



Redeemer Volunteering & Events

Sign up sheet

(Please place sign-ups in the Office mailbox)

IN REMEMBRANCE OF

THOSE WHO'VE BRIGHTENED OUR LIVES

Mary Klasowski *Esther Nelson*
Chuck Gilbert *Chris Cotner*

1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Name: _____

I'd like to donate to the Altar Flowers (\$25)

in honor of: _____

on this date: _____

Please use this insert and place in Carol Plew's mail box

I'd like to join an awesome Bible Study! attend as many as you like!

Sunday Morning Bible Study Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Noon Bible Study

I would like assistance from the Youth Group
(yard work, cleaning, a visit ...)

I would like to help with Sunday School, IMPACT, nursery

Volunteering at Lincoln School & Little Steps Daycare.
I am interested in learning about the many opportunities on how to implement our Vision Statement.

Pictures!

The office is putting together a "directory" on church 360°. If you have a photo you would like to use, please send it to the office email. -or- Scott Schaffer will be in the Narthex between services on **Today, November 3**, November 3, Scott will also be taking photos after 2nd service. We are also asking members to update their information on church 360°. Contact the office to request login directions. churchoffice@redeemerwarsaw.org

The Identity of a Christian

Knowing who I am is important for living the way God intends.
What role has God given me to play in church? My family? In society?

God created humanity in the Garden of Eden to be stewards of His creation.

- And He recreated us in Baptism to be Christian stewards.
- It's a position given to us completely by God's grace.
- So, Christian stewards need to know who they are in Jesus.

A) Christian Stewardship Is a _____ Issue!

"Certainly, the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people who have set their hearts on getting rich have wandered away from the Christian faith and have caused themselves a lot of grief." (1 Tim. 6:10 GW)

- 1) Every human being becomes a steward at _____.
- 2) Christian stewardship is a spiritual issue, because it is about our life in _____.
- 3) Who Is the Owner? (Psalm 24:1)...

"The earth and everything it contains are the Lord's. The world and all who live in it are his." (Ps. 24:1 GW)

B) So, what belongs to me?

There are three keys to this issue:

- 1) EVERYTHING _____ TO GOD.
- 2) EVERYTHING _____ ON GOD.

"He covers the sky with clouds. He provides rain for the ground. He makes grass grow on the mountains. He is the one who gives food to animals and to young ravens when they call out. He finds no joy in strong horses, nor is he pleased by brave soldiers. The Lord is pleased with those who fear him, with those who wait with hope for his mercy." (Ps. 147:8-11 GW)

- 3) EVERYTHING IS TO _____ GOD.

C) God Can Provide Through Any _____!

"You may say to yourselves, 'I became wealthy because of my own ability and strength.' But remember the Lord your God is the one who makes you wealthy. He's confirming the promise which he swore to your ancestors. It's still in effect today." (Deuteronomy 8:17-18 GW)

- 1) **What does this mean?** Instead of looking to your employer, savings account, anyone or anything for security, look to God.
- 2) **The _____ is always God.**
 - God says, *"If I turn off one faucet, I can just as easily turn on another."*
- 3) **Worry reveals the places where we don't _____ God.**

Close: Ask God to help you see what causes your lack of trust in Him.
Then ask him to teach you to start trusting him. And watch how he does that.

"God's There"

Mark 12:42-44 (excerpts) - *And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And He called His disciples to Him and said to them ... "she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."*

Sometimes I wonder about things the Bible felt no need to talk about.

For example, I wonder if the Sanhedrin managed to kill Lazarus even as they did Jesus. Another one of my wonderings is what happened to the widow who gave all she had? What happened to her?

Some people would say she prospered and lived happily ever after. If you think that, I'm not going to argue. There are certainly a lot of people in the Bible whom God decided to bless because they were faithful. In spite of occasional slips and sins made by Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, God still took care of them. God has a wonderful track record of bestowing blessings upon His people. God gives to His people in abundance. How does He say it? Oh, I remember *"good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over"* (see Luke 6:38).

Still, I think it's dangerous to tell faithful Christians that they are going to have an easy life. Some of the most faithful Christians I know are brothers and sisters around the world who are persecuted by their governments. As a parish pastor, I've seen numerous committed Christians endure one tragedy after another. Life isn't easy for them. No, I'd feel really uncomfortable making that kind of guarantee.

Is that just my opinion? Not really.

Jesus said, *"If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me"* (see Luke 9:23). Jesus promises a cross to His faithful people, and Paul shared some of those crosses when he wrote, *"Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure"* (see 2 Corinthians 11:20-29).

No, being a Christian doesn't guarantee that you will live a life that is simple, safe, secure, free from shadow, sadness, and sorrow. There's no guarantee for you or for the widow at the temple.

We've come back to that widow, haven't we? Would you like to know the rest of her story -- how things turned out for her? As I've already said, I can't supply the particulars, but there are some things I can say. I know that between the day when she put her mites into the temple's collection box and the day she breathed her last -- if she continued to trust her Lord -- I know the Lord never let her down.

If her life was hard, He was there to help her. If she was sad, He was there for her to lean on. Then, when her story was over, when the last chapter of her life had been written and the book was closed, God took her right past death and brought her to an eternity of happiness she could never have imagined: a place beyond her fondest dreams.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, help me remember that when it's my time to go, You will be there. Until then, may each day be filled with trust that You love me and can bring me through all the world may throw at me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.