



THE
Spiceland Friend

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

September 2022



Seeing Jesus

“They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” John 12:21

The above request in the Gospel of John came from a group of Greek speaking visitors who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration. They were outsiders – non-Jewish – but they had come to be a part of this important celebration that was held in Jerusalem every year. The crowds that year were all talking about Jesus and wondering if he was the long-expected Messiah. Some of them were ready to make him King. Jesus was focused on his mission. He knew that his time had come for him to be crucified and then rise again. His whole life and ministry had pointed to this time. He was teaching the crowds and particularly his disciples things he wanted them to know before he returned to heaven.

In the midst of all of this commotion and activity, a group of outsiders approached Jesus and his disciples and talked to Philip and asked him if they could see Jesus. If they just wanted to catch a glimpse of him or see him from a distance, they could easily have done that. What they wanted was an appointment, a conversation, some private time that they could interview Jesus and ask him questions. They wanted to determine for themselves if he was the Messiah or what that meant to them. It was not good enough to see him from a distance.

In many ways, we are just like this group of Greek speaking visitors – we want to see Jesus up close and personal. We hear about him, we read about him, and we hear about what he said when he was teaching here on earth, but we are looking for a close personal relationship. We want to know more about what he is thinking about us, about our lives, and about the things we are doing. We want to know how he would advise us to act in those difficult decisions that come our way from time to time. We are looking for a conversation with Jesus.

For hundreds of years believers in God had turned to the Psalms in the Bible to gain that personal conversation, that personal relationship. It may seem strange because most of the Psalms were written about one thousand years before Christ was born into this world. And yet, upon closer study, we see that the Psalms reveal much about Jesus and what he came to earth to do and what he is continuing to do today in our lives and in the world. The Holy Spirit inspired David and others to write these Psalms to be a guide for believers to the heart of God. They have helped many throughout the years to understand God better and to realize that the Living Christ is still speaking to us today. We are not alone in our journey of life or in our journey of faith. We have access to the wisdom of our Creator. We have access to the personal direction of Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

In order to help all of us know better how to use the Psalms in our spiritual growth, I will be preaching a series of sermons on the book of Psalms. Perhaps we can deepen our prayer life and our walk with Jesus by taking a deeper look at this wonderful and ancient book.

David Brock

Quaker Beliefs, Part 4

What do YOU believe about the Bible?

Introduction – In our series of “Early Quaker Beliefs” we have discussed God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. If you haven’t caught these topics, you can see the articles in previous newsletters or on our website at spicelandfriends.org. The topic this month is what we believe about the Holy Scriptures. Below is the statement from “Faith and Practice” as well as a simple explanation.

Belief Statement from Faith and Practice About the Holy Scripture –

It has ever been, and still is, the belief of the Religious Society of Friends that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God; that, therefore, there can be no appeal from them to any other authority whatsoever; that they are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Jesus Christ. “These are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name.” The Scriptures are the only divinely authorized record of the doctrines to which we are bound, as Christians, to accept, and of the moral principles which are to regulate our actions. No one can be required to believe, as an article of faith, any doctrine which is not contained in them; and whatsoever anyone says or does, contrary to the Scriptures, though under profession of the immediate guidance of the Holy Spirit, must be reckoned and accounted a mere delusion. Where Christ presides, idle speculation is hushed; His doctrine is learned in the doing of His will, and all knowledge ripens into a deeper and richer experience of His truth and love.

Summary of Belief Statement –

We believe that the Holy Scriptures are just that. We hold fast to 2 Timothy 3:16 which says “All Scripture is God breathed . . .” Although penned by man’s hand Scripture is breathed (inspired) by God. Since this is true, we also believe that Holy Scripture is without error. Being from God and without error means there is no other authority over the Bible. We believe that the written, read, and spoken Scripture is alive and able to bring the **Quaker Beliefs** *(Continued)*

human heart to a right relationship with God. We believe that committed Christ followers are given the Holy Spirit to help the believer’s mind more clearly understand God’s Word. However, the Holy Spirit would never communicate something to us that is different from God’s Holy Scripture. Regardless of what our personal, selfish thoughts whisper to us, God’s Holy Word should always stand firm in authority.

