

Community Calendar

March 18th 9am – 2pm Palmyra Super Saturday VBS (ages 4-teen)

July 10th – 13th Corydon VBS

Spring Mill Bible Camp Calendar

Work Days Mar 4, 11, April 1, 8, May 13

May 20 Rally Day

June 10, Day Camp (Ages 5-7)

June 11-16, Junior Week (Ages 8-12)

June 18-24, All Ages Week 1 (Ages 8-18)

June 25-30, All Ages Week 2 (Ages 8-18)

July 9-14, Senior Week 1 (Grades 7-12)

July 16-22, Senior Week 2 (Grades 7-12)

July 23-28, All Ages Week 3 (Ages 8-18)

August 4-5, Adult Retreat

October 7, Work Day

November 4, Work Day

Email Offer:

John Harkness sends the Area Wide Churches of Christ Community Calendar once a week to those on his email list. Also, the area preachers wish to offer a devotional email sent out 3 times a week attached to the community calendar. . If interested email: johnpenny1206@gmail.com.

Internet and TV sites to teach and encourage

In Search Of The Lord's Way; Channel 21.1, 7:30 am

www.facebook.com/InSearchofTheLordsWay

www.youtube.com/user/SearchTVMinistry

www.SearchTV.org

www.gospelteacher.org

www.apologeticspress.org

www.searchtv.org

www.gbntv.org

www.wvbs.org

www.e-sword.net

Current and past audio / booklets of the Progressive Meeting at:

<http://palmyrachurchofchrist.org/sipgm.html>



Mountaintop Experience

22nd Progressive Gospel Meeting

7pm nightly

Sunday Singing @ Fredericksburg 2-3pm

Mon	Kansas	Brent Donoho	Mt. Carmel Elijah
Tues	Palmyra	Marvin Purkhiser	Mt. Tabor Transfiguration
Wed	Corydon	Greg Circle	Mt. Zion The Church
Thu	Big Spring	Lee Collins	Mt. Moriah Abraham
Fri	Paoli	Randy Weilbaker	Mt. Hebron Caleb
Sat	M'burg	John Harkness	Mt. Pisgah Moses

Pitch in Dessert fellowship to follow Saturday's service

Mountain Songs:

We shall assemble on the mountain
The mountain song
On a hill far away, the old rugged cross
On Zion's glorious summit
A mansion over the hilltop
Go tell it on the mountain
Higher ground
A hill called Mount Calvary

MOUNTAIN SONG

Oh, Lord I thought the day would never come
When I could lay my burdens down and walk with you.
But this morning as I greet the rising sun,
The fondest of my dreams have all come true.

Chorus

And the greatest friend you'll ever find
is on a lonely mountain.
And the highest height you'll ever reach
is when you kneel to pray.
And the brightest light you'll ever see
is when you close your eyes.
Oh Lord you are my first love, at last I realize!
2) Oh, Lord I need a mountain to climb on,
Just a quiet place to go and know you're there.
Oh, Lord I need to spend some time with you,
Jesus spent the night with you in prayer.

Chorus

And the greatest friend you'll ever find
is on a lonely mountain.
And the highest height you'll ever reach
is when you kneel to pray.
And the brightest light you'll ever see
is when you close your eyes.
Oh Lord you are my first love, at last I realize!

Monday

Brent Donoho

Elijah: The Call to Mt. Carmel

TEXT: 1 Kings 18:20-40

I. How Long will you waver? (vs 21)

- A. How Long: Before Rain... Before there is relief
- B. A day of decision... Who is the real God?
They "feared the Lord, and served their own gods" (2 Kings 17:33).
 - 1. God will not accept a divided heart: He will have all or none.

II. An Answer by Fire (vss 22-24)

- A. The proposal to the people, not the priests.
- B. Elijah's test had three parts.
 - 1. A slain sacrifice, An effective prayer, The answer of fire.

III. The Contest of Fire

- A. The contest rules: "put no fire under" (v. 23) the wood.
- B. Six Hours Plus Sarcasm (vs 27). "Is your God unable to hear you."

IV. A Restored Altar (vs 30)

- A. Heaven's blessing must begin with rebuilding broken altars.
 - 1. Unconfessed, unrepentant sin withholds God's blessing.

V. The Sacrifice (vs 32-35).

- A. Elijah used the "pattern" furnished in the Scriptures. (Lev 1:6-8).
- B. Wasted Water in a Drought? (1 Kings 18:33-35).
- C. The evening sacrifice (vs 36)

VI. The Prayer / Petition (vs 36-37).

- A. Elijah prayed based on the covenant with Abraham (Genesis 17:7, 8)
- B. A prayer for Fire, faithfulness and Fidelity to God's will.

VII. The Answer by Fire (vs 38-40)

- A. Fire descended and consumed in Divine judgment.
 - 1. Sin's wages must be paid by the sinner or a substitute.
- B. People's Reaction and Baal's Prophets slaughtered (vss 39-40).
 - 1. The sacrificial substitute did not atone for the wicked priests.

