

# Community of Grace

## DAILY WALK WEEK OF MAY 9, 2022

The Promise Given: To All People

Written by Kerri Lawton

**Monday, May 9, 2022**

John 10:29-30: "What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." Jesus proclaims his Father has given him something far greater than life itself. He was sent to fulfill God's promise and to restore our faith in Him. The love he bestows is felt within each of us, and only faith can heal us. I was at a summer camp in my early teens. We had moved from a town I loved and summer camp was my opportunity to see several friends I had left behind. But my mom had scheduled me for the wrong session, so there I was, alone without close friends. I cried for them to let me come home, but my parents assured me things would be OK. The things I accomplished on my own those weeks, making new friends and accepting my fate, helped to make it a most memorable summer. I learn to trust myself and follow my heart. We grow in faith and strengthen by trusting in our Father above, who will never leave our sides. Prayer: God on High, what you give to us, through your devoted Son, can never be taken. Grant us peace, knowing the strength of your promises and never ending love always. Amen

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022**

Psalms 23:5-6: "You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies, you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long." The Lord prepares a place for each of us, through his promises of eternal life. We can't deny the goodness we feel when we feel the presence of God. I attended the wedding for a niece of mine recently. We not only witnessed the devotion of love between them but felt it deeply. He has two young boys who simply adore her and

she is devoted to them as well. They had a "knotting" ceremony during the service. On a painted board, they braided 3 cords of rope together. Each cord representing him, her and God, intertwining them together. The rope has now become stronger together, than each single cord alone. For "all of the days of my life" I cherish the love and mercy he offers, strengthen by his good works, as He intertwines with me "my whole life long." Prayer: Praise to you O Lord, for the promises you give; assuring us that you are in control, strengthening faith and hopefulness. We pray that goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives. Amen

The Promise Given: A New Day

Written by Trudy Hanson

**Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

*Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' Acts 11:1-9* My husband loves the GPS. One day we were on our way to a place we had never been, and the GPS was taking us on weird routes and I kept saying...this

# Community of Grace

## DAILY WALK

isn't right! His response was it will get us there...so we saw a whole new part of North Georgia. At one point it took us on a gravel road that the trees got deeper and thicker, there were no houses but there were a lot of remnants of someone living there years ago. As the road turned into just tire ruts, we came to an old wooden bridge that looked abandoned for centuries so with no way to turn around we slowly made our way across the bridge. My husband finally admitted, JUST MAYBE, the GPS was wrong. Then we made our way out of the woods and in front of us we saw the paved road with a sign directing us to our destination. After we got there Tim had to immediately look into the GPS to find out what went wrong. He found the GPS had the right destination, but it had gotten set on the shortest route, not the best route. We both looked at each other understanding why. We question all the time. Especially when it is different from how we have always done something or how we have been told they are done. In our verses today Peter is telling the apostles the vision that he had had. He told them step by step, but the apostles kept saying no, no that can't be right, that isn't the way we have always done it. And then he told them what the Lord had said, **'What God has made clean, you must not call profane'** and the apostles understood. Trust in the Lord our God and hear him when he calls. Prayer: Dear Lord, we sometimes question and go our own ways thinking they are right only to find we have lost our way. Help us to hear your word and follow your commands. Amen

Thursday, May 12, 2022

*And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit". If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I*

*could hinder God? When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying "then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.*

*Acts 11:16-18* In these verses, God is changing how his followers think so that they can go out and spread the gospel to more people. But they were resisting because it so different than what they believed. We have all had that moment when someone or something changes. We **do not** like change. Once we learn something we stay with it no matter what... and NO ONE is going to change our mind.... Then someone comes along and says, *But*, you could do it this way....your response is NO! THIS HOW WE DO IT!! Period.... period...period...period....not changing....but then you are shown step by step a different way to do it. At each step you watch, with each sentence you listen and then, with resistance, you are encouraged to try the new way. When you have finished...still a little resistance.... You have to admit....maybe...it is better...then a light bulb goes off and you accept the new way is better and change forever how you think and do it. We are constantly being asked to change, to see things differently and do things differently. Most of the time the change is good and leads you to acceptance. When the Apostles heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God and Peter tells how the Spirit is leading the Gentiles to faith. This helps those who believe in Jesus Christ to drop their objections and accept Gentiles into the fellowship of believers. **When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying "then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.** Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to hear when you call so that we may spread the good news to all who will hear. Amen

# Community of Grace

## DAILY WALK

Friday, May 13, 2022

***Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.— Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him, Praise the Lord! Psalm 148*** This Psalm is so joyous! It reminds us of all that we have been given in this life....It's overwhelming when you take the time to look and reflect on what has been created just for us from the Heavens to the Earth! The Angels that are all around us that catch us when we fall and bring us back to him.....they are God's creation. The nights that we gaze up and see the bright Moon shining down on us and the days that we shield our eyes from the bright Sun that gives us light and warmth...that is God's Creation. Sitting on a boat in the middle of a clear blue lake feeling the rolling of the water...that is God's Creation. In the winter we can watch the snowflakes fall and see they are all different.....that is God's Creation. When the storms come and the wind blows

that is all God's creation. When we look out from the top of a mountain we see the beauty of rolling hills and valleys....it is all God's creation. In our back yard we see animals and birds, Bugs and worms.... all created by God for us. Then there is all the people, not just those in charge but young and old, women and men, and children of all ages...these are all God's Creation. Everywhere you look, every scent you smell, whatever movement you can feel. God has created it just for you. We must raise our voices and Praise the Lord for all that he has created just for us. Prayer: Heavenly Father, we sing your Praises and shout from the Mountain top giving thanks for all you have created...just for us. Amen

Saturday, May 14, 2022

***Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:1-5*** I read through these verses and am amazed at God's plan and his never-ending love for us. From the beginning we as his children have made mistakes and because of our sins we have wandered farther and farther away from where he has always intended us to be. But he still loves us. When the verses start out my first response is fear to see that the first heaven and earth have

# Community of Grace

## DAILY WALK

passed away...now what? But he goes on to say that he has created a new heaven and earth for us where he will also be. His love becomes even more evident when he tells of his plan for what is to come. With his kindness and love he describes the new place we are to go to be with him. He tells us that he will take care of us. He will wipe every tear. There will be Death no more, no mourning or crying. No pain. He wants us to know that he has created a place that is all new and his last words are instructions, something that we need to pay attention to: **“Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true”**. When he says to write it down it is important for you to know and to remember that God has promised to make a new heaven and earth for you and I and all who are in Christ Jesus. Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for loving us so much that you would forgive our sins and make a new place to live with you for eternity. Amen

**Sunday, May 15, 2022**

***Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.***

***Revelations 21:6*** This one verse says it all. God has been with us from the very beginning. He created us and built a place for us. He taught us along the way, he was there when we were afraid. He stood by us as we cried. He held us up when we had no strength to go on. He brought people into our lives when we needed them. He was waiting for us with open arms when we took a wrong path. He was there for every tear. He was there when you called to him. He was there when you needed comfort. He has always been there cheering you on and giving you strength and courage. He was always there when you needed him the most. He was there at your beginning, and he will be there

waiting for you at the end. **It is done! He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. Rejoice in it.** Prayer: Heavenly Father, Thank you for all that you have done all that is to come. Amen