

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 776

March 27, 2024

“Anyone For Calvary?”

A touching legend tells us that when Jesus was a boy in Nazareth He met a Roman boy by the name of Fidus, who conveyed this desire: “I am looking for Joseph, the carpenter. From him I want to learn the arts of his craft.”

“I can lead you to him,” answered Jesus, “for I am called the Son of Joseph.”

As Fidus watched and learned from Joseph, Jesus told him of a great King who would one day be raised upon a throne so high that all the world would see.

Fidus exclaimed: “Would that I might build the exalted throne of the great King!” “Fidus” said Jesus, “you will be the one to build the throne of the great King, the throne from which He shall rule the nations. I promise you.”

Years passed, Fidus went home to Jaffa and practiced his trade with honor. He happened to return to Jerusalem on a day when the Jewish capital was in an uproar. He could hear cries of “Crucify Him! He makes Himself a King.”

As he passed the gate of Pilate’s palace, a Roman soldier who knew the skill of Fidus greeted him: “You are especially welcome, Fidus. Three are to be crucified today, and only two crosses are prepared.”

Fidus was assigned the task. He put all his skill into its making, and viewed his finished product with pride. Later he followed the crowd outside the town and up a hill. He heard a voice, a voice he could never forget. Looking closely he saw a figure, a figure he could never forget. Yes, it was the Boy of Nazareth, now a Man, but writhing in agony on the “throne” Fidus had made. His eyes were opened.

Can you imagine what went through Fidus’ mind at that moment. How his heart would feel. Little did Fidus know, while Jesus would proclaim “It is Finished” from that cross and die, “It was finished”, but He was not. Jesus would also conquer death and rise again. And for all who believe, the work on the cross by Jesus Christ and the empty tomb three days later provides the HOPE we have, that being, eternal life in Jesus name.

You see, whether you know it or not, you and I (Believer) were dropped off at Calvary.

The story is told of a town that had an elevated railway. One of the stations was near a great burial ground. Calvary

Cemetery was its name. For many years, because in that part of town there were many more dead than living folks, the train did not stop at the cemetery except on request. Just after leaving the nearest station, the guard would open the door and say, “Next station is Calvary. Brian stops on signal only. Anybody for Calvary?”

It is a parable of life’s train. At all the other stations the train would stop. At Market Street, at School Street, at University Avenue, at Main Street, and Vanity Fair, at Broadway, and Church Street, with no special notice. But to get off at Calvary, that means a choice and an expressed desire.

Jesus provides the way. Jesus’ Spirit, the Holy Spirit calls. Our part of the equation is to be obedient and answer the call. Yes, God knows everyone who He calls and will save. He is sovereign. But will we pass by Calvary for a time to do our thing, live our life, enjoy the temptations of this world? Or will we shout out, when the call comes “Anyone for Calvary” and say “YES! I want to go to Calvary”?

Acts 2:21 “And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” We only call upon His name if only He has truly called us.

If you have never heard the call “Anyone for Calvary?”, then you have never made the stop. If you have heard the call, but never answered, don’t wait. Say, “I want to stop at Calvary and kneel before my Lord and confess my sins and ask Him into my heart.” If you have done that, then this week, called Holy Week, has special meaning to you. Don’t let this week pass by without thanking Jesus for your Salvation in His name. And bow before Him and worship like you never have before.

Oh, I am so glad I got off at Calvary when I did. Jesus continues to ask — “Anyone else for Calvary?”

Blessings my friends,

Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, March 27

NO Wednesday Night Supper, Study,
& Prayer this week

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday Service
@ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29

Sanctuary Open for Prayer
From 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

EASTER Sunday

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 8:15 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Extended Fellowship Time
@ 10:50 a.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - March 31
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - March 31
Bill Joyner

Soundboard - March 31
Jane Davis

Live Streaming - March 31
Diane Williams

Communion - March
*Kathy Jo Duckett, Lynn Joyner,
& Donna Williams*

Greeter - March 31
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - March 31
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Easter Worship John 20:1 - 18

"I Have Seen the Lord"

Daily Devotions For This Coming Week

Mar	31	Mark	3
Apr	1	Mark	4
Apr	2	Mark	5
Apr	3	Mark	6
Apr	4	Mark	7
Apr	5	Mark	8
Apr	6	Mark	9

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.

TLC Devotion

4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, April 13
@ 1:00 p.m.

NO Wednesday Night Supper, Study, & Prayer Tonight

Spend some time in Reflection

Pray for an Opportunity

Hopefully you have been praying for
an opportunity to invite someone to
Easter Worship with you. If you
haven't already, now is the time to
act. Make that phone call. Type that
text or email. Reach out to your
neighbor. Walk down the hall at work
and make that connection. Now is the
time to reach out. Sunday is EASTER!

EASTER BLOOMING CROSS

A cross will be set-up in the
Sanctuary this Sunday so that
BEFORE the service you can
place your cut flowers in our cross.
You should try to arrive early so that
you won't disrupt the service after we
start worship.

Quotes of the Week

***"Why shouldst thou be
afraid to die, who hopest to
live by dying?"***

William Gurnall

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Jamie
Baldwin, Ron Clifton, Donna 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, Ellie
Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil, Carlyle and
Cynthia Franklin (Sandra Pierce's dad
and stepmom), 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.

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

Everyday Prayer

For

The Vision Team

The Session

The Congregation

HOLY Week

Wednesday, Mar 27 - Tonight

NO WNSSP -

Spend some time in Reflection

Thursday, Mar 28 -

Maundy Thursday Service
@ 7 PM

Friday, Mar. 29 -

The Sanctuary is Open for Prayer
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday, Mar. 31 -

Easter Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

NO Sunday school on Easter
Extended Fellowship

following Worship

BLOOMING CROSS

Bring cut flowers on Easter to place
in our cross in the Sanctuary

Arrive early

HOPE Church Raleigh

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

919-508-6827

Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)