Tuesday,

Marvin Purkhiser

Transfiguration of Jesus—Mt. Tabor

Mt Tabor—located in Israel

Mount Tabor, rising dome-like from the Plain of Jezreel, is situated 6 miles east of Nazareth and 11 miles southwest of the Sea of Galilee. Rising less than 2,000 feet above sea level, Mount Tabor appears loftier than it actually is in the otherwise flat Jezreel Valley. Visible all the way to Jerusalem, Mount Tabor was a familiar landmark to Jesus and the disciples, who would have seen it often during their travels around Galilee. It is the mountain where Christian tradition places the Transfiguration of Jesus.

But some scholars disagree on whether Mount Tabor was the scene of that event (described in Matthew 17:1-9; Mark 9: 2-8 and Luke 9:28-36). However, it has throughout history been a place of mystique and atmosphere, where humanity has sought contact with the divine.

Mount Tabor is identified in the Old Testament as one of the high places where Israel's rulers had set up altars for the worship of false gods (Hosea 5:1).

Mt. Tabor is not mentioned in the NT, but much of its fame rests in the tradition that the transfiguration of our Lord took place on it. That tradition was well established by A.D. 326 when Helena, the mother of Constantine, built the first Christian shrine on its summit. The hill suffered the vicissitudes of war which destroyed older shrines and made way for new ones. The Crusaders maintained it after their arrival in the Holy Land until Saladin's victory at the Horns of Hattim in 1187. The Muslims made a fort of the mountain twenty-five years later, but that was shortly destroyed and the summit was relatively empty until the 19th cent. when the Greek Orthodox built a monastery and the Franciscans a basilica of the transfiguration on the top. Ironically, that basilica has three sections—one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

I. We have all heard it said that seeing is believing, right?

- A. What did Peter, James, and John see?
- B. Sometimes we can all be looking at the same thing and see something completely different.
- C. Everyone had seen the same thing, but likely none of them likely saw everything that happened.
- D. Jesus, Moses and Elijah are together on the mountaintop.
 - 1. And there before them Christ is transfigured, He has become dazzling white. A white that no man had ever seen before.
 - 2. Peter and the others are getting a glimpse of the Glory of Christ.
 - 3. Let us remember that Moses is the Great Patriarch of the Jewish people. He is the one who led the people out of slavery in Egypt and into the Promised Land.
 - 4. Elijah is considered the greatest prophet of all time.
 - 5. What Peter sees is that Jesus is with these two great leaders.
 - 6. To Peter that is a validation, a confirmation of Jesus' ministry.
- E. Peter says "Let's build three tabernacles" one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.
 - 1. Luke then adds, "He did not know what he was saying."
 - 2. What Peter saw was Jesus being equal to the giver of the Law and the epitome of the Prophets.
 - 3. Recognizing Jesus to be the Savior and then trying to make Him equal to any man, even the greatest man that ever lived does not work.

4. Peter sees his friend, his mentor, as only being validated by being in the presence of Moses and Elijah. And that is all he sees.

II. So God does what is necessary to make Peter, James and John (and us) understand.

A. God thunders from above, "This is my Beloved Son, hear Him."

Conclusion: So, what do we see when we read the story of the transfiguration? Do we see Jesus as Moses' and Elijah's equal? Or do we see our Lord and Savior standing before us in His glory, a glory that is so bright that it hurts the eye to look upon it? The transfiguration was done so that we might believe Christ to be the culmination of the Law and the Prophets. All that had come before leads us to recognize that we are sinners who need forgiveness and that forgiveness comes only from the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

And because we have seen, through the eyes of Peter, James and John, the transfiguration of our Lord, let us be transformed by that image so that we might reach out to others with the truth of salvation.

God loves you so much that He sent His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him might not perish, but have everlasting life.

Let us see the true image of our Risen Savior in all His glory that we might be transformed into a resurrection people; reborn into the new covenant, reaching out to the least, the last, and the lost that they, too, might enter the Kingdom of God.

Wednesday, Greg Circle
The Mountaintop Experience of Mount Zion
The NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH
Hebrews 12.18-24

INTRO: *Montani Semper Liberi* –

What makes this so? _____

I. THE SCENIC OVERLOOK – OF THE PAST

- A. Looking Around (Hebrews 11.3)
- B. Looking Back (Hebrews 11.1-2)
- C. Looking Forward (Philippians 3.12-16, Hebrews 11.6)

II. THE RESOURCES INSIDE – OF THE PRESENT

- A. It Takes Our Energy (2 Timothy 2.15; James 1.12)
- B. A Source of Greater Energy (Matthew 4.4)
- C. The Only Way to Grow (2 Peter 3.17-18)

III. OUR HOME – OF THE FUTURE

- A. A Place of Familiarity (Hebrews 12.22)
- B. A Place of Family (Hebrews 12.23)
- C. A Place of Fraternity (Hebrews 12.24)

CONCLUSION:

What's the main point of Hebrews? (8.1) _____

He warns from heaven (12.25)

Gain _____ of the _____ vs. the _____ (12.26-27)

Show _____ that God has blessed us with the _____ (12.28-29)

Thursday

Lee Collins

**Spiritual Mountain Climbing (Mount Moriah)
(Genesis 22:1-12)**

In this series of lessons, we are exploring the idea of the mountaintop experience. God provides us with those beautiful experiences in our relationship with Him. It is not surprising that these extremely emotional, happy, and joyous times happen on the tops of mountains because it is there that we had to travel UPWARD! As we make our way UP physically, we must do that spiritually. To move upward is crucial to us in our relationship with God because when we travel up spiritually, we are getting closer to God. So this kind of spiritual mountain climbing is what we must do as people who want a close, meaningful, relationship with God, and the higher up the mountain we climb, the closer we get to God. Those mountaintop experiences are so wonderful because it is there that we meet God, and in that clarity, we know what He has done for us.

