When Graceless Religion Gets in the Way

Sermon Notes

Daily Readings: When Graceless Religion Gets in the Way

Christians are different because we've experienced God's grace and truth. We've been set free from the consequence of our sin, but that does not make us better than others. We need to help other people experienced the same grace that we've received. The "gravitational force" for Jesus always pulled Him down to the lowest possible places, to the lowest people.

MONDAY – Read John 8:1-6. Pastor Don mentioned that the story of the woman caught in adultery is not found in the earliest manuscripts of the Gospel of John. Do you think it should be included in our Bibles? Why? Why not? What was the Pharisees' real reason for bringing this woman to Jesus?

TUESDAY – Read Leviticus 20:7-10. This passage says both the woman and the man caught in adultery are to be put to death. Why do you think the man was not brought before Jesus in John 8:1-6? According to Lev. 20:7, what is the reason the Israelites are to execute such a harsh death penalty?

WEDNESDAY – Read John 8:6-8. What are some of the things people speculate that Jesus may have been writing in the dirt? Why didn't Jesus condemn the woman since she had sinned? Is Jesus being lenient on sin? Why wasn't he more harsh on her adultery? How might Jesus be re-defining what the "holiness" mentioned in Leviticus 20 looks and acts like?

THURSDAY – Read John 8:7-11. What did Jesus mean in verse 7? Without any sin? Without sin in convicting the woman? Or without the sin of adultery? Does this mean the death penalty is wrong because everyone is a sinner? If not, what does it mean? Why didn't Jesus condemn her since she had sinned so gravely?

FRIDAY – Read Romans 5:20; Philippians 2:5-11. Pastor Don said, "There's more grace in God than there is sin in you or me." Do you believe that? Is there more grace in you than there is in other people's sin – even their sin against you? How is extending grace towards other having the "mindset of Christ" and an imitation of Jesus?

SATURDAY – Read Galatians 6:1-2 (from *The Message* if you can). Paul tells us we have a responsibility since we have received God's grace. What is that responsibility? When we live in an awareness of this fact, how does it look practically? How can we be second-chancers instead of stone-throwers?

compass points
sermon outline & daily readings

Weekly Prayer Concerns

Prayer is vital to everything we do at the Wadsworth UMC. In prayer, we do not simply ask for our needs, or the needs of others, to be met, but seek God's presence and ask Him to bring His Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. In prayer, we enjoy time with God, knowing that He welcomes us as His beloved children.

(Please be sure to update your prayer concerns.)

Please mention these persons and others in your prayers this week.

Hospitalized

David Byers – The Sanctuary

Hospice Care

Louise Lawrence
Bernie Antonino - Reddings' friend

Pre-Surgery/Treatment

Leanna Freund – lymphoma
Richard Hummel – pneumonia
Michael Satink – cancer
Linda Martin
Charlotte Danals

Active Duty Military

Brian Anderson
Russell Conway
Andrew Hickle
Daniel & Sierra Howard
Jeff Keenan
Jacob McIlvaine
Austin McNamara
Zachary Ramsay
Glenn Schroeder
Alex Staub
Scott Valentine
Michael Wallet
Austin Wolfinger

Bereavement & Grief

The Family of Curt Thompson
The Family of Shawn Van Dyke
The Family of Barb Albrecht
(Dana Hire's mother)
The Family of Robin Jones

Medical/Health Concerns

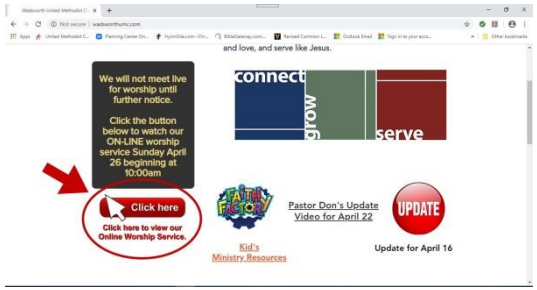
Virg Mochel
Steve Adams
Frank Klinger
Corbin Fazekos
Amy Parks
Warren Goldston
Erik Hutter
Sandy Nedoh

When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

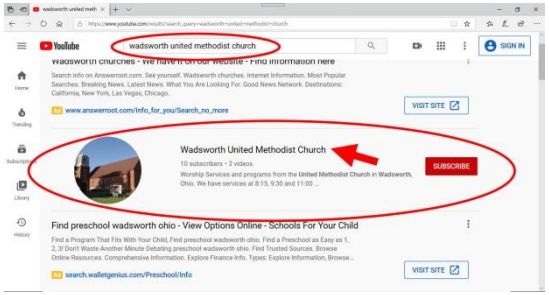
- Psalm 91:15

YouTube ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES Instructions

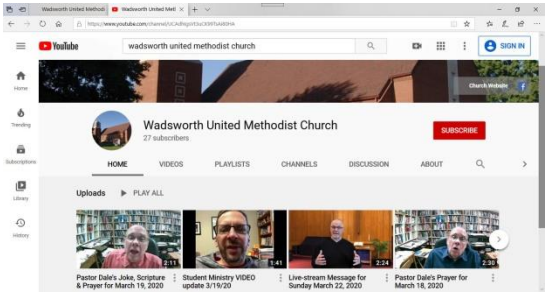
Go to: www.wadsworthumc.com and click on the red "CLICK HERE" button. It will take you to the Wadsworth United Methodist YouTube channel.



Or, go to: www.youtube.com and type "Wadsworth United Methodist Church" in the search window. Scroll down and click on the link for our YouTube channel.



Beginning at 9:55am, click on the thumbnail image with the "PREMIERE" button. A two-minute countdown will appear at 10:00am.



IMPORTANT: You may have to hit the "refresh" button on your web browser if the video does not appear, or if it "freezes" at any point.

The video will be available to view on-demand after it premieres.