

# Community of Grace

DAILY WALK WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 2022

Faith in Action: Keep Running the Race!

Written by Vicar Jared Fischer

**Monday, August 15, 2022**

“He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.” (Luke 1:51-55) In this song of praise by Mary the mother of Jesus, we are reminded that God fulfills His promises to us without exception. The gospel is one of those promises. One of the promises that we know will always be upheld, that our sins are forgiven, because God has made it so through Christ. There is no renegotiating! We are saved by grace through faith alone by the blessing of Christ Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. This is the gospel of hope. The gospel of a future that has already been written and will forever be upheld by God. Both the mighty and the meek have received the gift of love, forgiveness, and mercy. Prayer. “Good and gracious God, we give thanks and praise for your constant love and loyalty. As we sin against you, we break our covenant with you but you still hold fast to your covenant with us! Thanks and praise to you God from an undeserving humanity. Amen.”

**Tuesday, August 16, 2022**

“Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.” (Psalm 32:5-7) We all make mistakes. It unfortunately is part of the deal with being a sinful human. Since creation we have been doomed to be sinful, to make mistakes, to blunder, and to offend. But despite all of this, God has forgiven us. Through Jesus Christ we are saved. We never do enough to earn forgiveness. We could not possibly succeed in the task! But still, through God’s power and His ultimate love, we are saved. When you find yourself sinning, pray. When you find someone has sinned against you, pray. When you have been forgiven, pray. Remember always God in your heart and do your best to emulate the infinite love that He has shown us. Prayer. “Good and gracious God, we give thanks and praise for your infinite love. We pray for understanding and patience as you allow us to navigate our transgressions and sinful nature among one another. Amen.”

Faith in Action: Day of New Beginnings

Written by Pastor Jim Nelson

**Wednesday, August 17th**

Isaiah 58:9b-14 “Life”

Pastor Jim Nelson Wanted to share a quote by Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe for our daily Walk for today. “Nine requisites for contented living: Health enough to make work a pleasure. Wealth enough to support your needs. Strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them. Grace enough to confess your sins and forsake them. Patience enough to toil un-

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til some good is accomplished. Charity enough to see some good in your neighbor. Love enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others. Faith enough to make real the things of God. Hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future.” Prayer: Dear Lord when we call for help you always reply here I am. Thank you for being with us in the moments and teaching us to find contented living through you.

### **Thursday, August 18th**

Psalm 103:1-8 “Love”

Pastor Jim Nelson Wanted to share a quote by Philip James Bailey for our daily Walk for today. “Ask Not of Me, Love, What Is Love? Ask What Is Good of God Above; Ask of The Great Sun What Is Light; Ask What Is Darkness of The Night; Ask Sin of What May Be Forgiven; Ask What Is Happiness of Heaven; Ask What Is Folly of The Crowd; Ask What Is Fashion of The Shroud; Ask What Is Sweetness of Thy Kiss; Ask of Thyself What Beauty Is.” Prayer: Dear Lord you are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. Help us to share that love with our neighbors both near and far.

### **Friday, August 19th**

Hebrews 12:12-21 “A challenge to be Accepted” by Pastor Jim Nelson

The heart of exhortation is the challenge to victorious in daily living. The readers are encouraged to have proper walk, attitude, and guide. (12:12-13) Proper walk: Circumstance tend to bring the believers are to assist the limping Christian so that they may be healed.(12:14-15) Proper attitude: There are three relationships given in this passage. The individual must seek

to have peace with other people. He must stay aware of the grace of God and he must Protect himself from bitterness. (12:16-21) Proper guide: You may be guided by fleshly impulse, as was Esau; or you may follow the way of the “spiritual mount” as did Moses. Prayer: Dear Lord Help me to keep my eyes on you and except the challenge to be the person you see in me.

### **Saturday, August 20th**

Hebrews 12:21-29 “A challenge to be Accepted” continued by Pastor Jim Nelson (12:22-27) A city to be experienced: A glimpse of the glorious future of the believer is given in this passage of scripture. (12:22-24) Heavenly Scene: The Heavenly scene is depicted as Mount Zion. There is the city of the living God the heavenly Jerusalem, and an innumerable company of angles. Praise His name! (12:25) Earthly Acceptance: The readers are exhorted to accept this heavenly scene as a future reality. The materialism of the present world clouds future hopes unless Faith in Jesus intervenes. (12:25b-27) Godly Judgment: A warning of God’s Judgment is given to seal the great truths of Christianity in the mind of the recipients. (12:28-29) A beautiful challenge is extended to the believing community for them to serve God Acceptably with reverence and Godly Fear. This exhortation is emphasized by yet another reminder of the awesomeness of God.

Prayer: Dear Lord help me to examine my life so that I do not become discouraged by circumstances, and remember your Grace.

### **Sunday, August 21st**

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Luke 13:10-17 “Upright”

On the seventh day of the week, it is the Sabbath day on the Jewish calendar. This means a day of rest or to stop whatever you are doing. Yet, rest can mean different things to different people. Did it mean to lie down and go to sleep or to stop working? We do know that the rabbis listed thirty-nine things that they could not do on the Sabbath day. Some of these things would seem very strange to us today such as you could not light a fire, clap your hands, jump up and down or visit the sick. In today's lesson, we find Jesus teaching on the Sabbath and he heals a woman who had been looking toward the ground for 18 years. She is now able to walk upright after being healed. Prayer: Dear Lord, guide me each day to be open to your promises and healing and grace and love. Help me to remember to keep doing your work even when it may be challenging. Amen.