

Sermon: The Church at Ephesus

April 11, 2021

Scripture: Acts 18:24-19:7

I. Know the difference between religion and \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 18:24-28; Psalm 23

II. The Ephesians believers receive the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. Acts 19:1-7 Romans 8:14-16

III. The church is \_\_\_\_\_bought.  
Acts 20:26-31; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 4:2-4

IV. Jesus review of the church at Ephesus. Revelation 2:1-7

1. What they did well.

2. Jesus accused the church of losing their \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (4)

**Thought for the Day** many Bible scholars have used the expression, there are people who missed heaven by the distance from their head to their heart. What they are really saying is they knew about Jesus but they did not know Jesus personally. When we get saved, we have a new identity. We are now blood bought sons and daughters of the living God. As children of God, we have access to God through prayer, and are offered the blessings of grace. Grace is God giving us the gift of Himself. He helps us realize His presence through the Holy Spirit. The Bible becomes alive, not just words on a page, prayer leads to peace, trials and burdens are easier because He reminds us, He has overcome the world. Grace gifts are offered to us freely. Just like any gift we can't take advantage of the gift unless we receive it and take what is offered. The beauty of the gift of the Holy Spirit is the potential to have that Spirit produce fruit in us. **Galatians 5:22-23**<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,<sup>23</sup> Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. All of us want love, joy and peace. Longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance are all fruits that bless us but they are also tools God can use to produce fruit through us for Him. So we ask ourselves does my heart know what my head knows? People in our world are searching and they can only truly stop searching when they find Jesus. **Pastor Bruce**

What's happening with our Youth Ministry today?

## **Junior Disciples: AM Church Service**

Today we are continuing curriculum called "The Core". Over the next year we'll be learning about the 8 "roots" of discipleship, Apologetics, Community, Identity, Kingdom, Knowledge, Outreach, Rescue and Worship. This week we'll begin our "Kingdom" root. Simply put, the kingdom of God is wherever God is King. It's not a specific place on earth or in heaven. It's everywhere God reigns and his subjects honor him as their ruler. When you follow Christ, you acknowledge him as the Lord of your life. You call him King. At that point you begin living in the kingdom of God. In his kingdom, human logic doesn't always compute. The laws of living are different, based on God's greater wisdom. Jesus tells us that "the first shall be last, and the last shall be first," and "riches" are more than just "money." In God's kingdom the least are priceless, peace trumps power, and justice wins in the end. There is also a parent's guide that goes along with these lessons that includes activities your families can do to continue learning during the week. Please let me know if you are not receiving my emails.

## **Senior High Youth Group: Thursday Nights at 7 PM**

On Thursday nights our senior high youth group will be meeting in the youth building. Right now we are working through a study in the book of James with Francis Chan. In the study he unpacks the dense truth contained in the book of James in front of the iconic backdrop of San Francisco, the city where he lives and ministers. Through 12 sessions, Francis works through James verse-by-verse, challenging followers of Christ to move beyond a private, intellectual knowledge of God and His Word, to a vibrant faith that impacts every square inch of life.

## **Camp Pecometh - May 21-23**

## **Here I Am To Worship**

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

### **Chorus**

So here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

### **Chorus**

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross

### **Chorus**