

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 753

October 18, 2023

“He Knows Our Every Thought!”

Our daughter Emma’s car is pushing 200,000 miles and we have begun to have several mechanical issues with the engine. Back in September we went to look at another car for her. No, not a new car, a used one. We don’t purchase new cars.

When we got to the dealership on a Saturday and saw the car that we had looked at online that Emma liked, we drove it, talked with the salesman about trading her car and purchasing this used car for her. In the end, I didn’t get what I wanted for her old car, BUT, Emma wanted the newer car so we worked out a deal.

Long story made short, after 48 hours of owning this newer car, it had broken down 4 times. I called the dealership on Monday following the purchase on Saturday and told them the issues we were having and they said to bring it in on Tuesday which we did.

Emma had become afraid of the car and the possibility of it stranding her on the road, even if they fixed it. I could not have asked for a better attitude and working relationship with the sales manager. He asked, when we arrived, “Do you want us to fix the car or would you rather we void the deal and give you your old car back?” Emma and I talked and she wanted her old car back, even with its mechanical problems because it had never left her stranded. We voided the deal and they delivered her old car to our home the next day. Now we are back to where we started. We are trying to decide what to do for her to have more reliable transportation to work and school (college).

The last two weeks I have preached on two parables that Jesus taught at the beginning of His ministry. In both of these passages, **Jesus knew the thoughts of someone.** In Luke 7, Simon had invited Him to join him at his house for a meal. A woman, Simon called a sinner, was touching Jesus’ feet. In verse 39 of chapter 7 Luke states, “...**he (Simon) said to himself, ‘if this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner.’**” And then in verse 40, Luke states, “**And Jesus answered him...**” Jesus knew what Simon was thinking without Simon saying anything out loud.

In Matthew chapter 12 in verses 22 - 30, Jesus has another run-in with the Pharisees. In verse 25 of chapter 12 Matthew states, “**And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them...**” Jesus knew their thoughts without them saying a word.

Just a few other passages that remind us that God knows our thoughts. Isaiah 66:18 “**For I know their works and their thoughts; the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they**

shall come and see My glory.” Matthew 9:4 “**And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, ‘Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?’**” And then we hear the Hebrew writer when he states: Hebrews 4:12 “**For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”**

Why is it that we think that we can hide anything from God almighty, maker of heaven and earth? We believe, as Christians, in Jesus, who was God incarnate and raised from the dead, but we somehow think we can hide things from Him? What’s up with that? He knows our hearts, thoughts, and yes, sees our actions.

For Emma, Terry, and I, we purchased a car with the understanding that it was a good, solid, reliable car for Emma. It looked good, seemed to run good, and drove good. But within 48 hours, it showed its true state of being. It was a dud!!! Its action was proof in the pudding. But we would never have known that by just looking at it.

Others, our spouses, our children, our siblings, our neighbors, our co-workers, may never see or hear our true thoughts. Occasionally they will see them in action, but not always. While we are able to often hide our thoughts from the “humans” in our life, hiding them from God is a different story. He sees behind “ALL” things.

Believer, if you are attempting to hide anything from your Savior, please lay it at His feet, for the sake of your relationship with Him. I have seen too many times where people are trying to keep secrets and it is tearing them apart, not only their relationship with family or friends, but their relationship with Jesus. **DON’T DO THAT!** He knows, my friends, everything about you, and yes, your very thoughts. You cannot hide anything from God.

Terry, and I are looking for another very reliable, low priced, low mileage car for Emma. But in the end, we will have to trust what we can see and are told about the car to make a knowledgeable purchase. When it comes to Jesus, I don’t have to guess. His ways and thoughts are perfect. Yeah!!! I know Him and I know that He knows me.

Blessings my friends,
Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, October 18

Wednesday Night Supper, Study & Prayer @ 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, October 21

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 22

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.
Sunday school @ 11:10 a.m.

Wednesday, October 25

Wednesday Night Supper, Study & Prayer @ 6:15 p.m.

Friday, October 27

Saturday, October 28 Session Retreat



Outreach Ministries

“Food of the Month”

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Boxed Cereal

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

The Computer Lab

Saturday, October 21 @ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

Wednesday, October 25
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, October 28
@ 1:00 p.m.

REBOOT/Revitalization with Ken Priddy Next Steps Coming!

Men of HOPE

Men of the church, be praying about
whether God is calling you to lead this
Men’s group at HOPE.

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Jamie Baldwin, Donna Williams, Diane Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy Herriman’s Sister & Brother-in-law), Loretta (Sandi Underwood’s daughter), Joan Summers, Shelley, Diane Mack’s Sister-in-law, Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of Lynn Joyner’s family members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner’s brothers), Gene & Becky Hale, Dave & Dot Geil, Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra Pierce’s dad and stepmom), Brian Adam’s dad, our Military, our Missionaries, our Nation, and the world. If you have those you would like added to our prayer concerns, please email me those names.

Wednesday Night Ministries

Wednesday Night Supper, Study, & Prayer October 18

@ 6:15 p.m.

Study of Exodus

Bring your Bibles

A Zoom Link will be available for those who cannot meet in person.

Menu:

Spaghetti and Meat Sauce, Salad, Fruit, Bread & Dessert

Upcoming Dates

Annual Session Retreat
October 27/28

Annual Meeting of the
HOPE Congregation
Sunday, November 19

Hanging of the Greens
Saturday, December 2
Advent Season Begins
Sunday, December 3

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - October 22
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - October 22
Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - October 22

Live Streaming - October 22
Al Floyd

Communion - October
Terry Duffell

Greeter - October 22
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - October 22
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon
This Sunday
The Parables of Jesus

Matthew 12:43 - 45
"The Parable of the
Unclean Spirit"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Oct	22	Lamentations 2
Oct	23	Lamentations 3
Oct	24	Lamentations 4
Oct	25	Lamentations 5
Oct	26	Lamentations 6
Oct	27	Lamentations 7
Oct	28	Lamentations 8

Quote of the Week

“God never said that the journey
would be easy, but He did say
that the arrival would
be worthwhile.”

Max Lucado

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An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

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in the search box)