

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

April, 2022

The Truth, and Nothing but the Truth

TRUTHFULNESS

Kids Definition of truthful: Telling, or being, in the habit of telling facts, or making statements that are true. Fullness: The quality, or state, of being filled completely, or to utmost capacity.

Have you ever seen the movie A Few Good Men with Jack Nicholson and Tom Cruise? The part where Colonel Jessup is on the stand and Tom said, "I want the truth! Then Colonel Jessup (Jack Nicholson) yelled, "You can't handle the truth!"

In my mind that statement makes me think of all the people that don't go to church, or won't go to church, or even the non-believers. Could it be because they don't think God can handle the truth about them, or maybe they don't want to know the truth about God, because that might cause them to have to change their ways?

John 3:19-21 ¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

We know God can handle the truth because he is the truth, as Jesus stated to Thomas in:

John 14:5-7 ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

So not *just* the truth, but the way and the life.

Another thing that came to mind, when thinking about the word "Truthfulness," was that thing they have you do before you go up on the witness stand in courts. I don't know if they still do that, but it was always something in the back of my mind. They have you put one hand up, and the other hand on the Bible and say, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?" I often wondered why they would do that unless they knew that person was a Christian, a true believer. If they aren't Christian, and don't know God, what is the point? They might as well have them put their hand on the "Green Eggs & Ham" book, and the other hand on their head. We know they will do, or say, anything for their own benefit.

Proverbs 14:25 ²⁵A truthful witness saves lives, but a false witness is deceitful.

Proverbs 12: 19 ¹⁹Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

I think we as Christians need to be that witness on the stand every day, to show the truthfulness of God to those that don't know him. And I found some good Scriptures that help simplify it, at least for me.

Ephesians 5:8-9 ⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord.

Paul writing to Timothy :

1 Timothy 2:1-6 ¹I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful

(Continued on next page)

and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

1 Timothy 3:14-15 ¹⁴ Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵ if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Zechariah 8:16-17 ¹⁶ These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts; ¹⁷ do not plot evil against each other, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this," declares the LORD.

John 4:23-24 ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

I know I use a lot of Scripture in my articles, but I can't help it, because Scripture explains more about truthfulness than I could in my own words.

One thing I learned when I was much younger: it was always better for me to tell the truth, than to lie, mainly because I had such a bad memory that I couldn't remember the lies I told, and seemed to get caught all the time. I also know it is much easier for me to remember the truth than a lie, because the truth is real, and a lie is made up.

One last thing I just thought of. Do you remember that

commercial from State Farm with the girl that tells the guy, "They can't put anything on the internet that isn't true." He asks her, "Where did you hear that?" She said "The internet." Then her internet super model shows up. If you believe everything on the internet is true, then I have some ocean front property in Arkansas for sale real cheap. I would have said Arizona but I heard it off the internet that he sold it. That is why we need to know the truth from the *source* of the truth, God.

James 1:16-18 ¹⁶ Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created.

Ephesians 4:14-16 ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

1 Peter 1:22-23 ²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

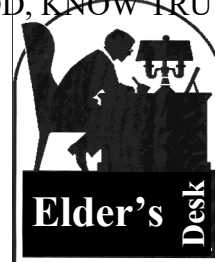
Psalms 15: 1-5 ¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? ² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart.

1 John 3:18 ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

I hope you are filled to capacity with Truth.

Your humble servant in Christ,
Ted Gehman

No God, No Truth!
KNOW GOD, KNOW TRUTH!



Connect

Published by:

Sunny Place Church of God

901 E Oak St, Addison IL 60101

Church Office (630) 530-1830

Editor: Lynn Drury

Senior Pastor: Peter Weber

Treasurer: Glenda Kasza

Elders: Sam Jacob, President
Phyllis Clark, Vice President
Nona Koivula, Secretary
Ted Gehman, Director
Erik Wiechering, Director

TLC

Together Loving Christ

Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

Join with us in our Adult Study Group Via Zoom every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

Grow in the Word!



Sunny Place Church is open for Sunday Morning Services

We are happy to announce that the COVID-19 policy at Sunny Place has come to an end. The level of risk has lowered significantly to the point where we can allow masks to be optional. There will also be no social distancing limits or roped off pews.

We are grateful to God for taking us through this unusual and challenging ordeal. He has kept us safe and provided for us in many ways so that we could continue in worship and ministry throughout the entire fourteen plus months.

