

Going to the Next Level

You are encouraged to read verses before and after the selected passages.

Sunday: Matthew 27:11-50 Jesus suffered and died for your salvation.

Monday: Philippians 3:8-15 Breaking with the past.

Tuesday: 1 Peter 4:1-19 Living for Jesus may mean suffering.

Wednesday: Psalm 39 Gaining a perspective on life.

Thursday: Matthew 26:39, 42 Not my will, but the will of the Father be done!

Friday: Isaiah 53 The prophecy of the Savior's suffering.

Saturday: Acts 4:8-12 No other name than Jesus by which you can be saved.

This week's memory verse

NIV Philippians 3:10-11 *I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

How To Prepare For Taking Communion - Implications of the Resurrection *Examining Your Heart* –

The passage which deals with the Lord's Supper in 1 Corinthians gives a little more insight into what our attitude should be during Communion. Paul mentions that the Lord's Supper should not be taken unworthily. This is new insight that is not included in the gospel accounts. There are many explanations as to what Paul meant by this, but they all center around taking Communion with a clear conscience before God and remembering the great sacrifice of Christ for our salvation.

Dealing With Sin

When preparing to take the Lord's Supper we need to confess our sin to the Lord. Take time before the Communion service and examine your life to make sure there is nothing hindering your fellowship with God.

Communion is a celebration for Christians. Therefore, ensure that you are a child of God. Have you accepted Christ as your Savior? If you know you are saved, then participating in the Lord's Supper is an appropriate activity. If you are not saved, then please take care of that today.

Though you are saved, you may still have unconfessed sin in your life. You should deal with that before the Communion service. Christians have been forgiven by God from the punishment of their sins. However, not acknowledging your sin and confessing it to God will cause a lack of fellowship between you and the Lord.

Beyond causing you to feel less connected with the Lord, living with unconfessed sin goes against Paul's warning of taking the Lord's Supper unworthily. Christ sacrificed His life for your salvation. You acknowledged that when you got saved. It is honoring to Him and His sacrifice when you confess your sin and keep a clean account with God.

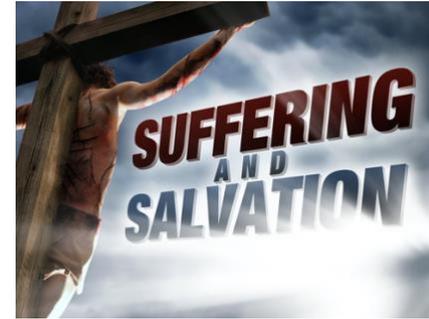
David Peach. Read more: <http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/how-to-prepare-for-taking-communion>

Sermon Series: Journey to the Cross: How the last hours of Jesus life can change yours.

Speaker: Dr. Bill Patterson

April 10, 2020

Sermon Notes
Matthew 27:11-50



Big Idea: In becoming like Jesus in his sufferings, we also experience the power of his resurrection in our lives.

Praying God's Word ~ Matthew 27

Pray as it pertains to your life, then for the life of KEFC.

- Tell God you want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.
- Pray and work to have the same attitude Jesus had. (1 Peter 4:1)
- Tell God you are ready to take risks for him. (Only if it is true.)
- Ask God for wisdom to know when to be silent and when to speak.
- Ask God to help you understand the biblical concept of suffering for the sake of serving Jesus.
- Ask God that his will be done in your/KEFC life.

Studying the Bible without applying it is like being starved, sitting down to a great meal, but not eating it.

Most who call themselves Christians in North America, suffer less from a lack of biblical knowledge than from biblical exercise (application).

Read this week's memory verse.

The statement: *to know Christ and the power...* refers to more than just intellectual understanding. It also includes experiencing the reality of what is being sought, having it become part of one's life.

How are you preparing yourself to know (understand, experience and live) the reality of Jesus' resurrection power and suffering?

(Part of the answer has to lay with personal surrender to the Father, so His Holy Spirit can live and work through us.)

Can you give an example of how personal surrender to God is happening in your life or the life of KEFC?

Learning from Jesus' Silence

How can you develop the wisdom to know when to speak, what to say and when to be quiet?

Why was Jesus quiet in this situation?

Learning from Jesus' Suffering

Why do we as North Americans tend to downplay or ignore the issue of suffering for Jesus?

(Note 1: The Bible would not support the practice of some where they inflict pain on themselves. Suffering is a by-product of living for Jesus, it is not a means by which one earns their salvation.) (Note 2: The issue of suffering for Jesus is distinct from suffering due to physical or emotional illness or distress.)

How can ignoring the issue of suffering for Christ damage a church?

Jesus models the truth that we must seek the will of the Heavenly Father. (Matthew 26:39, 42 please read)

Why do we move to the realm of sin when we take personal desires and make them into demands?

How might the attitude: *It's not about me*, change the atmosphere at KEFC? (KEFC = Keep Everyone Focused on Christ)

Take time to recognize and confess the times you have sought your personal desires instead of God's will.

Learning from Jesus' Sacrifice

What might God be leading you to sacrifice for the sake of building His kingdom?