



# The Calvary Chronicle

“To know Jesus and to make him known, faithfully, boldly, and excellently.”

October 18, 2020

Volume 6, Issue 42



## LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday (10/18)	8:00a & 11:00a.....	Worship/C
	9:30a.....	Family Bible Hour
Monday (10/19)	All Day.....	Pastors' Conference (Hutto, TX)
Tuesday 9/10/20)	All Day.....	Pastors' Conference (Hutto, TX)
Saturday (10/24)	6:00p.....	Worship
Sunday (10/25)	8:00a & 11:00a.....	Worship
	9:30a.....	Family Bible Hour

# 'The Sure Foundation'

*Ephesians 2:19 "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."*



We have been built on a foundation. But before we consider the content of that foundation, note that "built" is a passive word. We didn't place ourselves on that foundation. We were built there. It's just like any other building project. The materials don't do the work. It is the builder who chooses his materials, purchases them, picks a spot for each piece, and then fits it into place.

Isn't that what the Christian Church's Chief Architect has done with us? He chose us as his material, even though we were no different than all the other pieces he might have chosen to use. He purchased us for his project at the cross, where his blood paid for us in full. In washing our sins away and declaring us holy and righteous he removed everything that would make us unsuitable for the grand structure he is making. He determined our place in his holy structure and then he fit us into place by calling us to faith. At every step along the way he was active and we were passive, as passive as any brick or a two-by-four sitting on any other foundation we might see. We are built on the foundation.

That foundation is Christ and his coworkers, the apostles and the prophets. The apostles and the prophets lived on opposite sides of Jesus' life. The prophets worked hundreds of years before Christ, and the apostles directly after him.

But though they were separated by time, their assignments were much the same. These men served as God's official messengers. Whether they were pointing ahead, or pointing back, they all pointed to Christ.

Nor were these run of the mill Christian pastors. These were the men whose Spirit-inspired words became the Bible that preserves God's message for us today. Paul seems to be thinking of them already as one unit, like the two testaments of the one Bible we read and believe.

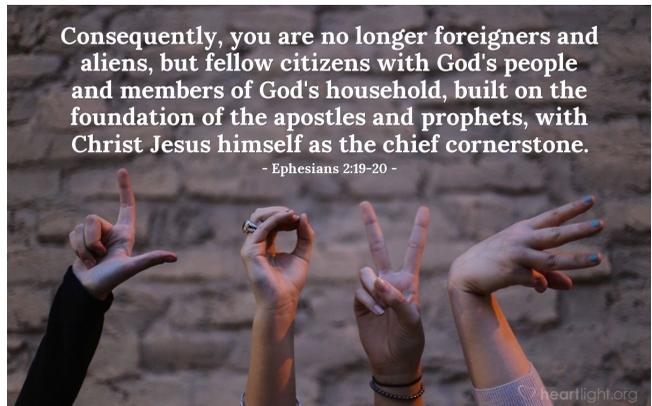
# Bits of Bread

That is a solid foundation on which to build our faith that makes us God's Church. That foundation does not move. Every generation seems to develop its own philosophies to explain life and search for truth. Those philosophies are a chain of reactions against the one that came before. People reading this have lived through the rise and fall of existentialism, modernism, and postmodernism. There is no lasting, solid ground there. The science of one age becomes the nonsense of the next. We no longer try to bleed people to good health. We no longer explain the transfer of heat from one object to another as the result of the flow of some theoretical "caloric fluid." At one time, that was all good science. But those foundations crumbled.

God's word given through the apostles and prophets does not change. Here we know what sin is. More importantly, here we know who our Savior is. And he himself is the chief cornerstone. A cornerstone, as you may know, was more than a decorative, ceremonial concrete block in an ancient building. It was a perfectly square stone, a stone with perfectly carved angles that were used to make sure everything would line up just as it needed to.

Everything, everyone, in Christ's church lines up with Jesus Christ himself. By faith in his saving work alone each one of us finds our place as part of God's spiritual house the Church. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven, given among men, by which we must be saved.

It is Christ's choice, not my personal appeal, Christ's work, not my goodness, Christ's word, not my intelligence, that joins me to God and his people today. That's a truth on which we can build with confidence.



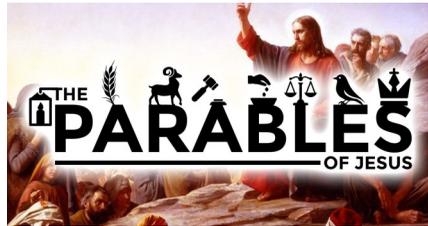
# New Sermon Series

## “What is God Like? Let Me Tell You a Story!”

Near the end of his ministry, Jesus spoke more and more boldly about the coming Kingdom of God/heaven. “The Coming Kingdom of God” was the centerpiece of Jesus’ preaching in the early days of his ministry. Matthew summarizes Jesus’ early sermons with this concise statement, “From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” (Matthew 4:17). After three years out in the public, the time for Jesus’ departure was at hand. As he made his way to Jerusalem he did so with urgency. The kingdom was no longer *near*; it was *here*!

