

Meeker Christian Church
October 27, 2024
UNEXPECTED PARTNERS

As I was reading Psalm 90 for a devotional, I paused on verse 12 as a reminder for our congregation. Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days. That we may gain a heart of wisdom. It speaks in the plural --- "us, our, we," that includes everyone of us, but with a singular request to gain a heart of wisdom. That heart of wisdom for us right now has to do with the kingdom service of our fellowship of believers.

You see God is lovingly, patiently, gently doing with us as a congregation just as He does with us as individuals - He takes us from where we were to where He wants us to be, what and how He wants us to proceed. AND Here is the principal point of this message -- all of us attending are those whom God is strategically bringing together here to be a part of the ever changing and adapting content of a vibrant, growing group of Heaven bound citizens determined and dedicated to take as many with us as we possibly can. We are here and now - to present an atmosphere, a place to learn, practice and live the love of Jesus.

Our new folks are the people who I am referring to as UNEXPECTED PARTNERS in this ministry. A year or two ago we had no idea that God would do such amazing things -we prayed for His clarity to -- us we are doing our best to identify and respond to the leading and inspiration of the Holy Spirit working with and through all of us.

We are dedicated to being a church of love expressed in word and deed leading people to become involved in kingdom work as an expression of their love to others. And seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance and council in life and service. That is the dynamic of the UNEXPECTED PARTNERS of whom we are blessed. This church is a comforting and safe place to bring friends and family and grow in knowledge and application of the Holy Bible revelation..

With this, we do understand that satan wants us divided - and every definition of division in truth begins with the schemes of the evil one and his army of fallen angels... when we identify that satanic source actively at work around us,--- the battle is then defined: Matthew 12:25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.

The apostle Paul made sure we understood our earthly circumstances in 2 Timothy 2:3-4 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. When we become a Christian we are a soldier of HIS -Jesus Christ- who enlisted us by His purchase of our lives by His destiny and choice for our salvation preparation and our choice to accept or reject Him on earth that determines our eternal kingdom setting.

Soldiers of Jesus Christ - kingdom servers with Meeker Christian Church - that is why I have had so much to say about forgiveness. I make mistakes, I desire to be forgiven and desire to learn to forgive others after the manner that God forgave me - "unconditionally." But we have to agree that it is forgiveness, not the mistakes which are the kingdom service attributes God is teaching us!!!!

Satan says, remember the mistake and hold it over the one making the mistake - God says just the opposite as you would expect:

Colossians 3:13: bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

This is a great verse to introduce THE PURE WORD to you. It is the result of 20 years of research and is intended to be used alongside your preferred version. Here is THE PURE WORD interpretation of Colossians 3:13

Continue Enduring one another, and Freely Forgiving yourselves. If any should be having a quarrel with somebody, just as also Christ has Freely Forgiven you, in such manner also yourselves.

Incidentally - that version was introduced to me and a copy shared with me by one of our UNEXPECTED PARTNERS! Here is some more evidence of forgiveness based on scripture: Matthew 6:14-15 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Ephesians 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you

I am so proud of you all leading up to the present at opportunities for satan to conflict us - but instead look at how much has been accomplished, expanded board over 20 persons baptized, transferring and placing membership, look at the new windows, hymnals, carpet and this incredible attitude of love and all of us growing and determined to be upbeat and positive.

Forget and forgive where you need to, within and without the church. Move on and rejoice with encouragement so the Holy Spirit can trust us with more inspiration and leadership from our UNEXPECTED PARTNERS. And there is more on the horizon with our new folks already being the catalysts that bring those things about. Thank YOU heavenly Father for their knowledge, experience, and personal commitment to share those things prompted by their gifts. If you are on our mailing list you saw the results of last week's sermon about an expanded Sunday School. It left Evelyn Ott our SS director, and myself scrambling. And by the way let me remind you of the request to pray for the Sunday School last week and this week as an answer we started a new class made possible by UNEXPECTED PARTNERS.

