

Mt Calvary News

Love God, Love Other, Serve the World

Sacrifice and Obedience?

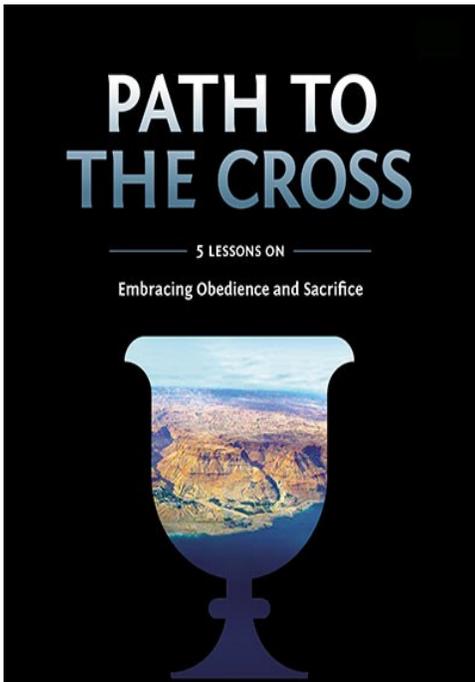
Have you ever thought about how you have an affect on God? You have the ability to make God joyful or sad.

Oswald Chambers once wrote, "Am I as spontaneously kind to God as I used to be, or am I only expecting God to be kind to me? Does everything in my life fill His heart with gladness, or do I constantly complain because things don't seem to be going my way? A person who has forgotten what God treasures will not be filled with joy. It is wonderful to remember that Jesus Christ has needs which we can meet— "*Give me a drink*" John 4:7. How much kindness have I shown God in the past week? Has my life been a good reflection of His reputation?"

Lent is a special season lead-

ing up to Easter where we have the opportunity to look at our lives and see if God has slipped into a place that He does not belong; one of many gods we love and serve instead of the one and only God in our lives.

One way we grow in faith is seeking to obey what God commands: to love God with all your heart, and love and our neighbor as ourselves. This Lenten Season we invite you to join us as we look at sacrifice and obedience in Jesus day. We also invite you to be part of a Growth Group where you learn to love and care for others in your church family. Join us on our journey starting March first with Ash Wednesday services, then a five week sermon series and growth groups leading us to Easter.



The Season of Lent starts March 1st

"I would rather obey than work miracles."

Martin Luther

Five Week Growth Groups for Lent

Can you attend 5 meetings? We think you can. Join a five week growth group could you be a part of for Lent. We have groups on:

Sundays after each worship service. 9:15 am, 10:45 am & 12:10 pm.

Tuesdays Women's Bible Study Tuesdays at 9:30 am.

Tuesdays before Church Choir at 5:45 pm.

Wednesdays 4:15 & 6:00 pm. (Child care provided at 6:00 pm class.



Wednesday, March 1st

Services at 4:15 & 6:15 PM.

Thoughts from the Pastor

Where is your Pastor's focus this season? I am working hard on preaching the Bible in all its truth and purity. Only in the Word of God can God grow faith in us and deal with our doubts and sin. I am in prayer, asking for God's Holy Spirit to give us passion for Jesus and serving Him.

Next I am working with DCE Bob and a bunch of other people looking at ways to **improve our**

worship space. Bob and I would like to make it look better for newcomers and be a better space for worship; pulling the altar out from the wall to have a more prominent place, making Communion easier for those who have a hard time getting up the steps by moving the altar rail, and placing new flooring that ties the front and back of the church together — if we have enough resources. You will be seeing a

model on some ideas we are working on in the Martin Luther Room.

Finally I am in training for **the LA Marathon, March 18.** I am running in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation to raise funds for those in need. If you give a donation I will put your name on my running shirt. **Pastor**

Winter Growth Groups Topic: *The Path to the Cross*

We would like all our members and friends to pray about joining a five-week **Growth Group** this Lent.

Growth groups exist to **promote the development of significant Christian relationships centered around the study of God's Word.** It is like the lecture/lab experience in school. You meet to learn in church; you then meet in a small group to learn a little bit more through a

teaching time on the sermon, talk about what you have learned and discuss how to apply it to your life.

What happens in a Growth Group? Sharing: Each week, we take time to share what is happening in our lives. **Study:** We study a portion of God's Word that relates to the previous week-end's sermons. **Support:** We learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (See

John 15:9-13). We care for each other by praying, listening, meeting needs, encouraging and even challenging one another as needed. Mt. Calvary has growth groups several times a week; there should be a time for you to attend. Join us in the Journey in *The Path to the Cross*.



What is *The Path to the Cross* all about?

The Path to the Cross is a sermon series and Bible study given eight different times during the week to see the video and talk about it in a Growth Group.

In *The Path to the Cross*, God's story continues with the intense devotion of His people. Discover how God's people's passionate faith prepares the way for Jesus and his ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the cross. Then, be challenged in your life to live as they did by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

The Path to the Cross was

filmed on location in Israel and weaves together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious, and geographical contexts, by teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan. He will reveal unique insights into the Scriptures' significance for modern believers. The DVD was filmed on location in Qumran, Machaerus, En Gedi, Jerusalem and Gethsemane. These illuminating "faith lessons" afford a new understanding of the Bible that will ground your convictions and transform your life.

"And as ridiculous as it may sound, sometimes all any of us needs in life is for someone to hold our hand and walk next to us."

[James J. Frey](#)

The 5 lessons include:

- [The Way of the Essenes](#) Filmed in Quamran
- [The Way of John the Baptist](#) Filmed in Machaerus
- [Into the Desert to Be Tested](#) Filmed in En Gedi
- [The Last Passover](#) Filmed in Jerusalem.
- [The Fifth Cup: Our Way of](#)



Mt. Calvary Youth News



Vacation Bible School Lake Arrowhead

Monday, June 19—Friday, June 23.

We need volunteers!! All kids going into 7th grade can volunteer for VBS.

If you intend to go to Carp. You *need* to help at this VBS! *Adults helpers are needed!* Also, the Running Springs VBS will be July 17-21.

Carpinteria Mission Trip

July 30—August 4

We will be going to Faith Lutheran Church in Carpinteria and leading a VBS for their congregation.

Youth who are going into 9th grade next school year through seniors in high school are eligible to go on this Mission Trip. The cost is \$100 per person.

Let Kim know ASAP if you are interested in going.



Upcoming Events:

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| March 11 & 12: | District Youth Gathering for Jr. High |
| March 23 –26: | Chrysalis Girls Weekend for Sr. High |
| March 30—April 2: | Chrysalis Boys Weekend for Sr. High |
| April 22: | Glow Bowling Event @ Rim Bowling, \$20 per person (Jr & Sr) |
| May 12 –13: | Confirmation Lock-in; 7 pm to 9 am, Jr. High |
| May 20: | Confirmation Potluck—Confirmation kids & families |
| May 21: | Confirmation Service @ 11 am |
| May 26: | Dinner before Broadway show & Concessions during show* |
| May 27: | Concessions during Broadway shows (*both for Jr & Sr High) |



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday: April 9. Sunday
School Play and Elders Breakfast.

Maundy Thursday Service: April
13, 7 pm. Healing Prayer offered.

Good Friday Services: April 14, 3
pm & 7 pm.

Easter Sunday Services: April 16, at
8, 9:30 & 11 am. Easter Egg hunt af-
ter 9:30 & 11:00 am services.



Let us all be careful what we wish for... we haven't had this much snow since the last ice age. At our school we are all awaiting the beauty of Spring. In March we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with Green Eggs and

For Your Information:



*A Journey from
Mourning to Joy*

Next Grief Share support group will be starting **Monday, March 20**, in the evening. Call the office to reserve a spot. Grief Share is for all in the community.

55+ Senior Ministry



Cost: \$10 includes 1 BINGO card (6 games) and dinner.

Please bring a can of food for pantry.

Thursday, March 16, 4:00-6:00 pm.

Ministry Center. Everyone is welcome.

Ham. His books are among some of the kids favorite. St. Patrick's Day is the time we share our "Pot of Gold" with all the kids and their families; our gold being God and His never ending love for all of us. We are looking forward to April to celebrate our rising Savior and His gift to each of us.

The kids will be singing in church the first Sunday of April.

They'r been learning music from DCE Bob in music class to sing. Watch for information on our Wine Pairing event coming in late April. Our first one was a great time of food and fellowship with our parents.

Our school in Running Springs is just as busy but with a lot more snow. They will be very busy this spring teaching the children about the love of Jesus. Blessings, Rita, Vicky and staff



Celebrate Recovery is an Alcoholism, sexual abuse and drug addiction recovery program. Call the office if you want to be a part of this group.

Tuesdays at 5 PM, *Men & Women.*

Wednesdays at 4 PM, *Women*

Thursdays at 5 PM, *Women*



Our Mt. Calvary Broadway Show 2017 is Friday and Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. The cast is working hard to bring back some of your favorite numbers from years past and new numbers in their production **"It's a Grand Night for Singing."** Tickets are \$15 and will be available for purchase on our website soon.