Dear Lexie,

The Peace of the Resurrection

For the past three years one of the books that I have been using for my devotional reading is "Jesus Calling" by author Sarah Young. Although it is written in a daily reading format covering the period of an entire year, I have used it for three consecutive years, gaining new insights with each reading.

Upcoming Events

April 2, 2015
Life at the Table
A special communion service will be held at 7PM.

April 3, 2015
Life Through the Tomb
Bring a friend and join us at 7PM for The Lamb Wins, a moving musical about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.
This Sabbath:
April 4, 2015

Speaker:
Pastor Charles A. Tapp
"Beneath the Cross"

Special Musical Guests:
Sligo Bell Choir
Sligo Sanctuary Choir
OviBrass Quintet
Sounds of Steel Pan Orchestra

Future events include:
- Prayer Gathering (every Wednesday night @ 7PM)

Because of Easter

Nails may have pierced him and spilled his precious blood
But the tomb could not hold him
The darkness of Friday noon turned to the glorious light of the open tomb

Read More

Missed Last Week's Sermon?

Watch Live or OnDemand:
Sligo WebTV

Sermon Audio Archive:
Pr. Charles Tapp – Senior Pastor

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For the past three years one of the books that I have been using for my devotional reading is “Jesus Calling” by author Sarah Young. Although it is written in a daily reading format covering the period of an entire year, I have used it for three consecutive years, gaining new insights with each reading. What makes “Jesus Calling” such a powerful devotional is that Young has written it in the first person, taking words of Scripture and then writing each commentary as if Christ himself was speaking. Of all the devotional readings that I have come across in the last several years, I have found “Jesus Calling” to be a dose of daily inspiration to my tired and weary soul.

In a recent entry, dated March 31, the author shares a portion of scripture that I feel is very appropriate, considering that we are just a few days out from celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The verse that I’m referring to is the nineteenth verse of the twentieth chapter of John’s gospel, which reads:

“Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

What a powerful, but timely, message to give to his disciples at such a crucial time in their lives. Upon seeing their leader crucified at the hands of the Romans, peace would have been the last thing on their minds, and not just based on what the Romans had done to Jesus, but because of what the disciples had done to Christ. As we know, Peter publicly denied him, Judas betrayed Him and most of them deserted him. But instead of a message of rebuke and condemnation, Jesus’ first words to his frightened and somewhat confused followers were, “Peace be with you?”

Although this was over two thousand years ago, Jesus’ message of peace is still one that is relevant for his disciples today. And the reason this message of peace still has the power to reverberate in our hearts today is because it is through the resurrection of Christ that you and I have been granted this precious gift. As the apostle Paul reminds us, no longer are we enemies of God, but through Christ’s death and resurrection we now are at peace with God. This is why when writing to the various churches he would begin his letters with the greeting of “Grace and peace to you from our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” But this was more than just a casual greeting. It served as a powerful reminder that through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross, which was a special act of grace on God’s part, we now are at peace with God.

So as we continue our celebration during this week of Christ’s resurrection, my words of closing to you are the same. May God’s grace and peace be with you, not just as we as a community pause to recognize this holy week, but each and every day when we open our eyes and take our first breath!
Because of Easter

sliochurch.org/because-of-easter
Nails may have pierced him and spilled his precious blood
But the tomb could not hold him
The darkness of Friday noon turned to the glorious light of the open tomb
The first fruits of the resurrection formed an army of witnesses
We now have confidence that death will be defeated
Relationships will be restored and final healing to our aching hearts will happen
Yes, O yes, our faith is not in vain
We look forward to the day when eternal love will reign
Yes, a new heaven and a new earth will be finally proclaimed.

(by Chris Daley & Dawn Reynolds)

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