

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

What do we do when someone we believed in fails? Or how do we recover when people from church (the place where love is top shelf) hurt us... intentionally, unkindly, arrogantly? Or what happens to our faith when someone we love dies too soon, or we lose a job that has been caring for us, or our whole family comes apart through an unlikely event? Those are questions we've always asked. **And always will.**

Someone will tell us we need faith, as if faith answers our questions or salves our emotions. Others will say, "*I'm praying for you.*" Which is well meaning and the only thing that actually helps. **Except it doesn't.**

There are literally times when **we have no answers and we have no healing.** We feel like Job after his friends tried to comfort him, when he didn't have children left to console himself, when his wife told him, "*Curse God and die.*" He couldn't even yell back at her because she was suffering everything he suffered. When we've been jailed for doing what's right. Or we're in a prison camp because of our race, and our family is dying one by one. Or we believe in, and follow, Jordan Peterson's "*12 Rules*" and it hasn't helped. Add a few more of these situations because this is life in our world. **How do we endure that positively?**

There's only one place left to go: **Calvary!** Hanging on that cross is an innocent Man who spent the last three years of his life helping people, healing people, teaching them to love each other, to live humbly and to love God. **No matter what we feel or think or say, nothing changes that Man's destiny.**

And yet His changes ours. Jude 24-25 (Tree of Life Version):

Now to the One who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through *Yeshua* the Messiah our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, both now and forever. Amen.

Welcome!

March 2nd, 2025



"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; Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

SERMON NOTES

DON'T WRITE ME OFF, COUNT ME IN! Part 1

TEXT: Ruth 1:19-22; 4:14-17

Ruth means “_____, *pleasant, beautiful*”.

Orpah means “*stiff-necked, _____, stubborn*”. Ruth 1:11

They called things that were _____ as though they _____!

You may feel like _____, but we see _____ in you!

They _____ called her Mara!

1. CIRCUMSTANCES MUST NEVER DETERMINE _____

Naomi needed to be made to _____ that what she had been _____ does not determine who she is.

All she has _____ is not what she _____ be.

2 Corinthians 4:8-10; 11:22-28; Philippians 4:13; Romans 8:28

Don't let your _____ be determined by what you are _____ by! 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

A. I am _____ by the Omniscient One –
Ephesians 4:3-6; John 15:16

B. I am _____! Romans 5:1

C. I am _____, _____, and
_____ by God! 1 Corinthians 1:21-22

D. I am God's _____! Ephesians 2:10

You are _____ to Him!

E. I am _____ of God! Ephesians 3:14-21

F. I am _____! Ephesians 6:10-12; Romans
8:16-17; 2 Kings 5:1

My only _____ is a _____ of the most high God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday Bible Study – we continue our study of the Rapture of the church.

Prayer – every Sunday evening from 6 to 7. We join together to pray in an informal way, come as you are and pray as you wish. God honors the church that prays together.

Flagging Practice has begun again on Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM. For more information, please see Debbie DeVries.

Free Music CDs & DVDs – in the foyer, on the pulpit there are numerous CDs and DVDs which are free. Please take a look and see what you might want.

March 8th – Saturday, 11:00, a Ladies Tea for fellowship and a time in the presence of the Lord. For more information, please see Caroline Zeyak.

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