

Embracing Truth by J. Perz

How much do you appreciate the truth? The truth is easy to hear when it is flattering, encouraging, and uplifting. However, the truth can sometimes hurt. Do you always desire the truth from those around you, regardless of whether it is favorable or not? Do you always demand the truth from those who preach and teach the gospel of Christ?

The truth pleased the rich young ruler until Jesus told him the one thing he lacked (Mark 10:17-22). Some would call such a declaration of truth unloving, but the Spirit called it love (note verse 21). How do we feel when someone courageously and honestly points out our shortcomings (Prov. 27:6)?

Some of the Jews who heard Peter on Pentecost appreciated the truth, though it indicted them. They chose repentance and baptism (Acts 2:36-40). Whereas those Jews who heard Stephen speak that same truth hated what was spoken. They responded by stoning Stephen to death (Acts 7:54-60). How do we respond to the truth?

The Galatians loved the apostle Paul—so much that at one point they were willing to pluck out their own eyes and give them to Paul. However, in the very next verse, Paul was compelled to ask if he had become their enemy because he told them the truth (Gal. 4:14-16). Do we despise those who tell us what we need to hear?

Simply stated, unless we have a love of the truth, we will never appreciate the truths that hurt (2 Thess. 2:10-12). Unless we are willing to accept painful truths, we cannot know the sanctifying power of truth (John 17:17). Unless we obey the truth, we will be condemned (Rom. 2:8).

How much do you appreciate truth? The answer is painfully obvious when we are confronted with agonizing truths that require change in our lives. Change hurts, but the truth saves. How will you respond the next time you are confronted with the truth?

<u>Praise & Prayer Requests</u>

Rieves & Irwin families: Shelley's grandmother, Onieta Rieves, passed away on Thursday at the age of 100. Rory and Shelley are in Arkansas for her funeral. Pray for a safe return home.

Jamie Jones: recuperating from back surgery.

Mike Barker: experiencing some health-related concerns.

Ed Maynard: continues to recuperate at home after surgery on his hip.

Cory Bartschi: recovering from surgery that removed a blood clot from his leg.

Carla & Jessica Bartschi: health concerns and relief from stress.

Ken Essex: health concerns; Doug Essex: health & other concerns.

War in Ukraine: pray for a peaceful resolution to be desired and pursued; pray for all who have been displaced.

Greenbank church: Godly guidance for our elders, minister, deacons, and ministry leaders.

Greenbank missions: Westerholm (Mozambique), Borfay (Liberia), Agbeta (Ghana), Camp Manatawny, Reflect Campus Missions/BHC. Pray for a new mission work that reflects the interest of our members.

If you have an item for prayer or praise, please email it to <u>office@greenbankcoc.org</u> for inclusion in our weekly list. To view previous prayer requests and those on our ongoing lists, please visit the Weekly Bulletins page on our website <u>www.greenbankcoc.org</u>.

Announcements and Events

REFLECT Campus Missions Golf Tournament

The 12th Annual Golf Classic benefitting Blue Hens for Christ will be held this Saturday, September 24 at Chesapeake Bay Rising Sun Golf Club. Tee time is 9:00AM. Arrive early to check in. Cost per player is \$125 and includes 18 holes of play, cart, range balls, prizes, and lunch. Register at <u>www.reflectmissions.org/golfouting</u>. See Rick Mickowski or Boyd Reed for more information.

Marriage & Singles Conference

"Building on a Strong Foundation" is the theme for this event geared to strengthen our relationships whether we are single or married. All are invited to attend this conference on Saturday, October 22 from 8am – 12pm. We will have special speakers and breakout sessions in both English and Spanish. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Register for this free event at: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/396739607847</u>

Camp Manatawny Fall Events

Men's Retreat – Sept. 23-24 – "Protect This House" – Speaker: Eric Williamson. <u>www.manatawny.org/mensretreat</u> Jr/Sr High Fall Retreat – October 28-29 – "By Faith" – Director: Stephen Tupitza. <u>www.manatawny.org/jrsrfall</u>

Newark Church of Christ – Job Opening

The Newark church is looking to fill the position of church secretary/office manager. This is a part-time job, Monday – Thursday, 8am – 4pm. A more detailed job description is posted on the bulletin board. If you or anyone you know has an interest in this position, contact minister Rex Butts at <u>krexbutts@newarkchurch.com</u> and include a resumé as either a Word document or PDF file.

SUNDAY MEETING TIMES

In-Person Bible Classes for All Ages @ 9:30 a.m. including a Spanish-speakers class (adults). In-Person Worship Services – English & Spanish @ 10:30 a.m.

The English service is live streamed with 3 ways to connect:

1) Facebook Live: http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist

2) Greenbank Website: www.greenbankcoc.org Click on the Facebook Live tab on the menu bar at the top of the page. You do <u>NOT</u> need a Facebook account to view the service through our website. 3) Phone In: (301) 715-8592 Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992

BIBLE STUDIES

Mid-Week (hybrid class) – <u>Wednesdays @ 7pm</u> – Study of Romans - led by George Kirkland. Zoom Link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/98664842526?pwd=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpQTo9</u>

Mid-Week Online – Wednesdays @ 7pm – The Parables of Jesus led by Domingo Reyes. Connect as on Sunday.

Spanish (In-Person) – <u>Thursdays @ 6:30 pm</u> – Contact Domingo Reyes for more information.

Ladies – <u>on hiatus for summer; will resume in October</u> – led by Crystal Reyes.

Men – 3rd Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Paul King.

Young Ladies – 3rd Saturday each month @ 11am on Zoom led by Eileen Hence. Contact Eileen for the Zoom link.

<u>SMALL GROUPS</u>

Bear/Glasgow - on hiatus for summer - led by George & Sherry Kirkland

Ladies Online – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 4pm – hosted by Alethia Jones; current study: Bind Us Together Zoom link: https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/88o51700840?pwd=bVNsUnlkSnRXNlkyUi9uaVVyNG5kZzo9 Married Couples – 1st Tuesday each month @ 7pm in the blue room – led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes Newport – resumes in October; 2nd & 4th Sundays, 12:30pm – hosted by Mike & Judy Barker North Wilmington – resumes in October; 2nd & 4th Sundays, 3:00 – 5:00pm – hosted by Eileen Khan Singles – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm – The Five Love Languages Singles Edition; in person and online. Zoom link: https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydz09 Teens – 1st Friday each month @ 7pm in the blue room; led by Domingo Reyes

<u>3 Ways to Give</u>

- 1) In Person: Place your offering in one of the wooden boxes located in the back of the auditorium.
- 2) By Mail: Send your contribution to 511 Greenbank Road, Wilmington, DE 19808.
- 3) **Online:** PayPal has been set up on our website <u>www.greenbankcoc.org</u>. Click on the "Donate" button and follow the instructions. (<u>Note</u>: there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)