We will continue using Zoom for some waiting to finish getting vaccinated or transitioning to in-person activity. If not vaccinated and have not had COVID-19, we recommend you wear a mask. But the decision is up to you.

Our Sunday Morning Worship Services and Mid-Week meetings, are also being held on Zoom. Please send us an email with your name and contact information to: sunnyplacecog@gmail.com to request a link to be sent to you

Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Elders Minutes of Meeting held March 2, 2022

Attended by Pastor Pete Weber, Phyllis Clark, Erik Wiechering, Ted Gehman, Glenda Kasza, Sam Jacob and Nona Koivula

Prayer and Devotion: "I am the LORD; that is my name!
I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols. See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.
Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth" *Isaiah 42: 8-10*

Ministry Reports:

Treasurer: Budgeted Bank Balance \$1,673,57; Giving \$8,171.25; Expenses \$11,856.86; FP \$815

Worship & Prayer: Wednesday Worship will be March 16 in the Weber home. All are invited. Jesus is growing the Prayer Ministry. Margaret Gigous sends urgent Prayer requests. Ruth, Twinkie and Nona follow up with prayer requests to learn if the prayer has been answered. A new effort will be to contact people who are on our prayer list and do not attend Sunny Place.

Christian Education & Fellowship: Pastor Pete said Jacob Garcia will be the new Christian Education team leader. He will plan a CE/Fellowship Ministry meeting in the near future. Erik Wiechering is the Elder liaison to this Ministry.

Pastoral Care & Encouragement: Sam reported there was a ministry meeting last month to begin plans for the October 2 celebration. Pastoral counseling is available by contacting Sam. Cards and flowers were sent to people during their illness or hospitalization.

Outreach & Missions: The Outreach Ministry is planning speakers for the Saturday Senior Lunches. Phyllis said there is a definite need for a new commercial chair lift. The ministry is planning a fundraiser to begin in July. Erik voiced an idea to place a large container at the bottom of the stairway with a sign "change for change" donations for a new chairlift. Also to mention the need and a future fundraiser at the next Senior luncheon. Phyllis said the theme for the Missions Fest to be held the first Sunday in May will be "A Heart for the Harvest." She is communicating to find one of the missionaries we support to be the guest speaker.

Stewardship & Support Services: Ted reported that there was a problem with one of the furnaces and it has been repaired. He said the team wants to schedule a church workday in the near future to fix or repair projects at Sunny Place.

New and Old Business:

- Pastor Pete is encouraging all people to resume in-person worship at Sunny Place. This includes resuming church dinners in Fellowship Hall, in-person meetings and other activities.
- The Church of God Regional Conference will be June 21-23 in Anderson IN. Anyone interested in attending should contact Pastor Pete.
- There will be an Elders and Ministry Team Leaders dedication during the Worship Service Sunday March 27.

Next Elders meeting Saturday April 16, location TBA



Save The Date!!!
April 30th—May 1st

MISSION FEST BEGINS

“A Heart for the Harvest”



Sunny Place Church — April Events

2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon

Saturday, April 9th,
11:30 a.m.

at Sunny Place Church

Come be our guest for food, great speakers and activities. Free event for Seniors 55 & up. Space is limited so register now at 630/398-2314



“Good Friday Service And Communion”

April 15th, 6:30 p.m.
Refreshments and
fellowship will follow.



WORSHIP WEDNESDAY

April 20th, 6:00 p.m.
at Sam & Ann Jacob's home

There will be games, food brought and shared from the group, worship music, Bible study & prayer. Please let them know if you plan on attending.



Adult Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

“Jesus’ Teaching for the Blessed”

A Study of the Sermon on the Mount.

Led by Pastor Pete

Sunday Worship Services, 10:45 a.m.

In-person and on Zoom

7:00 p.m.



“Jesus and the Kingdom of God”

A Study of What Jesus said
about the Kingdom

Led by Pastor Pete

7:00 p.m. In Person and on Zoom

Our Sunday Worship Services, and Thursday night Bible Study will be held at the scheduled times. If you would like to join us for a service or study via ZOOM, send an email with your name and contact information to: sunnyplacecog@gmail.com to request a link to be sent to you. You can also listen to the audio sermons, within a few days afterwards, by selecting either version on: sunnyplacechurch.org/resources/audio-sermons.