Eric Bowman

Worship Assistants for September



Scripture Readers

September 4 – Linda Ratcliff
September 11 – Dale Albertson
September 18 – Debra Weber
September 25 – Ron Reece

Children’s Story

September 4 – Diana Bowman
September 11 – Linda Brock
September 18 – Mike Van Osdol
September 25 – Janet Putnam

Junior Church

September 4 – Linda Brock
September 11 – David Lahr
September 18 – Linda Brock
September 25 – Claudia Garner

Greeter – Kandi Rutledge

Congratulations on the Baby Girl!



Congratulations and best wishes to **Dylan & Monica Altman** upon the birth of their baby girl on August 7. **Lorelai Joy** weighed 1 lb. 7 oz. and was 12” long. She is doing well but still needs our prayers as she continues to grow and develop. Best wishes also to grandparents, **Paul & Debra Weber**, and great-grandparents, **Tom & Shirley Weber**

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Family of Dick Patterson
David Brock – recovering from fall
Monica, Dylan & Lorelai Altman – premature birth
Mark Batt – COVID and flu
Sandy White – multiple eye injections
Sarah Reiblein – cancer
Bowman family – auto accident
Tom Weber – Addison's House #133
Irene Goodwin – health problems
Steve Neal – liver cancer

Extended Family and Friends

David Butler (Helen Rust's brother-in-law) – in need of prayer
Chase (Pat Bogue's great nephew) – COVID & kidney failure
Nancy Jordan – heart issues
Debra Weber's mother – recovering from surgery
Jamie (daughter of Peggy MacFarlane) – Crohn's disease
Franka Dick (Tom Pyle's sister) - COVID
Bonnie Knopp (neighbor of Vickie Richardson) – back surgery and thyroid surgery
Angela (Priscilla James' sister) – COVID
Mother of Debra Weber – carotid surgery
Aaron King & wife (great nephew of Doris Hoover) – Both ill
Ed (brother of Debi Zimmerman) – pancreatic cancer
Kathy Gortner (sister of Cindy Mitchell) – kidney failure
Fran Brock (Brocks) – extreme back pain
Carmelle Jordan (Darlings) – stroke
Rick (Linda Wittmayer) – cancer
Jan Hurst (Judy Stevens) – Parkinson's
Joyce & David Holden (Richard Ratcliff) – David fell
Naomi Wagner (David Baker's sister) – lung cancer
Betty Kirtley (Marilyn Thompson's mother) – severe back pain
Step-mom of Teresa Batt – broken hip
Kelly Bush (Claudia Garner) – colon cancer
Eric Roth (Darlings) – at home; recovering from COVID
Vickie Vaccaro (Helen Rust) – cancer
Jackie Clendenin (Pat Bogue) – swallowing issues
Susan Weaver (Kristen Davis) – lung cancer
Daniel Sears (Kristen Davis) – stomach cancer
Par Sung (Bob Rust) – kidney problems
Tivon Lee (grandson of Sadlers) – health issues



Carolyn Lantz – health problems
Abby (God daughter of Bob & Helen Rust)
Emogene Putnam (Jim Putnam's mother) – health issues
Rita Beaver (Garners) – bladder cancer
Melissa Humerickhouse (Jenny McDaniel) – brain tumor
Joyce Lacy (Sandi Swann) – needs prayer
Byron Hanes (relative of Pam Reno) – radiation
People in Ukraine
Students, teachers, and school administrators
Our country and servicemen and women
Prison Staff and Prisoners

With Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to **Megan Chandler** and **Amy Upchurch** and families on the tragic death of their father, **Dick Patterson**, on August 24 and sympathy also to **Vickie Richardson**.



Sermon Topics for September

Nancy Wadman will be preaching September 4. **David Brock** will be preaching the other three Sundays in September.

September 4

Sermon – “Don't Hide Your Scars”
Scripture – Isaiah 53:5; 2 Corinthians 4:17

September 11

Sermon – “Which Way Will You Choose?”
Scripture – Psalm 1

September 18

Sermon – “Forgiveness Is for Everyone”
Scripture – Psalm 51

September 25

Sermon – “What Is This World Coming to?”
Scripture – Psalm 2