

The Parkview Banner

February 25, 2021 Issue

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One of my favorite Christian writers is A.W. Tozer, a pastor and author during the mid 20th century. In his book *The Pursuit of God* he shares this prayer:

“O God, I have tasted Thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need for further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee, so that I may know Thee indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, ‘Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away.’ Then give me grace to rise and follow Thee up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long.”

This prayer is powerful for the disciple who finds themselves in the desert of apathy, exhaustion, and mediocrity. For many, and I would include myself among them, this past year has drained you and you know what Tozer means when he speaks of the “misty lowland” of wandering. We know God is good and we have experienced His grace but our passion for His presence has been smothered by sin, stress, and man made religious structures. You know you need more of Him and to be reignited by His Spirit, but if you were honest you would admit that you don’t even know what the first step back to that first love is.

I would encourage you to begin with this simple plea. “I want to want thee; I long to be filled with longing.” It is possible to recognize that you’re not in a place where you passionately desire His presence and power but you know you should. Start there. Everyone who seeks Him shall find Him. Everyone who knocks will find an open door. There is no endeavor, no quest or search more worthwhile than the journey that leads you back to Him.

This Sunday we’ll be looking at Mark 5 where disease and death is met by healing and life. Be there with us!

Justin

Justin will be leading a trip to Israel next year, March 15-25 2022! If you are interested in travelling to the Holy Land please let Justin know and he can provide you with all the details. Don't miss out on this life changing journey through the land of the Bible!

Happy Birthday

- 3/1 Tera Smith
- 3/3 Kay Cordell
- 3/4 Christine Pifer
- 3/9 Jentri Foster
- 3/11 Kenny Pifer
- 3/13 Anthony Hart
- 3/16 Joe Boley
- 3/30 Faith Robinson
- 3/30 Charles VanArsdale
- 3/31 Jeremy Smith



Happy Anniversary

- 3/17 Clay & Teri Elrod
- 3/18 Shawn & Susi Jantz
- 3/22 Zach & Amanda Nickels



Prayer Warriors March 2021

- 3/1-7 Dianne Robbins
- 3/8-14 Coy & Roberta Eskew
- 3/15-21 Mary Sill
- 3/22-28 Rosie Morris
- 3/29-4/4 Charlotte Brooks

**Bringing Lord's Supper Thoughts
in March 2021**

- 3/7 *Shawn Jantz*
- 3/14 *Joseph Woods*
- 3/21 *Danny Chaney*
- 3/28 *Jared Standridge*



Don't forget to download the Church App.
New content for you is being added weekly.
If you have any questions please ask Justin.

Dear Parkview,

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Thanks to you all for the kind thoughts, wishes and prayers at the passing of our nephew, Johnny Wilson.

Special thanks to the Women for Jesus for all the cards that you sent. They really meant a lot to us.

Coy & Roberta Eskew and all of the

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family of John Wilson



For the past few Wednesday evenings in youth group we've been looking at the life of Joseph, how he served as an ambassador of God, and what we can take away from his story as we live as ambassadors of God's kingdom. You're familiar with Joseph's life. On the surface his story seems to be a roller coaster ride of exceedingly great highs followed almost immediately by devastating lows. But again, that's just a surface reading, one where we tend to be singularly focused on the circumstances of Joseph's life. As we look closer, one of the lessons we learn from Joseph is that he wasn't singularly or even primarily focused on his circumstances, and we shouldn't dwell on ours.

In Genesis chapter 41, Pharaoh has two dreams whose meaning he cannot interpret. He calls his diviners, wisemen, and magicians, but they're no help either. So, upon being told of a man named Joseph who has interpreted dreams before, he calls for Joseph to help interpret the dreams he's had. However, Joseph makes it clear before he interprets the dream (Gen. 41:16) and after (Gen. 41:25) that it is actually God who has interpreted the dreams, not him. To the modern reader this might not seem like such a big deal, but in Egypt, where Pharaohs were thought to be gods, this was quite a statement. God can interpret dreams. Pharaoh cannot interpret dreams. Therefore, Pharaoh is not God. The question I asked myself is what was it in Joseph's life that gave him the boldness to speak that truth to Pharaoh when it could have quite possibly led to punishment, even death. And the answer is...everything that had happened to him up to that point.

You might be thinking up to that point Joseph had brothers who hated him, his brothers planned to kill him, he was sold into servitude, he was carried off into a foreign land, he was accused of sexual immorality even though he was living honorably, he was thrown into prison, and he was forgotten even though he had been a blessing.

These are the things that led to Joseph's boldness? No, they're not. These are the circumstances of Joseph's life. These are the kinds of trials and troubles that happen in our lives, the things upon which we often dwell. And dwelling on circumstances will not embolden you, it will most often do the opposite. But Joseph didn't focus on the circumstances, he focused on God's faithfulness. He was emboldened by the God-given purpose of his life and the protection, provision, and favor God had shown to him in all those devastating moments. Joseph was far from perfect, but his focus and gaze saw past the immediacy of the things around him and into the things above, the faithfulness and steadfast love of the God of his fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Joseph



Parkview Family,ss
 Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers, calls & cards, for the wonderful meal, food and expressions of love during the illness and loss of Mary Ann. The love of Christ is expressed through you.
 Your thoughtfulness at this difficult time is appreciated.
 Mary Sill and John
 April Kent, Audra Miller,
 Jeff Coppedge and Amie Porter

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 Sunday School 9:30a
 SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30a
 (also live online)
 Sunday Night Jr High & High School Youth
 Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm at Parkview--
 Adults, Kids & Youth Meet
<https://parkview.freeonlinechurch.com/live>

January 2021	
General Fund Weekly Giving	
Jan. 3	\$6,616.74
Jan. 10	\$4,493.36
Jan. 17	\$2,914.24
Jan. 24	\$4,580.62
Jan. 31	\$2,790.36
General Fund Weekly Need \$4,582.93	
Thank You	

Parkview Radio—a Podcast with Justin and Joseph



- 2020 Hindsight
- Even If He Doesn't with Janie Harris
- Is This the End? with Brent Avery
- Fishers of Men with Steve Burks
- 2 Questions

Find it on the Church App

Send your questions to parkviewradiochat@gmail.com