



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

December 8, 2019

Devotional:----- Jonathan Miller

Message:----- Elmer Yoder

Offering:----- General

SS Lesson:----- Mark 12:18-44

Adult and Youth Verse: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. Mark 12:30

Intermediate Verse: Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. Psalm 27:11

Junior Verse: And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ. 2

Thessalonians 3:5

Primary Verse: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Mark 12:31

Preschool Verse: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Mark 12:31

SS Lesson for next week: Mark 13:1-37

Adult and Youth Verse for next week:
And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch. Mark 13:37

☐ CHILDREN'S CORNER ○ ☐ ○ ☐

10 Totally Awesome Turtle Facts

1. Turtles belong to one of the oldest reptile groups in the world – beating snakes, crocodiles and alligators!
2. These creatures date back to the time of the dinosaurs.
3. Turtles are easily recognized by their bony, cartilaginous shell. This super-tough casing acts like a shield to protect them from predators – some turtles can even tuck their head up inside their shell for extra protection!
4. Just like your bones, a turtle's shell is actually part of its skeleton. It's made up of over 50 bones which include the turtle's rib cage and spine.
5. Contrary to popular belief, a turtle cannot come out of its shell. The turtle's shell grows with them, so it's impossible for them to grow too big for it!
6. What a turtle eats depends on the environment it lives in. Land-dwelling turtles will munch on beetles, fruit and grass, whereas sea dwellers will gobble everything from algae to squid and jellyfish.
7. Some turtles are carnivores (meat eaters), others are herbivores (plant eaters) and some are omnivores (a mixture of the two!). Many baby turtles start life as carnivores but grow to eat more plants as they mature.
8. Turtles are 'amniotes' – they breathe air and lay their eggs on land, although many

species live in or around water.

9. These cold-blooded creatures have an incredibly long life span. The oldest ever recorded, named Tu'i Malila, of Tonga Island, passed away at the grand old age of 188!

10. Sadly, many species of turtle are endangered! 129 of approximately 300 species of turtle and tortoise on Earth today are either vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered, according to the IUCN. Threats include loss of habitat, poaching and the illegal pet trade.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/sea-life/turtle-facts/>

Announcements:

- ✓ Youth will be singing at Morningside this afternoon at 2:00 PM. Michael Yoder's will be hosting the youth for lunch.
- ✓ This Evening: Free Evening
- ✓ Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM
- ✓ School devotions this week by: To be determined
- ✓ Out of State Correspondence this week by: Ralph & Janice Yoder

~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES~

Happy Birthday! Dec. 10, Hannah Yutzy 1977

THE STORY OF THE GEESE

There was once a man who didn't believe in the incarnation of Christ or the spiritual meaning of Christmas, and was skeptical about God. He and his family lived in a farm community. His wife was a devout believer and diligently raised her children in her faith. He sometimes gave her a hard time about her faith and mocked her religious observance of Christmas. "It's all nonsense – why would God lower himself and become a human like us? It's such a ridiculous story!" he said.

One snowy day, she and the children left for church while he stayed home. After they had left, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blinding snowstorm. He sat down to relax before the fire for the evening.

Then he heard a loud thump, something hitting against the window. And another thump. He looked outside but couldn't see. So he ventured outside to see. In the field near his house he saw, of all the strangest things, a flock of geese! They were apparently flying to look for a warmer area down south, but had been caught in the snow storm. The storm had become too blinding and violent for the geese to fly or see their way. They were stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter, unable to do more than flutter their wings and fly in aimless circles.

He had compassion for them and wanted to help them. He thought to himself, "The barn would be a great place for them to stay! It's warm and safe; surely they could spend the night and wait out the storm." So he opened the barn doors for them. He

waited, watching them, hoping they would notice the open barn and go inside. But they didn't notice the barn or realize what it could mean for them. He moved closer toward them to get their attention, but they just moved away from him out of fear. He went into the house and came back out with some bread, broke it up, and made a bread trail to the barn. They still didn't catch on. Starting to get frustrated, he went over and tried to shoo them toward the barn. They panicked and scattered into every direction except toward the barn. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where there was warmth, safety and shelter.

Feeling totally frustrated, he exclaimed, "Why don't they follow me? Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm? How can I possibly get them into the one place to save them?" He thought for a moment and realized that they just wouldn't follow a human.

He said to himself, "How can I possibly save them? The only way would be for me to become like those geese. If only I could become like one of them! Then I could save them! They would follow me and I would lead them to safety."

At that moment, he stopped and considered what he had said. The words reverberated in his mind: "If only I could become like one of them- then I could save them." And then, at last, he understood God's heart towards mankind, and he fell on his knees.

— A subscriber has indicated this was originally titled 'Christmas – More Than Humbug' was credited to Louis Casself

<https://emailministry.org/the-story-of-the-geese-4/>

Mission & Vision Statement Of: Calvary Christian Fellowship

Mission: To realize our need of Christ.

To help one another on life's journey.

Vision: To surrender to Christ our Head, to walk in the Spirit, to love as Jesus loves.

To be a place where it's safe to share failures, struggles, hopes, and dreams.

To encourage, and empower one another to find God's purpose as we walk with Christ on our journey to Heaven.

To help the hurting find healing, and the lost experience salvation, in Christ.

To assist in physical needs among, and around us.