



Weekly Booster

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Craig Harris,

Facebook Contributors

Pastor David B. Clark,
Barb Cunningham,
Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,
Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,
Jeff Hiser, Jodi Anderzhon



Fear and Anxiety

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline. – 2 Timothy 1:7

Paul's words to Timothy are equally God's words to you. He has given each one of us a spirit of "power, love and self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7). Therefore, we never should respond to circumstances or people in fear because we have the power of God living within us — the very power that dispels all fear and anxiety.

1. Ask for God's help.

When fear strikes, immediately ask for God's help. Tap into his power and allow him to encourage your heart. Remember when Peter tried to walk on the water to Jesus, but his fear overcame him (Matthew 14:30)? When he found himself in trouble and fear — sinking in the sea — he had the right response. He asked for God's help. "Lord, save me!" This is your best first response any time you feel fearful.

2. Ask the Lord to fill your heart with a sense of his abiding love.

Love is a powerful antidote to fear. God's love has the ability to eliminate it. I remember the first time I preached in my home church. I was young and had a "fear attack."

Continued page 2

“Spring forward with the Lord so you won’t fall back into sin.”

Reminders

February 22nd-April 6th
Lent Season

March 11th

Men’s Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

March 12th

NO

Youth, Jr/Sr Sunday School
Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
HS Youth Group – 7:00 p.m.

March 15th

Encountering the New Testament
Study with Pastor David - Noon
Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
Choir – 6:45 p.m.

March 16th

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.
Creating Momentum Through
Effective Leadership Workshop
6:00 p.m.

****Worship Assistants are needed
for March 19th & 26th**

**** Fellowship Volunteers needed
sign-up in Fellowship Hall**



Fear & Anxiety - Continued from page 1

I felt the people would expect more from me than a group of strangers might expect. So what helped me? I read the words of the Lord to Joshua in Joshua 1:5 – 9, and then I turned my focus to the people of my home church. I felt overwhelmed by how much I loved them and how they had loved me through the years. By the time I stood in the pulpit, the fear had completely drained out of me. John tells us, “There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear” (1 John 4:18). Ask your heavenly Father to impart to you more of Christ’s love and to take away any torment you feel. As you do, fear will lose its grip on you.

3. Ask God to give you a sound mind, filled with and operating according to God’s Word.

The basis for a sound mind is the Word of God. The more you know of God’s promises and the more you live according to his commandments, the greater your strength to withstand fear. Use Scripture to speak directly to the source of your fear, just as Jesus quoted Scripture to Satan during his time of temptation in the wilderness (Luke 4:1 – 13).

When you feel gripped by fear, turn your gaze to Jesus, redirect your heart to his love, speak to your fear from the Word of God, and then respond boldly to the situation. The Lord’s desire is for you to “be strong and very courageous” today (Joshua 1:7).

Adapted from the NIV Charles F. Stanley Life Principles Bible. NIV Weekly Blog, HarperCollins Christian Publishing. All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, February 22, 2022

Don’t be late for Sunday morning service!



*“Leadership is action,
not position.”*

Volunteers Needed



Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High**
Sunday School 10:15
Questers (Adults) 10:30

****Chancel Choir –**
 Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.
 Sunday 8:30 a.m.

The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and lunch.

Monday
 9:00-11:00
 12:00-3:00

Tuesday
 9:00-11:00
 12:00-3:00

Wednesday
CLOSED

Thursday
 9:00-11:00
 12:00-3:00

Friday
 9:00-11:00
 12:00-3:00

Please continue to call in advance if you need in the church to make sure someone is in the office. If you reach the answering machine please leave your name, number, and a brief message and your call will be returned. Calls after 2:00 p.m. may be returned the next business day.



Soldiers brought him water at the cost of a fight, which he poured out for God. Who was he?

- a) David
- b) Elijah
- c) Solomon
- d) Elisha

How many trees were there in the middle of the garden of Eden?

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) 3
- d) 4

Who was Boaz?

- a) a worthy man
- b) a relative of Naomi's husband
- c) man of the clan of Elimelech
- d) All of the above

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



14th – Jenna Burdorf
 16th – Jena Bowers, John Williams
 18th – Jon Skillern

****See a wrong birthday or anniversary, or need one added, please call the office, or send an email to office@shen.church**

**Shenandoah First United
Methodist Church**

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Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail
office@shen.church

Same address – a new look at
<https://shen.church>



<https://shenchurch.onechurchsoftware.com/>



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

<https://www.facebook.com/methodist.church.shenandoah>



Services are now on our Youtube
channel only.

<https://www.youtube.com/@shen.church8192/streams>

***Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: Terry Stafford**

Call to Worship

Leader: Love others well

People: We will love authentically

L: Despise evil

P: We will pursue what is good

L: Live in true devotion to one another

P: We will honor others by putting them first

L: We are a people who live the gospel and do no harm

P: We are a people who do good.

“People of God Who Do Good”

Old Testament Reading:

New Testament Reading:

Gospel Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Songs

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #384

Chain Breaker (Screens)

The Gift of Love #408

Together We Serve #2175

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship - 68

Online Worship – 20

Our Mission:

“Know & Serve God by Sharing Christ's Love.”

Our Vision:

“We will grow in holiness, our community will thrive, & we will make a difference in our world.”

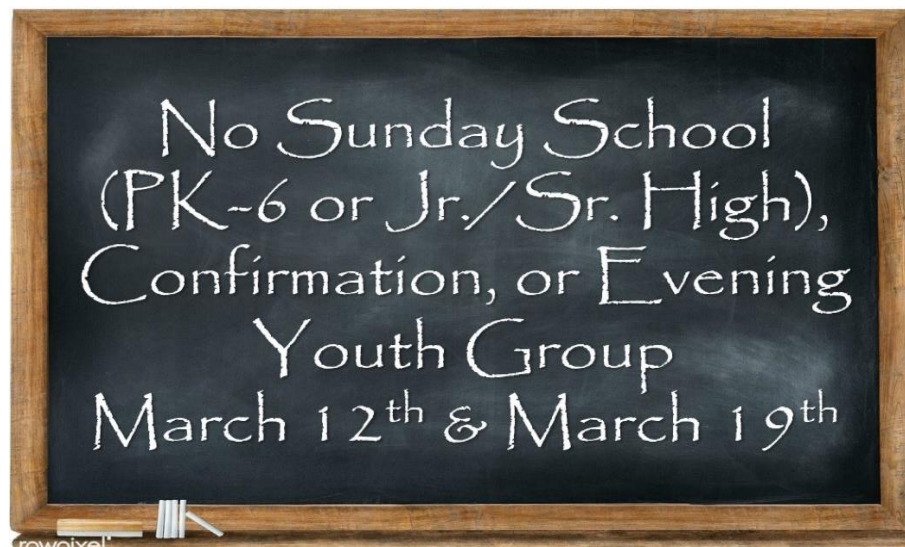
Answers for March 5th are d) Sun a) Gomer c) Pharaoh's daughter.

Quiz Hints – Q1) 2 Samuel Q2) Genesis Q3) Ruth



St. John's Episcopal Church, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, the First Congregational Church, and the First Presbyterian Church of Shenandoah will host their 7th Soup Cook-off fundraiser for Heifer International. This will take place at the First Presbyterian Church (Clarinda Ave) today, March 12th beginning at 5:00 pm. Anyone may bring a crock-pot of soup or chili or go and enjoy the soups. This is a free-will donation and people will be able to vote for your favorite soups. A prize will be awarded for the soup that raises the most money. If you can't attend but still want to support this fundraiser you may write a check and send it to First Presbyterian Church, 200 W. Clarinda Ave, Shenandoah, IA 51601.

**Do no harm.
Do good.
Love God.**



What Is the Key to a Life Well Lived?



Like almost all of Jesus' inner circle, Simon Peter was executed for what he believed. About Jesus.

Of all the disciples, I guess I identify most with Peter. Maybe not as outwardly brash as this guy, but I'm every bit as impetuous. Sometimes leading with my mouth rather than my thoughtfulness. Thankfully, the older I've grown, the more successful I've become at controlling myself.

So walk with me to one of the most important conversations Jesus had with this disciple. It took place on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, the home base for many of the disciples.

Except for Judas, we don't know why the remaining disciples were not in this narrative, but we do know that seven of them were there: Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James, John, and two unnamed guys (John 21:2).

As the story unfolds in John 21, the writer cuts to the chase. The result of these fishermen's all-night net casting: "They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing" (verse 3).

Someone might quip that this is the very reason it's called "fishing" and not "catching." But these guys would not have been in the mood for levity. I'm sure of it.

A Crazy Idea

As the morning sun was peeking over the horizon, Jesus shouted from the shoreline something you and I have said to discouraged—and likely angry—fishermen every time they come back from an excursion: "Friends," Jesus hollered out to them, "haven't you any fish?" (John 21:5).

If this doesn't conjure up at least a smile from you and me, we're not paying attention. Here's Jesus Christ. The Creator of Heaven and earth. The One who spoke these men into existence. The One who made the dry land and the sea. The One who made the fish and the water on which the disciples sailed and in which the fish swam. The One who, at that moment, ordered the earth to rotate ever so slightly, exposing the day-breaking

sun so the men in the boat could see the form of a Man standing on the shore. This Man who did all these things asked a question about their success on the lake. As though He didn't know full well how unsuccessful their trip had been.

Seriously?

But when they heard His naive-sounding query, they called back. "No."

Then Jesus threw out an idea that surely was received as pure contempt. The men obeyed anyway. Read it for yourself: "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some" (John 21:6).

Here is a sweet lesson in faith and trust, right in the middle of this story. These seasoned fishermen could have dissed the Rabbi. "What on earth does a holy man know about our trade?"

Jesus told them to try something other than what they had been doing all night. So they did, and they were unable to haul it in because of the large number of fish. John breathlessly exclaimed to Peter, "It is the Lord!" (John 21:7).

Again, let these words sink in. Fishing all night. Nothing to show for it. Throw the nets on the other side? A crazy idea. Then—more fish than they can haul in. Let's call this a miracle. A clear realization that snagging all these fish was anything but ordinary.

After shouting the words, Peter, knowing that only Jesus could have done such a thing, did what we'd expect him to do. He stripped and jumped into the water, swimming like a bandit to see his friend, Jesus, the Miracle Worker, face-to-face.

By the time Peter arrived on the shore, there was a charcoal fire going with a fish already grilling. Don't you just love this part?

Eventually, the disciples joined Peter, dragging and heaving their catch—153 fish . . . "large" ones—onto the shore. These were likely tilapia, and their average weight would have been two pounds each. That's a lot. You do the math.

"Come and have breakfast," Jesus invited. And not only did He have fish they didn't catch, but He also had bread that He tore apart and gave to them. Sounds familiar, doesn't it?

What did the disciples say in the face of this incredible moment? They said nothing. Why? The text tells us: "None of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord" (John 21:12).

At that moment, the sand on the Galilean beach became holy ground. The grains are like precious stones.

Jesus Talks with Simon Peter

Jesus broke the silence and spoke. To Peter. His words must have cut deeply into the heart of this tough man. And as you and I read these words, they may sound like a change of subject. They're not. Listen carefully.

"Simon . . . do you love me more than these?" Jesus asked.

"Yes, Lord. You know that I love you."

"Feed my lambs," Jesus responded.

Then He asked again, "Simon . . . do you love me?"

"Yes, Lord. You know that I love you," Peter said again.

"Take care of my sheep," Jesus said.

Then Jesus went for the trífecta. "Simon . . . do you love me?"

Because of the limitations of the English language, this sounds completely repetitive. But it's not. The first two times, Jesus uses the word *agape* for "love" in asking Peter. This is best defined as perfect, flawless, unending love. Even though Peter responds in the affirmative, he knows better. And he knows that Jesus knows better. Peter's denial on the night Jesus was convicted of something He had not done exposes Peter's flawed love for his Friend.

The third time, Jesus uses a different word for love. He returns to the word Peter uses. Jesus could have said, "I know you can't love Me with a perfect love. But are you My friend?"

Here's another way of looking at this powerful exchange: "Even the best efforts of our human love are but a shadow to the love of God. But holiness is not achieved by our efforts to love—and thank God! True holiness derives from the love of Christ working within us. We can only love at all because he first loved us (1 John 4:19)."

Back on the shore, hunched over the fire, Jesus spoke to Peter. It was just the two of them. We don't know exactly how long it had been since Peter had lied about his relationship with Jesus, standing with strangers in a courtyard outside the place where Jesus was being cross-examined by Caiaphas the high priest (Luke 22:54–62). But it's certain that his lies were front and center in his mind as he and his Friend spoke.

Can you imagine the relief coming from Peter's heart? Finally, he had a chance to speak to the Someone he had so desperately wronged. You and I know this feeling, don't we?

And from Peter's point of view, this would have been a powerful, life-transforming exchange if it had stopped there. But it didn't. Listen carefully.

The Key to a Life Well Lived

Having Peter's undivided attention, Jesus spoke of the eventual crossing of Peter's finish line. To be candid, it does feel like a complete change of the subject.

Jesus continued: "Truly I tell you, when you were younger, you would tie your belt and walk wherever you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will tie you and carry you where you don't want to go. He said this to indicate by what kind of death Peter would glorify God" (John 21:18–19 CSB).

Suddenly you and I realize the importance of this seaside conversation. It's a setup. The miracle of the experiences Peter had just witnessed—his denial, the crucifixion, the empty tomb, the visitation of Jesus in a locked room, the invoking of the power of the Holy Spirit, the failed fishing trip, breakfast on the beach, and the bold challenge of Peter's love and certain death—was all a precursor to Jesus' loving, final prediction. And admonition about Peter's finish line.

Are you ready for it? Am I ready for it? We find Jesus' words to this bold disciple in the nineteenth verse of the narrative. It's all that you and I need to know about the time between now and our predictable and inescapable death. A death that we truly hope, as Jesus promised Peter, would glorify Him: "Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, 'Follow me!' " (21:19).

Here's your assignment, my reader friend. And it's a clear message from Jesus in the years leading up to our deaths. It's for you and me too. For us. Two simple words. Words for this life. And the next.

Follow me.

Adapted from Finish Line: Dispelling Fear, Finding Peace, and Preparing for the End of Your Life by Robert Wolgemuth. Bible Gateway Blog, February 28, 2023



If you are looking for something to do this weekend or next, check out this show at our community theatre, Park Playhouse. Cast members include some of our members, Pastor David, Mace Hensen, and Mike Peterson, and directed by Jeff Hiser. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday, and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday each weekend. Ticket prices are \$17 for Adults, \$15 for 60+, and \$10 for students through 12th grade. Season tickets can be used for this production. Call 712-246-1061 or email switg@switg.org