling with addiction.
- 3. Pray for everyone who attends Sidewalk Thanksgiving and preparations thereof. We're believing many in attendance will give their lives to Jesus as the goodness of God leads them to repentance.
- 4. Pray for all the preparation being made for the new year. We're believing in God for even greater things to come in 2024.