

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

For the mass of humanity over the last 2,000 years, Jesus of Nazareth is/was a great teacher, even a great model of how to live our lives. Many, maybe even most, call Him Jesus Christ as if “**Christ**” was His last name. He gets listed along with other highly respected teachers like Confucious, Buddha, and Ghandi. But there’s a cut-line in the comparisons. **Jesus is the only one who is remembered for what He did after he died, not just what He did before He died.**

Rising from the dead, promising to be with us and in us through the presence of the Holy Spirit distinguishes Jesus. He did not believe His life’s purpose was just to leave us some principles or values. He did that. **He taught high principles and great values, and He changed the world with them.** But He had a higher purpose than teaching us. **He came to rescue us from death.** And it can sound impossible or even nonsensical to say that. How can we think Jesus saves us from death when we’re still dying?

Jesus didn’t come to save us from dying but to save us from dying. You’re probably reading that again because it sounds like nonsense. But it isn’t. We tend to think biologically, the same way Nicodemus thought. Jesus told him that he had to be born of the water (biologically) and of the spirit (spiritually). At the end of The Revelation, John writes that there is a “**second death.**” Jesus did not change our biology (yet). But He took the keys of hell and death and, again in Revelation, John writes that hell and death are destroyed for all time.

That’s big-time stuff. That isn’t just another philosophical, mystical idea attempting to make us feel better. That’s a complete paradigm shift. On every level – whatever those are. On every plane of existence – whatever they are. On every conceptual level – physics, quantum physics, astro-physics (is there such a thing?). Jesus did not just teach. **He demonstrated.** **He proved all of His statements.** When He got up from the dead. Jesus Christ didn’t just change the world. He changed everything.

Welcome!

May 1, 2022



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;

Youth & Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

SERMON NOTES

Rev. David Hickey

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday Evening Prayer – 6 to 7 PM.

Wednesday Bible Study – John 17. Come as we learn how Jesus prays for His own.

Kid's Club & Youth in the basement, learning about the Lord.

While the Pastor is away, Artie Henderson will be filling in.

Liturgical Dance – we will have a practice Wednesday night at 6:00 PM. It is important that those involved be prompt.

Very Special Heart Felt Thanks – to all those who gave offerings to help the Pastor represent the church in Costa Rica. God bless you. We appreciate your prayers while we minister there.

Rev. Bill Pier Jr., Campus Pastor

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