



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

January 3, 2017

Devotional:----- James Yoder

Message:----- Henry Nissley

Offering:----- Missions

Re-Organization

SS Lesson for next week: Revelation 20

Adult and Youth Verse for next week: And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:15

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Skating on Thin Ice

At midnight on New Year's Eve, the Wagner family always walked to ice-covered Pine Lake, where they would bring in the New Year under the stars as they tossed glow sticks into the air.

But this year Aiden was in a grumpy mood. Three times that day his dad had told him to do something, and even though Aiden eventually got around to listening, his father had not been happy with his hesitation.

"You're skating on thin ice, Aiden," Dad said. He said that a lot when Aiden was about to get in big trouble.

Now at midnight Aiden dashed onto the frozen lake. "We're here!"

"Stay close," Dad warned. "The weather has been unusually warm. The area around the dock is especially unstable because of the heat from the underwater plants growing there."

Aiden threw his glow sticks in the air. Immediately the blue one skidded across the ice toward the dock area. He knew Dad had warned him about the dock area, but it was so close...

Suddenly he heard the ice crack beneath him, and he was in the water. "Help! Help!" Aiden screamed. The water was freezing, and he was sure he was going to drown.

"Put your feet down!" called Dad. "You should be able to touch bottom."

Aiden did and was surprised to discover the water only came to his waist.

"Here." Dad took off his coat and threw it to Aiden, still holding on to one of the sleeves. "Grab hold."

Soon Aiden was back on solid ground. They ran back to the house, where Mom wrapped him in blankets.

"I'm sorry, Dad," said Aiden once he'd stopped shivering. "If I'd listened to you and not gone on the thin ice..." His voice trailed off.

"You wouldn't have fallen into the lake," Dad finished for him. "But you were on thin ice earlier in the day, too, remember?"

"You mean when I didn't obey you right away when you told me to do something?"

Dad nodded. "Maybe it didn't seem like a big deal to you at the time, but it was a sin. And sin always leads to trouble, no matter how small it may seem."

- Linda Weddle

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you like to skate on thin ice? Do you see how close you can get to doing something wrong without getting in trouble? The Bible tells us if we know what the right thing to do is but don't do it, we're sinning—and sin always leads to trouble. Stay far away from sin by refusing to do what you know is wrong—and by choosing to do what you know is right.

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: James 4:17 (KJV) Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

<http://www.keysforkids.org/For-Kids/Keys-for-Kids/Read-Listen>

Announcements:

- This Evening: Open Evening
- School resumes Tuesday, January 3rd.
- Sister's Sewing Tuesday. Hotdish: Elmina & Edith; Salad: Elsie & Pauline; Dessert: Heidi & Mary K.
- Brotherhood Meeting Tuesday evening at 7:00.
- Wednesday Evening: Prison Service (Northwest) 5:30 PM.
- Out of state correspondence this week by Everett Yoders
- 2017 Church calendars are here! Get yours on the table in the foyer.

New Year Begins Any Time

One November we ordered a new automobile, which did not arrive until the new year. As we cleaned out the old car, I muttered, "How did we accumulate so much junk?" We sorted through old maps, dried-up ballpoint pens, outdated addresses and loose coins.

We made unwavering resolutions about keeping this new car clean, orderly and functioning properly. Thinking about resolutions, I sensed a connection between a new car and a new year. The first order of business is to clear out the clutter, discard the useless, remove the dust and dirt. Begin fresh!

A new year can begin anytime in our lives. We can sort through old attitudes, clean our minds of envy, toss out the habits of gossip and carrying grudges. We can resolve to keep our promises and curb our anger.

I stood back and surveyed the fresh, shiny car. Yes, a new year could begin anytime or any place. A lot of things from the past need discarding. Things we collect that are of no more value or usefulness need to be trashed. Paul wrote, "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds" (Col. 3: 8-9).

It is amazing how a brand new car changes your life. None of the old squeaks, rattles and knocks. Cruising down the road in a brand new auto is a delight. So is the journey ahead, if we can truly forget things in the past and press on to greater things.

http://www.vscoc.org/Bulletinfdr/new_year_begins_any_time.htm

"There is no safe investment. To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything, and your heart will certainly be wrung and possibly be broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact, you must give your heart to no one, not even to an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements; lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket – safe, dark, motionless, airless – it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. The alternative to tragedy, or at least to the risk of tragedy, is damnation. The only place outside Heaven where you can be perfectly safe from all the dangers and perturbations of love is Hell."

– C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves