

March 2020 Newsletter

From Heavens Heart

“A New Beginning”

A New Beginning for your life can begin starting right now. It was planned ahead of time by your Heavenly Father...Just For YOU. This is God's love story.

Mark 1:1-3 The beginning of the *good news* about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

John the Baptist is declaring that Jesus came to prepare the way for you, to make your path straight...toward Jesus...and Jesus is the way to your New Beginning.

Sunday, March 1, we will begin a new teaching series “A New Beginning”. It is the perfect time for a New Beginning as we walk our way, not alone, but together with Christ and with each other to Easter. Easter is not a place but a Person in whom we can discover a New Beginning. Jesus said, “If this were not true, I would not have told you so”. He said, “I am the way to a New Beginning for you”.

Although Easter is not a place, it is a walk we must take. As Jesus had to walk, carrying His cross to the hill where death awaited Him...in three days, He walked away from death, back to life so we might have life...a New Beginning. We call this Easter. We too have to walk to Easter...and always carrying our cross. And it's the heavy weight of our cross that redirects our journey through life to Easter...to relief...to the straight path...to a New Beginning.

Yes we know what Jesus said. I'm going to the cross for you. Hand all your troubles over to Me. Allow Me to lighten your load. Bring all your cares and concerns to me and I will give you rest. Ask and it will be given. Knock and the door will be open. Promise after faithful promise...and yes they are all true.

But according to God's word, we also have to carry our cross...We know this is true.

The more time I spend visiting hospitals, rehabs, hospice, homes; I see and I feel the weight of the burdens you carry. Often times I wonder, how do you do all you do as you carry your cross, as you so lovingly care for a sick loved one. It's a heavy load, isn't it! But God promises the load will not be too heavy for us to carry. Yet I see the pain and the pressure you are under. “I'm ready for this to be over. I'm ready for a New Beginning.”

But there's different kind of a load, a cross we often carry that I want us to focus on today. It can be much heavier than sickness or other things we carry. And it will bring death if we are walking away from Jesus, not to Him.

Easter should remind us all that Jesus took upon Himself, the heaviest load we sometimes carry...but He didn't intend for us to carry this one.

What is this load? It is the load of SIN. But there is Easter.

Easter shouts to us with a loud voice, "Jesus came to lift the heavy SIN load from us once and for all". Easter shouts, "Jesus came to die for us that we might have life, real life, abundant life and freedom". Easter shouts, "Jesus came to offer all believers a New Beginning, a Fresh Start, Exciting Possibilities, New Relationships, a New Job/Business Venture, a New Ministry (no matter our age) and no matter the level of our SIN debt. As the song says, "Jesus Paid it All".

Easter asked, "Why are you still carrying around the heavy load of SIN" when Easter is God's love gift for us, to leave our SIN at the foot of the cross and receive God's promise of a New Beginning. Easter says, "No more crooked paths. No more heavy loads to carry".

The bible says we are to repent and believe, to turn away from the SIN load that is too heavy to carry around any longer. Easter says, "Turn loose and believe. Turn loose and live. Turn loose and experience your personal God planned New Beginning. It's real. It can be yours today if your walk is to Jesus.

If you've already taken the walk, congratulations! "It is all finished." If not, please take the first step right now to Jesus. Invite Him to be the Lord and Master of your life. He's already done everything that had to be done and He did it for you. Let your new life begin today by giving your life to Jesus.

With the deepest love for Jesus and for you,

Pastor Steve