

Family Information

Today's Sermon Title

I Can't Find God

Theme Passage

Esther (The whole story)

Thoughts to consider

- 1) How has God worked through "coincidences" in your life?
- 2) As you read (or recall) the story of Esther, with whom do you most identify?
- 3) When have you felt God the least or the most?

Northland Banquet

Sat. April 6th begins 5:30 pm Dinner served at 6:00 pm "A Joyful Heart is Good Medicine" Proverbs 17:22 Join the Northland Family for an evening of Food, Fun and Fellowship at the Der Dutchman. \$15 for Adults \$9 for Children ages 6-10 \$6 for children 3-5. Payments are due by March 24th to Robbie McVicker. Payable to Northland. Please contact Josh Kruse if you would like to be part of the "Talent"

Ladies Retreat

Friday May 3rd and 4th. Heartland Retreat Center Ma-ringo Ohio. Cost is \$70. The first payment of \$35 is due by March 31st. Friday only or Saturday only options are also available. Hope you can join us! Please see Vicki Cowans or Robbie McVicker for payments (to North-land) and more info.

Camp

Fort Hill Church Camp Registration - A \$20 discount is offered if you register and pay by May 15th. Camp Week is July 14-20, Let Josh Evans know if you are interested in attending.

Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Ghana Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Ghana Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Spanish Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Evening	7:00 pm

Minister: Caleb Dillinger
Elders: Roy Estep, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins
Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos

Calendar

March

31 Area Wide Worship At Spring Road

April

3 Singing At Willow Brook Home 10:30am
 6 Northland Banquet, 5:30pm @ Der Dutchman
 13 Choices Youth Rally
 14 Services At Willow Brook
 14 Single Sisters Lunch
 15 Tax Day
 19-20 LTC
 21 Easter Sunday
 25 Take Your Daughter Or Son To Work Day
 27 Congregational Work Day

For The Month of March

Invitation/ Responses: Mike Evans
Foyer Duty: Bobby Graham Jr.
Greeters: Mike and Leisha Evans

Communion Servers

James Allison	John Allison
Glenn Culler	David Estep
Gary McMasters	Leon Norwood
Frank Rynearson	Art Silva

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$6675	\$5181
Designated:	\$230	\$172



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Here Is A Trustworthy Saying

(With Thoughts From Florence Nightingale & Clara Barton)

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. - 1 Timothy 1:15-16

This is a trustworthy saying: we had gone astray, so Jesus displayed his unfailing patience and compassion, and he died on the cross so those who open our hearts to him might have eternal life with God. Here is a saying worthy of full acceptance: The goal of God's message is love, so he gently calls us to walk by faith in him instead of following this world's ways - *Command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work—which is by faith. The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. - 1 Timothy 1:3-5*

God's thoughts are far higher than ours and they lead to love. In contrast, human reasoning and worldly methods lead to myths and meaningless speculations. Florence Nightingale once said of such things, "Leave these jargons, and go your way straight to God's work, in simplicity and singleness of heart." Known as 'The Lady With The Lamp', Nightingale set aside her desires to devote herself to healing and nursing and caring. Likewise, God calls us to turn from the world's distractions so that we can see him more clearly, as Nightingale also said, "I strive to see only God in my friends, and God in my cats." With each step, we can see the ways that God shows his mercy and compassion, in our lives and around us - *Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. - 1 Timothy 1:13-14*

Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross, once did an act of kindness for someone who had previously done something malicious to her. When a friend asked Barton whether she remembered what this person had done to her, the nurse said she didn't remember it. When pressed, Barton said, "I don't remember that, but I distinctly remember forgetting that."

In a similar way, God is well aware that we are all sinners who have all done many objectionable things, yet he distinctly remembers pouring out his grace abundantly on those who walk in the light of Jesus. He is our living God, our Father in heaven who lives forever - *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. - 1 Timothy 1:17*

There is no one like God, and it is good to praise and honor him.

- Mark Garner

Studying Scriptures With . . .

From time to time, we're talking with some of our brothers and sisters about the scriptures they've been reading. This week, we are talking with **Emily Graham**.

Q: Hi, Emily! What scriptures have you been reading?

Emily: Since life can seem like a 'battle', I've been reading some of the battles in the Old Testament, and am learning how to cope with my own daily 'battles.' With each one, I'm asking two questions: What does God ask? and, What will God do? The first one I read was when Abraham went to rescue Lot - *When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he . . . went in pursuit (Genesis 14:14)*. His motivation was to help someone who was unable to help himself.

Q: Very true, life sometimes can seem like a 'battle'. How have these battles helped you spiritually?

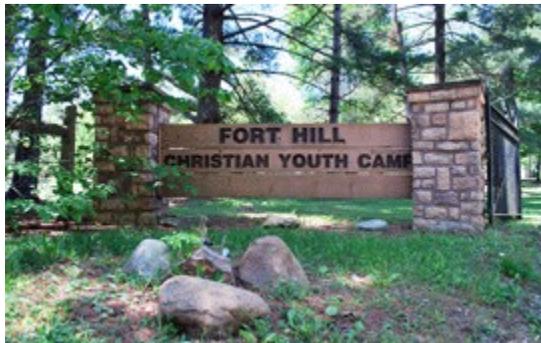
Emily: The overall theme I've seen is: first ask God what to do, then trust him. For us, this could mean a difficult situation. Judges and Samuel kept reminding me to ask God whether I should do anything, or to be patient. I've even learned from reading about Samson, a strong man who sometimes fought unnecessary battles. But at other times, *The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully on him (Judges 14:9, 14:19)*, and he finally realized his need for God's help - *Samson prayed to the Lord, Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me once more (Judges 16:28)*.

Q: More good thoughts. How has this helped you with your own daily 'battles'?

Emily: Facing challenges or problems can be tiring both physically and emotionally. So we can ask God to strengthen us in both respects, so that we can face things *through him who gives me strength (Philippians 4:13)*. This also helped - Judah and Israel are facing an attack by Moab, and the king of Israel is nervous, so Jehoshaphat says *Is there no prophet of the Lord here, through whom we may inquire of the Lord? (2 Kings 3:11)*, and Elisha encourages them. Often when we are nervous, we can encourage one other to remember to ask God what to do and then trust him.

Thank you, Emily! *(Emily Graham with Mark G.)*

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VBS date is set! Monday June 24-Thursday June 27. We will finish VBS on Thursday June 27th by providing food for our neighboring families. More details to come!

The Sure Word Of God

His grace is great enough to meet the great things,
The crashing waves that overwhelm the soul,
The roaring winds that leave us stunned and breathless,
The sudden storms beyond our life's control.

His grace is great enough to meet the small things,
The little pin-prick troubles that annoy,
The insect worries, buzzing and persistent,
The squeaking wheels that grate upon our joy.

For all the promises of God in Him are yes and in Him Amen.
'Is God-?' 'Does God-?'
Man's 'Why?' and 'How?'
In ceaseless iteration storm the sky.

'I Am'; I will'; 'I do'—sure Word of God,
Yes and Amen, Christ answers each cry;
To all our anguished questionings and doubts
Eternal affirmation and reply.

- Annie Johnson Flint, 1866-1932



Have
faith
in
God

Mark 11:22