As the time came closer for Jesus to fulfill his mission, he wanted his followers to understand the full import of the kingdom of God/heaven he came to bring. As was his custom, Jesus taught the deep truths of God by means of engaging little stories, called parables. The parables, however, were not a way of opening things up to his followers, it also closed things down for his opponents. When asked why he taught in parables, Jesus explained, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables: Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.” (Matthew 13:11-13)

It is appropriate, as the Pentecost season begins to wind down, that we listen again to the parables of Jesus that occupied his ministry in his final days. In them, Jesus unfolds the “secrets of the kingdom of heaven”, explaining in story form who and what the true God is like. In the month of October, we ask the question, “**What is God Like?**” and Jesus answer it by saying, “**Let Me Tell You a Story!**”



The following is an outline to help you anticipate the stories Jesus will tell us as he unfolds for us the deep truths of the our King and His Kingdom:

### Parables from Matthew’s Gospel – “What is God Like? Let Me Tell You a Story!”

- October 4 – (18<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost) Matthew 20:1-6, Our God is Incomprehensibly Gracious
- October 11 – Matthew 21:28-32, God Wants Real Repentance and True Obedience
- October 18 – (20<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost) Matthew 21:33-43, God Patiently Seek Fruits of Faith
- October 25 – (21<sup>st</sup> after Pentecost) Matthew 22:1-14, God Invites Unworthy Sinners to Participate in His Blessings

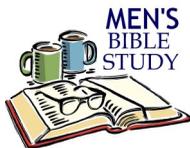
# Important Announcements



**BOOK CLUB:** Will meet **Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>** to discuss *Summer of '69* by Elin Hilderbrand at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

**MORNINGS WITH MOMMY:** **This month we will be starting up Mornings with Mommy again!** The plan is to start small to be sure all the adjustments to health and safety work. We want everyone to stay well; therefore, we are taking additional steps to limit risks. These new safety measures include:

- Limiting days and times of sessions
- Limiting class sizes to 18-20 children
- Requiring masks for all adult participants per state order
- Encouraging social distancing during Circle Time and Center Time
- Providing hand sanitizer at each learning station
- Continued thorough cleaning of all toys and learning manipulatives before, during, and after each session
- Updating sensory center to single-use sensory activities
- Updating group snack time to a to-go snack format



**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Men are encouraged to join Pastor for Bible Study on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00AM**. Bring your Bible and a friend!

**COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE:** Calvary will sponsor a fall blood drive on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am - 2:00pm**. Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and search using sponsor code "calvarylcs" to schedule an appointment.



**BIBLE STUDY:** Women are invited to continue our study on *enough for now* by Sharla Fritz on **Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM**. In person, with masks and social distancing, a zoom option will also be available. No food and drink will be provided.

# Ways to Give

**OFFERINGS:** Our ministry is supported through the offerings of God's people. Traditionally these offerings are placed into an offering plate passed during each worship service. God does not need your money. It's all His already. However, He loves the generosity of giving as part of a joyful response to His generous love for us. **Today we have many opportunities to give our offerings:**

**Online:** Click the "GIVE" button at the top of the webpage at [calvarydallas.org](http://calvarydallas.org), then click the red "Give Now" button. You can sign up for one-time or recurring gifts.



**Mail:** Mail a check to Calvary Lutheran, **9807 Church Rd. Dallas, TX 75238**. We are still gathering and depositing these gifts weekly.

**GIVE+**

**App:** Download the [Give Plus app](#) and search with 75238 as the zip code. Select Calvary Lutheran in Dallas as your church and sign up for one-time or recurring gifts.

**Text:** Send a text **833-948-2221** with the dollar amount you want to give. Receive a text back with simple set-up instructions. All gifts go directly to Calvary.

If you need assistance with any of these giving methods, please contact the Church Secretary at [churchsec@calvarydallas.org](mailto:churchsec@calvarydallas.org).

For those interested in the current financial situation: **We have seen a decrease in offerings as we have to more online worship and decreased attendance.** Calvary does need continued support to operate in the same manner. All of the above options are excellent ways to provide that support.

*"But just as you excel in everything in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving."  
2 Corinthians 8:7*



Beckie Koelpin, School Secretary ~ Email - [schoolsec@calvarydallas.org](mailto:schoolsec@calvarydallas.org)

# Today in Sunday School



## Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

**Read:** 1 Kings 18:1-39

**In This Passage:** Elijah challenges the prophets of the idol Baal to a duel. Each will build an altar, lay a sacrifice on it, and ask their god to light the sacrifice on fire. The prophets of Baal dance and cry out to Baal but their idol doesn't respond. Elijah douses his altar with water, and still God shows his mighty power by licking up the water with the flames.

**Bible Point:** God is all-powerful.



Diann Smith	10/18
Cheryl Wolfe	10/19
John Koelpin	10/19
Lexie Rust	10/20
Sachi Barker	10/20
Sophia Schemm	10/20
Ime Edet	10/21
James Gutzmer	10/21
Denise Ball	10/22
Leah Samuel	10/22
Carole Ihms	10/23

Alan & Debbie Pringle  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2000

# Our Response To the Word

## IN TIME AND GIFTS:

Worshippers Last Weekend.....113 Present & 39 Online  
Family Bible Class Attendance.....Adult - 24 (Online 11) & Kids - 15  
Given to the Glory of God for August 2020.....\$93,545  
Needed monthly for God's Work.....\$70,266

## IN TALENTS THIS WEEKEND:

Preacher/Liturgist.....Pastor John Koelpin  
Pianist.....Sunday - Peter Schumacher  
Cantor.....Saturday - Pastor Koelpin; 8:00am - Kari; 11:00am - Alex  
Audio/Visual.....Rick Jackson and John McCarthy

### Elders:

Saturday.....Rick Jackson  
8:00am.....John Newbold  
11:00am.....Gary Quam

### Mowing Crew:

10/24.....David Team  
10/31.....Henrickson Team  
11/7.....Kliebert Team  
11/14.....All Teams - Fall Cleaning

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Lesson.....Isaiah 25:6-9  
Psalm.....23  
Second Lesson.....Philippians 4:4-13  
Gospel Reading.....Matthew 22:1-14