

Dear Friends,

Here are two brief reminders:

On Wednesdays in August (the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th) Dave Simmons will be teaching a course on Evangelism Through the Local Church, at 6:30 PM at the church office. The text will be John Stott's, Basic Christianity and Nicky Gumbel's, Telling Others. If you've ever wanted to learn how to confidently share your faith and understand the principles of evangelism, make plans now to attend and be a part of this exciting activity of the Holy Spirit. We will be meeting for prayer and teaching and desert. Make sure you sign up at the Welcome Table to let us know if you will be there.

And starting next Monday:

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Monday, July 26 - Thursday, July 29
6:30 to 8:30 PM
in the park behind the Darnell home
41800 Ladywood Dr., in Northville (48168)
Theme: Baobab Blast

My thanks to all of you who arrived on time for the services last week. I hope you will continue to do so. Here are the lessons for Sunday.

Yours in Christ,
Allen

Isaiah 1:1-20

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzzi'ah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezeki'ah, kings of Judah. Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the LORD has spoken: "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the ass its master's crib; but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the LORD, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.

Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but bruises and sores and raw wounds; they are not pressed out, or bound up, or softened with

oil.

Your country lies desolate, your cities are burned with fire; in your very presence foreigners devour your land; it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners. And the daughter of Zion is left like a booth in a vineyard, like a lodge in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.

If the LORD of hosts had not left us a few survivors, we should have been like Sodom, and become like Gomor'rah.

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations -- I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

PSALM 51:1-18

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
2. Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
3. For I know my transgressions, * and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
5. And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgement.
6. Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
7. For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
8. Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
9. Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

10. Hide your face from my sins * and blot out all my iniquities.
11. Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
12. Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
13. Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
14. I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.
15. Deliver me from death, O God, * and my tongue shall sing
of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
16. Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
17. Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
18. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

John 8:2-11

Early in the morning Jesus came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." And once more he bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus looked up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."