

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

"Trials"



Jordan

Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Charles Barry will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song**, **Jordan Johnson** is with us to present the **Lesson**. may God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

~ Happy Lord's Day ~

Dear brothers, is your life full of difficulties and temptations? Then be happy, for when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow. So let it grow, and don't try to squirm out of your problems. For when your patience is finally in full bloom, then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete.

James 1:2-4

We are praying for you!

Judy McCollum - for safe travels from Oregon to home this week.

Rosemarie Johnson - for getting over COVID after testing positive this past week.

Kerry Johnson - for getting well from a bad cold.

Norma Decker - has been moved to Pacific Care Center, 720 Romie Lane, Salinas, CA, 93901. Please keep Norma in your prayers.

If We Would Just Communicate

Andy Baker

One of the chief sources of problems and difficulties that we will most regularly deal with in our lives, comes from communication, the lack thereof, or the misunderstanding thereof. Marriages fail because husbands and wives stop communicating. If they do communicate, they do so in the wrong way or they misunderstand each other to the point of assuming and behaving as individuals instead of "one flesh" as God intended (Gen. 2:23-25).

Issues with communication can happen anywhere and in any situation, even in the church. One preacher said tongue-in-cheek of the congregation where he worked that their unofficial motto was, "communication is overrated." One can sympathize. Programs are offered, assumptions are made, parties are excluded, feelings are neglected and hurt, suspicions arise, divisions are created, and the work of Christ stalls. Why? Chiefly sometimes, because of failures to communicate.

Although it would be easy to write an article showing failures to communicate, we must turn our attention to God's communication to us in His word to understand how to improve our relationships and to "consider one another" in this. Here are some practical scriptural questions to think about:

- If this is a matter of slight, sin, or perceived malicious intent that I feel someone has against me, have I gone to them personally and communicated that hurt to them (Matt. 18:15-17)?
- Have I communicated with longsuffering and kindness considering others and their feelings (Eph. 4:29-32)?
- Have I made assumptions about what other people know, do, or think without ever asking them (1 Cor. 2:10-11)?
- Do I have the law of kindness always on my lips (Prov. 31:26)?
- Do I assume the worst about others and what they think or what they do (1 Cor. 13:4-7)?
- Have I communicated with others the way that I want to be communicated with (Matt. 7:12)?
- Is there drama created by crossed-wires, a dropped ball, or grinding axes (James 3:1-18)?

Good communication is all of our responsibility! It is part of endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

April 24, 2022

Matthe 13: 2-9, 18-23 The Sower (given and explained by Jesus)

“A farmer was sowing grain in his fields. 4 As he scattered the seed across the ground, some fell beside a path, and the birds came and ate it. 5 And some fell on rocky soil where there was little depth of earth; the plants sprang up quickly enough in the shallow soil, 6 but the hot sun soon scorched them and they withered and died, for they had so little root. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns choked out the tender blades. 8 But some fell on good soil and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as he had planted. 9 If you have ears, listen!”

18 Now, here is the explanation of the story I told about the farmer planting grain: 19 The hard path where some of the seeds fell represents the heart of a person who hears the Good News about the Kingdom and doesn't understand it; then Satan[c] comes and snatches away the seeds from his heart. 20 The shallow, rocky soil represents the heart of a man who hears the message and receives it with real joy, 21 but he doesn't have much depth in his life, and the seeds don't root very deeply, and after a while when trouble comes, or persecution begins because of his beliefs, his enthusiasm fades, and he drops out. 22 The ground covered with thistles represents a man who hears the message, but the cares of this life and his longing for money choke out God's Word, and he does less and less for God. 23 The good ground represents the heart of a man who listens to the message and understands it and goes out and brings thirty, sixty, or even a hundred others into the Kingdom.”

.....

Two kids went into their parents bathroom and noticed the weigh scale in the corner. “Whatever you do,” cautioned one youngster to the other, “Don't step on it!”

“Why not?” asked the sibling.

“Because every time mom does, she lets out an awful scream!”



Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday (via Zoom) Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

church of Christ at Alisal

67 Eucalyptus Drive

Salinas, California 93905-2728

Paul McCollum, preacher

pulpitpaul@razzolink.com

(831)424-9800 or 206-5568

www.churchofchristalisal.com/