With this, we are obeying the principles of Acts 2:44-47 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, 45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. 46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

God initiated that instruction for those of the first century for whom the scripture was first written. He has initiated and is sustaining the effort to us for the exact same reason - verse 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Ladies and gentlemen just as we earlier insisted we need to recognize satan as the adversary NOW we should recognize God as the instigator, equipper, and inspiration for that which HE has planned for us to do in His name in Meeker.

God wants us united for a reason and that reason is: And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. Christians are the gospel seed planters and waterers ...every one of us who have accepted Jesus and been baptized -- that is our earthly purpose to make provision for the message of Jesus Christ to be proclaimed BUT do not forget - it is God who takes care of the increase as we are told in 1 Corinthians 3:6-8 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

Now let me show you something about our personal kingdom service:1 Corinthians 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. This is why we must learn to identify and acknowledge satan's activity in the world. That will build personal Christian character and grow in faith and enthusiasm and personal confidence. God gave the increase!!! God Himself has intervened by working through Christian soldiers to do righteousness acts on earth. ///satan is active and powerful - but God is infinitely more active and His power is so much greater that it is incomparable. Hallelujah my precious family! And for reasons beyond our comprehension God has chosen to work through the unity of we, HIS chosen Christian Soldiers. And verse 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.--- Do you see how united we are to be in kingdom service!?!? When we celebrate Christ in and through our lives satan is repulsed and when we identify and glorify God for what He is doing you just cannot help but get excited, express thankfulness, and rejoice in your eternal inheritance.

Frankly speaking - , to anyone who may think life is passing them by, or that their goals are not proving out to be that gratifying after all, then very seriously I counsel --- pray about Kingdom Service. The Holy Spirit will take that prayer and will inspire your spiritual gifts and you will be encouraged and encourage others at the same time.. And your reward will include watching the kingdom of Jesus grow and mature all around you...Seldom a day passes when I am not asked to pray for some person suffering the consequences of ignoring or trying to personally replace God. When you rescue or revive or even greater- are part and partial of helping prevent earthly destruction with eternal consequence in favor of earthly decisions for eternal reward then life makes sense and becomes proportionally gratifying. That's a fact.

The kind of Kingdom Service unity of which I speak means you have encountered and answered this question: How big is Your God? -- When your answer has something to do with unlimited, and that God can and has often done unbelievable and unexplainable things recognized by you as from Him and that you practice identifying God does incredible things in the world today, and that Bible prophecy tells what He is about to do? Then - how big is your God? Are you hesitant to think outside the spiritual box of the traditional and familiar?

Think about these things and ask yourself again, just how big is your GOD? This kind of unified Kingdom Service means you will "let" God do anything He wants with us and through us for His Kingdom Service and the souls of persons He has chosen for us to plant and water seeds of faith and virtue.

A second and closely related question is --- how big are your prayer requests? Here are just 3 Bible verses for your edification:

John 14:14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

The Pure Word John 15:7 If you should Continue Inside Me, and My Words should Continue Inside you, if whatever you should by your choice strongly Desire, you shall Ask for yourselves, and it shall Occur for you.

1 John 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

Paul puts into plain words the kingdom service attitude for us in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; 20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; 22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

Unity means we can agree to accomplish more together than alone. This is specifically what I am thinking [about](#):-- Look out for and care for each other... (Time and again I hear from our folks who have been sick, suffered tragedy or other problems, just how much they appreciate your visits, phone calls, cards, letters and other acts of concern.) Do you know how proud of you I am? ... It is easy to make a kingdom service habit by contacting somebody every week. A really big one is to invite someone to come to Sunday School and church with you each week. It lets them know you care and think of them.

I am inspired and encouraged-- and believe in you to consider this message a reason to identify the Holy Spirit activity among us from the oldest member to the youngest and our blessing of UNEXPECTED PARTNERS for This Kingdom Service. Unity Means we can agree to accomplish more with less because in actuality it is God doing it through us: Matthew 25:23 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'