The idea of having this mountaintop experience with God is a great study and one that we need to be telling, encouraging one another, and sharing with the world how God wants us in this relationship with Him. One of the great advantages of being a child of God is having the knowledge that God is with us all the time. The knowledge that God is with us gives us great comfort, and having this knowledge provides us with the kind of boldness and courage we need to do the work God has given His people. However, even more than that, having this knowledge that God is with us helps us climb out of the pit that life can, and does, throw us in, and it helps us climb to the heights where we can see clearly the world below. God gives us the ability to have Mountain Top experiences that the world will simply miss out on because they lack this relationship with God.

As we read through the account of Abraham offering up his son Isaac as a sacrifice to God, we may think that God is being unusually unkind, but the reality is just the opposite. God is showing Abraham the mountaintop experience in this, but Abraham had to first make the journey to the top. Through this lesson also, God is showing us what He is going to do for us with His Son. Because God did not hold back His Son, Jesus, from us and allowed Him to be sacrificed, we can now know the joyful experience on the mountaintop. Without Christ, there would be no joyful experience and no need

for the climb. Is this not what Paul is saying to us when he says, ***“But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain...If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. (1 Corinthians 15:12-19).***

If it were not for Christ and the resurrection from the dead, then life as we know it would literally be the pits! We would be in the pit of life with no hope and no way out. God has not created us for the pit of life. It is true that we sometimes must navigate those valleys, but God has made it possible for us to go through those, following His lead (Psalms 23), and come out of those valleys to climb up the mountain.

In this lesson, we see Abraham on a Mountain in the region of Moriah, and we see here that God is going to teach us about Spiritual Mountain climbing. If we are astute students of God's word, we will see the way that He blesses us on the TOP of the mountain. Here are some lessons that God will teach us in this account of Abraham on this mountain.

- I. The Top is Obtainable
- II. The Way is UP and Not Always Easy
- III. Reaching the TOP is Always Worth the Effort

Let us let God lead us to the top, and let's follow Him as He leads us. Letting God lead is truly the only way we are going to reach the top. Letting God lead is the only way we will find joy and peace at the top. The path may be challenging - but the top is worth every step.

Friday

Randy Weilbaker

Give Me This Mountain ! (Mt. Hebron)

Joshua 14:6-13

A. Caleb, a man of faith. He was a man of...

1. Determination for the Lord—I will take this mountain
2. Endurance for the Lord—I will not give up
3. Commitment to the Lord - I will remain faithful through it all

B. Caleb had a different spirit than the majority...

C. Caleb totally followed the Lord with his whole heart, whole life...

D. Caleb was willing to fight for the Lord against strong enemies...

STEP BY STEP TO THE TOP

Lord, step by step, we climb to the top
With hard work, perseverance, we never stop.
We climb along the mountain.
It is arduous, dangerous, painstaking
But we climb...one step at a time.
Don't quit, don't give up or be left behind.
Closer each step to the top of the mount,
Give it all we got, give every ounce.
The trials make us stronger
Sacrifice makes us maturer
Battles are fought
Battles are won
Battles are lost
One by one
Step by step we climb to the top
We can't turn back we can't stop
We are faithful to our Captain
As he leads us to Heaven.

Saturday

John Harkness

Our Last Mountaintop (Mt. Pisgah)

Thesis of the Week: Our Christian Lives are full of Mountaintop Experiences that God uses to mature us. (Luke 17:5, Eph 4:11-17)

Tonight's Thesis: Although it seems morbid, acknowledging the reality of our last mountaintop from the same perspective as Moses at Mount Pisgah should actually be a wondrous faith-building thought.

Consider Moses at Mt. Pisgah (Deut 34:1-8)

I. Look back...

- A. Mistakes, regrets (Nu 20:8-13, Deut 32:48-51)
- B. Accomplishments, previous mountaintops
- C. We are all building a lifetime of works that we hope gives God the glory (1 Cor 3:10-15)
 1. Sometimes we will succeed, sometimes we have good intentions, and sometimes we fall short of His glory.
 2. Like Moses, we choose to repent and move forward, or quit.

II. Look forward...

- A. We accept the realization that there are things we will not experience in this life
- B. Hopefully, we will be able to embrace the legacy of what we leave behind
Most importantly, our faith is given the great test of looking beyond this world.

Closing: How are we living our lives now? Are we building something that our future selves will look back on, from our last mountaintop, and say, "Thank you, God, for letting me labor in your vineyard and show your glory."?