



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

January 12, 2020

Devotional:----- Ralph Yoder

Message:----- Henry Nissley

Offering:----- General

SS Lesson:-----Mark 15:1-20

Adult and Youth Verse: And Pilate asked him, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answering said unto them, Thou sayest it.

And the chief priests accused him of many things: but he answered nothing. Mark 15:2-3

Intermediate Verse: For the preaching of the cross is to them foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

Junior Verse: This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I

write them. Hebrews 10:16

Primary Verse: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Psalm 48:1

Preschool Verse: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Psalm 48:1

SS Lesson for next week: Mark 15: 21-47

Adult and Youth Verse for next week: And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God. Mark 15:39

☐ CHILDREN'S CORNER ○ ☐ ○ ☐

Interesting Meerkat Facts

There are few animals on Earth who work as well together as meerkats. These squirrel-size members of the mongoose family live in groups of different sizes, from as little as three to as big as 50 members. everyone in the mob participates in gathering food, keeping a look out for predators and taking care of the babies.

Meerkats live in the deserts and grasslands of the southern tip of Africa. They are super cute, with bushy, brown-striped fur, a small, pointed face and large eyes surrounded by dark patches. They average about 50 cm long, including their tail. These extremely social animals live together in burrows, which they dig with their long, sharp claws. Living underground keeps mob members safe from predators and out of the harsh African heat. These burrows can be 5 meters long and contain multiple entrances, tunnels, and rooms. A group will use up to five separate burrows at a time.

Meerkats only go outside during the daytime. Each morning, as the sun comes up, the mob emerges and begins looking for food. They use their keen sense of smell to locate their favorite foods, which include beetles, caterpillars, spiders and scorpions.

They will also eat small reptiles, birds, eggs, fruit and plants. Back at the burrow, several babysitters stay behind to watch over newborn pups. This duty rotates to different members of the mob, and a sitter will often go all day without food. The babysitters' main job is to protect pups from meerkats in rival mobs who, if given the chance, will kill the babies. Eeek!

While the rest of the mob forages for food, one of the meerkats (or sometimes more), called a sentry, will find a high point, like a termite mound, and perch on its back legs. From here it scans the sky and desert for predators such as eagles, hawks and jackals. A sentry who senses danger will let out a high-pitched squeal, sending the mob scrambling for cover.

Meerkats dig safe places called bolt holes throughout their foraging area, where they can hide in an emergency. But if caught in the open by a predator, a meerkat will try to look fierce, lying on its back and showing its teeth and claws. If a group is confronted, the meerkats will stand together, arching their backs, raising their hair and hissing. This sometimes fools an attacker into thinking they are a single large, vicious animal.

Meerkats are abundant throughout their range and are not considered threatened or endangered. But they live a very difficult life in the African desert, constantly threatened by hungry predators, rival meerkats, drought and burrow-flooding rainstorms.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/general-animals/meerkat-facts/>

Announcements:

- ✓ Youth will be singing at Morningside this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. Robert Martin's will be hosting them for lunch at the Schoolhouse.
- ✓ This Evening: Free Evening
- ✓ Wednesday Evening: Prison Service (Annex) 4:00 PM.
- ✓ Church Social Thurs. Eve. 6:30 P.M.
- ✓ School devotions this week by: Robert Martin
- ✓ Out of State Correspondence this week by: Louis & Susan

~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES ~

Happy Birthday! Jan. 13, Lois Wagler 1992

2020 A YEAR OF PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION(?)

Have you arrived at 2020 hoping this will be a year of personal transformation? At the start of such a journey, it's crucial to know who you already are and to take into account who you most definitely are not. The late Catholic devotional writer Henri Nouwen famously presented what he called The Five Lies of Identity: **I am what I have.** If that's true, what happens if you fail to wrap your hands around the right car, the right house, or the right clothes? And what happens when all of your

stuff inevitably begins to slip through your fingers?

I am what I do. This is one of those unyielding lies at the heart of our show-me-your-resume culture. If we buy into it, then losing a job or experiencing the end of a career can feel devastating. Who am I now?

I am what other people say or think of me. Believing the verdicts of co-workers, neighbors, social media followers – and even those who have pledged their love to us – is to risk surrendering our identity to people who cannot possibly know who we really are.

I am nothing more than my worst moment. If so, then you will be tortured all your life by your biggest blunder. You may have made a grievous mistake. But that doesn't mean that you, at the center of your being, are a grievous mistake.

I am nothing less than my best moment. At the other end of the spectrum, you are not the highlight reel of your life that you post on Facebook.

If we are incapable of accurately discerning our own value, and must never grant other people the power to define our lives, how can we know our true identity? St. Francis of Assisi said it well: "I am who I am in the sight of God. Nothing more, nothing less."

How do we know who we are in the sight of God? In one jaw-dropping text (Ephesians 1:3-14), which is actually a single run-on sentence in the original Greek, the apostle Paul offers a glimpse. All those who have abandoned themselves to Jesus have been blessed, chosen, predestined, spiritually adopted, redeemed, forgiven, included in God's family, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. "Predestined" means that God knew you and loved you even before you were you.

There will be moments this year in which everything goes to pieces. But as author Caron Loveless observes, you don't have to be one of them. We can know that our identities, no matter what we have to face, will remain absolutely whole.

For the simple reason that God says so.

<https://emailministry.org/2020-a-year-of-personal-transformation-e-mail-ministry/>

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.