

Christ Street Fellowship

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Pastor Gary and Joanna Beasley

Visiting with us today?

Please pick up a gift copy of *The Story* at our Visitors Center



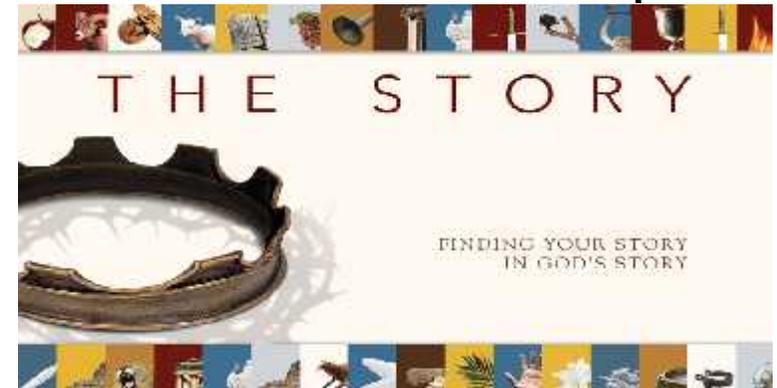
Invite your family and friends for our special Easter Celebration. This will be a "family" Service for all ages with music interspersed with dramatized scripture reading and communion. Please be here a little early as the Service will start right at 10 am and only last one hour.



MENS GATHERING Tonight!

At 5 pm downstairs here at the church – Food, Inspiration and Fellowship for men.

Mini Series Three – God Saves His People



Chapter Twenty Six The Hour of Darkness

4-14-2019

Jesus came to usher in monumental changes that altered the relationship between God and Man for all time...Jesus would _____ a new covenant, _____ it in his blood and _____ it by His Resurrection from the dead.

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a _____ with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Jeremiah 31:31-33

"And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant _____ which is poured out for you.'" Luke

22:19-22

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:16-17

Galatians Chapter 3:7-29

“The real children of Abraham, then are those who put their faith in God. What's more, **the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would declare the Gentiles to be righteous because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.**

But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, "**Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law.**" So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life." **But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law.** When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith.

Dear brothers and sisters, here's an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or amend an irrevocable agreement, so it is in this case. **God gave the promises to Abraham and his child. And notice that the Scripture doesn't say "to his children," as if it meant many descendants. Rather, it says "to his child"—and that, of course, means Christ.** This is what I am trying to say: The

agreement God made with Abraham could not be canceled 430 years later when God gave the law to Moses. God would be breaking his promise. For if the inheritance could be received by keeping the law, then it would not be the result of accepting God's promise. But God graciously gave it to Abraham as a promise.

Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. **But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised.** God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people. Now a mediator is helpful if more than one party must reach an agreement. But God, who is one, did not use a mediator when he gave his promise to Abraham.

Is there a conflict, then, between God's law and God's promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it. But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ. Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed.

Let me put it another way. **The law was our guardian until Christ came;** it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. **And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.**

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on the character of Christ, like putting on new clothes.

There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.” NLT)

