



TRAVELING THROUGH ANOTHER DAY

RAY GURNEY, PASTOR

Traveling by air isn't what it used to be. Most flights are late arrivals, late to destination causing missed connecting flights and it goes on. There are bag charges, security checks, crowded terminals. There was a song I used to sing about leaving home for the Lord; a lyric line went like this; *"Hitting the road one more time, leaving the wife and kid behind I'd never walk out the door if it wasn't for You, but You left Heaven for me, hit the roads and the shores of Galilee, gave Your life at Calvary, so I've got to go and tell them what you've done for me."* I have often felt this song.

I don't have that strong desire to go like in the past. I go when I know I can't get out of it. In other words, God says go and I ask how? Money is always the first excuse I throw at the Lord. Then suddenly that's not an excuse. There are a couple of ladies who make monthly contributions to the pastor's mission trip. In twelve months that figure became significant. Another lady made a donation, then another. Then a donation came in the mail from a lady three hours away. Finally, a few days before leaving a man made a sizable contribution toward my trip. That is the invitation from God; it's a crisis of belief. Paul mentioned the "women" who supported his ministry and called them by name. They are still honored each time we read about them today. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen for your contributions to get me on the mission field.

In this newsletter:

TRAVELING
THROUGH
ANOTHER DAY

GOOD FRIDAY
SERVICE

LADIES DAY
OUT

THE WAY OUT
OF GUILT &
SHAME

MEN'S
BREAKFAST
ROAD TRIP

APRIL MENU

The Passover was bringing unrest to Jerusalem. Tension was building though the disciples tried to ignore it. The other disciples show signs that something is not right. The Passover meal with Jesus began normally but ended quite differently. It *should* have given them a clue and they *should* have listened more closely to what Jesus said. After supper, they headed to the garden to sing and pray with Jesus. Fear became reality as a powerful, angry, murderous mob interrupted the intimate gathering. Some chose to fight but others ran. In the end, Jesus was dragged away leaving the remaining shaking in fear.

Nothing could have prepared them for the next day. Jesus falsely accused, unjustified sentencing of the death penalty, the torturous beating and finally the cross crucifixion. The earthquake and the darkened sky brought more fear. They saw what the Devil did to Jesus and their own life was at stake because they followed Jesus. They could be tortured or sentenced to death as He was. After three days of hiding with the other disciples Jesus suddenly appeared in the room. To see your dead friend walk through a wall to join you for dinner would be crazy! Jesus broke the silence; "Peace to you". "See my hands and feet? "Spirits don't have flesh and bones." They touched His hands and wounded side. This was Jesus! The presence of the resurrected Jesus and the peace which permeated the room was the best feeling ever! It was supernatural! Someday we'll say with Jesus, "It is Finished!" Will you share the story of Jesus with someone this Easter?

Pastor Ray



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Good Friday Service is **April 18th** We will try to make it meaningful and fresh as we hope to do each year. As we approach Easter, I (Pastor Ray) have been thinking that with each passing year we could possibly be celebrating the last Good Friday before the Lord's return. Wouldn't that be something? It would, if in fact we understood the Holy Scripture correctly. But for now let's celebrate that we have been found worthy in the sight of God to be saved from eternal death. Meet us Good Friday at **6:00 PM** as we'll share The Lord's Supper together.

LADIES DAY OUT

Ladies, we are headed to **BD's Mongolian Grill**, in Independence. They are a fusion restaurant where we can create our own stir-fry with a little help from our friends. We will meet at the church on **April 22 at 10:45 AM** and head out! Please add your name to our sign-up sheet in the lobby. Hope you will attend!

Vickie

The Way Out of Guilt & Shame

God is ALWAYS ready to give you another chance and set you free. It's a foundational piece of Christianity. Speaking specifically about our own choices, we've all been irresponsible. We've all messed up. The Bible tells us, "Not a single person on earth is always good and never sins" (Ecclesiastes 7:20 NLT).

You aren't meant to go through life pulling a trailer full of guilt and shame about the things you've done. Remember, His yoke is easy and his burden is light! (Matthew 11:30) The burden of guilt and shame destroys your confidence, damages your relationships, keeps you stuck in the past, and even hurts your health. That's heavy.

God wants far better for your life than that! Living burdened by guilt and shame is not mandatory. You have a choice to carry the weight of it or give it to God. Right now is the moment you can acknowledge it, decide to give it to God, and move in a better direction with Him. That's TRUE repentance.

God wants you to live with a sense of promise and hope. He can even bring good out of it if you'll give them to Him.

So, how do you do that?

You simply share it with God. It never surprises Him. And it will never change His perception of you.

When you take this step, here's what you can expect from Him:

- God forgives instantly. The very moment you admit your sin to God, He forgives you.



For those who wish to make contributions electronically, scan this QR code or go to crosscreekbaptist.com and follow the steps!



- God forgives freely. You don't need to earn it, and you'll never deserve it.
- God forgives completely. He wipes your sin absolutely clean.

The Bible promises that a "man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance" (Proverbs 28:13 TLB).

If you're mired in guilt and shame, then you'll likely perpetuate whatever problem you have. You'll tell yourself that you blew it, so you're bad. And, since you're "bad", you believe you'll blow it again. It's a nasty cycle we often can't seem to escape from—at least not on our own.

You need a power beyond yourself. You need a Savior! It's time to let go of your guilt and shame and live in the freedom of God's forgiveness. I pray you can take the first step toward freedom with Him today.

Chrissy Kirkman

"And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."
- Romans 5:5 (ESV)

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

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DON'T FORGET

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
6:00-7:00 PM, APRIL 18

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

MEN'S BREAKFAST, Saturday, April 12 at 7:15

AM - Generations Cafe in Higginsville, MO.

Please invite your neighbor or a friend to join us.
It's a good time to fellowship with other men in
our community.

APRIL MENU

\$6.00 per person (ages 7 - adult)
\$3.00 per person (ages 6 & under)

- Apr. 2,** Broccoli Cheese Soup & Chicken Enchilada soup, corn bread, chips, cheese & crackers, salad & dessert.
- Apr. 9** Ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.
- Apr. 16** Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, cottage cheese, salad & dessert
- Apr. 23,** Chili & Hot Dogs, crackers, corn bread, veggies, cheese & dessert
- Apr. 30,** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.