

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

December 16, 2018

An Exciting Letter

Yadier Molina is the St. Louis Cardinal's future Hall of Fame catcher. How excited would you be if he sent you a letter asking you to meet him at the Cardinal's first home game next season? Included in the letter are tickets and travel expenses, plus an invitation to participate in the game by throwing out the first pitch! *Wow!!*

But that is nothing compared to the letter God has already sent us inviting us to participate in His Divine Nature. Actually, God has sent us several letters. The one I'm referring to now is called *2nd Peter*. The letter begins by informing us that "*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature ...*" (2 Peter 1.3-4 NIV). Now, that's truly exciting!!

What's more, this letter is not just a personal invitation addressed to only one person. It's a personal invitation addressed to all who have obtained faith in the righteousness of God through a knowledge of Jesus (2 Peter 1.1-2). In other words, this is a letter addressed to all who are in Christ, all who are Christians. If you are a Christian, this letter is a personal invita-

tion for you to participate in the divine nature of God. That's the most exciting invitation you will ever receive!

Plus, the invitation includes the promise of “*everything we need for life and godliness*” (2 Peter 1.3). God is inviting us to accept His “*divine power*” so that we can “*escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires*” (2 Peter 1.3-4). Or, as John Piper put it, “*when we hang the carrot of God's promises in front of our eyes, we have power to resist the temptations of evil and are lured on in paths of justice and love unto eternal life.*” He went on to say, “*our goal is life and godliness, the source of strength to become godly is divine power, and the activating connection between the goal of godliness and the source of divine power is knowing and trusting the promises of God.*”

The thing that makes this invitation so exciting for us is that it is based on the *promises* of God to provide us with His divine power. For no reason other than God's great love and mercy, Jesus was sent to become the means of our salvation and to make it possible for us to have life and godliness, even when we were dead in sin (John 3.16, Ephesians 2.4-6). By believing the promises of God, we connect with His awesome power that overcomes sin. In another letter, God wants us to hold unswervingly to this hope, “*for he who promised is faithful*” (Hebrews 10.24).

— Joe Chesser

Raising the Dead

Young man, I say to you, arise.

— Luke 7:14

It is unknown how many Jesus raised from the dead. We have a record of only three: a widow's only son, a synagogue leader's only daughter, and a pair of sisters' only brother.

Jesus didn't raise them to compensate the dead; he raised them to comfort the living: the weeping widow (Luke 7:12-15); the devastated dad (Luke 8:40, 49-56); the sorrowful sisters (John 11:17-44).

Curiously, none of the resurrected three said a word about what was on the other side. Was that for our benefit? Was it because God knew that once people envisioned what it was like there, the last place they would want to stay would be here?

“The righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter into peace.” (Isaiah 57:1–2).

***There's more to come.
And it's all good.***

– Joe Barnett

The Message of Hope

But now I urge you to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship.

Acts 27:22

Paul was on a voyage with 275 people on the way to Rome. Fierce storms had tossed them about until all hope was lost. Paul had been given a message from God that they would all make it, if they stayed on the ship. That message gave them hope, and it gave them courage to face each day. When our lives are tossed about with no hope ahead, it is great to find a light from above to give us hope and courage. His Word, and His disciples hold that light. May we all find that light to lead us home safely.

– David Grubb

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Peanut butter, Squeezable jelly (not jars), Cheese and crackers (small packages), Cookies (small packages), Bags of any individually wrapped hard candy, Gum, bubble gum.

Reading : II Timothy 3: 10-18 ; James 1: 16-25

NEXT WEEK : (December 23, 2018)

Song Leader : Tim

Scripture Reader : Ron

Table & Announcements : Greg

It will take less than 20 minutes a day to read through the whole bible in a year.

Prayer list :

David Ferguson & Bill Livesay : David (preacher at Lakeland) is donating one of his kidneys to Bill (a member at Lakeside). The transplant is scheduled for Tuesday the 18th.

John Cutillo : Last chemo infusion this coming week. Pray that his treatment goes well and he continues to be in remission.

Mike Nichols : He is continues with physical therapy at home,

Nancy McConley: Sherry's aunt had some complications from her surgery. They found blood a clot in her arm and also had to put a drain in her lower back, but she is now improving.

Larry Bales : The stepfather of Roseanne is doing now doing his rehab at home .. no update.

Doris Bartanen : Ron Bartanen's wife had a cancerous tumor removed from her breast on Friday. Surgery went well.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Marge, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Debra Robinson : problematic chemo after breast cancer

Delaney West: Monitoring fragment of tumor left after surgery

Robin Shumard : Due to neurological issues which are secondary to diabetes, Robin is confined to a wheelchair.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Wayne : Ongoing issues related to stroke recovery

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law ..awaiting test result

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !