

There are some people who hold such great significance in our lives, that meeting them affects us in a powerful way. But if a celebrity or an athlete can have that kind of effect on people, just imagine how much difference it would make in a person's life to come face-to-face with Jesus Christ!

Think of the difference made in the lives of the Samaritan woman, the man possessed by a multitude of demons, Zaccheus, James and John, the lame man by the pool of Bethesda, the paralytic lowered by his four friends, Saul (later known as Paul), the woman caught in adultery, the blind man, the leper, the thief on the cross, and countless others.

There's a popular video making the rounds on Youtube (with over 14 million hits!) entitled, "Why I Hate Religion But Love Jesus". There is much I like about the video and some that I don't like. Religion is not the problem; false religion (hypocrisy) is. Many people fail to realize that Jesus was a religious person himself! But, it is true that religion (in and of itself) cannot save us; Jesus can. Religion cannot change our hearts; Jesus can. Religion cannot empower us to live holy lives; Jesus can.

Our goal as Christians should not be to get people to follow a religion. Our goal should be to bring people to Jesus, to let them see him for themselves, and to allow that encounter to change their lives. Perhaps the most powerful thing we can say to people is what Philip said to Nathaniel (John 1:46) and what the Samaritan woman said to the villagers (John 4:29): "Come and meet Jesus for yourself."

Have a great day!
Dale

Since I can remember, my greatest passion was my relationship with people. I believe as the church, it is our greatest strength, and should be one of our main focuses as we live out God's story. We are learning everyday what it means to live as the community of God. Paul's words to the Ephesians are simple but so very vital to ensuring the greatest life imaginable. In chapter four of Ephesians he writes:

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (NIV)

These are words to live by as the community of God. I challenge you to constantly encourage one another as we navigate this life. Be kind, and listen to what others have to say. Love each other just as Christ loves you. I encourage you, brothers and sisters, to show mercy just as much as we love mercy.
Jeff



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"The Monthly Messenger"

North Garland Church Of Christ

May, 2012

Elder Of The Month- Dale Summers



ENCOUNTERING JESUS

A number of years ago, there was a woman in Kansas City who walked into a Haagen-Dazs ice cream shop. While she was waiting in line, she turned around to find actor Paul Newman standing behind her. He was in town filming the movie Mr. & Mrs. Bridge, and he didn't realize it, but he was standing behind one of his biggest fans.

Paul Newman smiled at her and said "hello." She took one look at those blue eyes and her knees almost buckled. She tried to speak, but nothing came out. Mortified, she turned back around, paid for her ice cream, then quickly walked out of the store.

When she was outside, she sat down on a bench and took a moment to catch her breath. As she calmed down, she realized she didn't have her ice cream cone. She was getting ready to walk back in to get it when Paul Newman walked out. He asked her, "Are you looking for your ice cream cone?" She was still speechless but she nodded. He said, "You put it in your purse with your change."

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Honored to Serve

May 6th 13th 20th 27th

Song Leader.....	Robb Mills	Ken Coker	Jon Holland	Glenn Walker
Opening Prayer.....	Pat Meek	Cory Moore	Joe Steffens	Steve Long
Charge of Communion..	Greg Waide	Terry Sherrill	Dudley Darrow	Rustin Osburn
Servers.....	Charles Jones	Phil Howell	Robb Mills	Larry Cochran
	Kaiser Webb	Wayne Williams	Ken Coker	Henry Waggoner
	Steve Ebey	Butch McComas	John Wright	Micah Goodman
	Jason Burk	Jerry Rogers	Kurt Young	Mark Goodman
	Leonard Ball	Jon Holland	Jim Osburn	Eric Weida
	Michael Manley	Gary Rork	Daniel Osburn	Jerod Burford
	Gordon Jantz	Marion Howell	Ron Scott	Alan Lindsay
	Jeff Owen	Bill Spencer	Bryce Thornton	Joe Williams
Closing Prayer.....	Larry LeCrone	Garry Osburn	Danny Powers	Brian Wright
Nursery Attendants....	Jerry Rogers	Brenda Wright	Reeta Williams	Jennifer Waide
	Jo Ann Rogers	Johna Wright	Carrie Mills	Nikki Hugaboom
Sound Booth.....	Phil Howell	Rustin Osburn	Gene Schroeder	Phil Howell
Children's Worship....	Kelly Coker	Meagan Holland	Sara & Alyssa	Sara & Alyssa

Evening Worship:

Song Leader		Bill Oldham		Bill Oldham
Opening Prayer	Family Fellowship	Robb Mills	Life Groups	Jerry Rogers
Closing Prayer		John Wright		Cory Moore

Usher.....Shawn Tuohy, Jeff Watkins
 Wash Baptism Garments.....Cherul Rork
 Lock Up For May.....Gary Rork

Greeters:
 North.....Garry & Calvina Osburn
 West.....Pete Tippit

Schedule of Class and Worship:

Sunday 9:00-Class
 10:00-Worship
 5:00-Worship
 Wed. Meal-5:45
 Class-6:30

May 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
				Harley Downing		Lori King
6 Family Fellowship LTC Showcase Macy Mills	7 Charlotte Owen	8 Zach O'Bryant Ethan Siders	9 Blood Drive, 5-8 Murlyn Pool	10 Megan Darrow Rebecca Geitzenauer Cheryl Kent	11 Heather Haynes	12 Kathy Dittmeyer Alan Lindsay Garry Osburn
13 Mother's Day Michon Austin Landon Geitzenauer	14 Joe Williams	15 Carolyn Russell Wayne Williams	16 Mark Goodman	17	18 Margaret Bales Andy Ward	19 Tuohy/ Lollman Wedding, 6:30
20 Life Groups	21 Rustin Osburn	22 Troy Decker Amy Meek	23	24 Jim Long	25 Devan Harris	26 Kyle Smith
27 Courtney Herbst	28 Memorial Day Office Closed	29 Sandy Lindsay Jamie Rogers	30 Sr. Night	31		