/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES Good Morning! Let's Make a Mental Shift \

Good Morning! First Thessalonians, Chapter 3, Verses 11 to 13 say...

/1TH 3:11-12

Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus (Christ) our Lord direct our way (back) to you;//and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in (unconditional) love for one another, and (in unconditional love) for all people, just as we also do (abound in unconditional love) for you;

Paul's prayer is that the hearts of the believers at Thessalonica might increase to the point of overflowing with unconditional love. Imagine that our approach to life was this way. Imagine the affect it would have in this miserable kingdom. Well we CAN imagine it, because we come to bible study to take in the Word of God so that it wells up inside of us, and we reflect the unconditional love our Savior to a lost and dying world.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED? no verse...let the verse pop in on the next click>

The Word of God refers to bible study as a time of RENEWING, a great time to let the Word of God increase your inner strength. Isaiah, Chapter 40, Verse 31 says...

/ ISA 40:31

...those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.\

The Lord fills up our deficiencies with new thinking that gives us the strength to endure, regardless of the difficulty of the circumstances that are our present reality. Welcome to a place where you can "in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls."

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Father I'm Yours\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song, as you think about what your Lord thinks about you. The opening song is...FATHER I'M YOURS.

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray... \setminus (0:30)

We're grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Help us to live in our new identity...

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ's name...Amen.

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Rory Clark
Pastor-Teacher

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for the purpose of equipping you believers in Christ for the work of service. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

/TODAY'S STUDY

Unconditional Love Requires a New Identity

First, a few announcements....

/ANNOUNCEMENTS\

/Mark Your Calendars!

The next Lord's Supper Celebration is June 9, 2013\

/Mark Your Calendars!

HOMECOMING

for the

"Soon to Be Resident" Congregation

June 15-16\

Hotel discount ends May 31st...\$99 a night.

/Mark Your Calendars!

No Face-to-Face Bible Study

June 30

August 25

September 1

December 8

December 29\

/Happy Birthday!

Emilie Goodall

May 23\

/Happy Birthday!

Bad Brad Inman

May 26\

/Happy Anniversary!

Deacon Denny & Emilie Goodall

May 27\

/Happy Birthday!

Tony LoGrasso

June 1\

His bone marrow transplant happened about a year ago as well.

/Congratulations!
Trey DeSmet
HAVlife Scholarship
Academic Excellence\

/Congratulations!
Hayden DeSmet
Most Creative Stories\

/Congratulations!
Ariana Maurer
Academic Excellence in Scripture Memorization\

Only student to memorize 100% of the weekly bible verses

/BARAH MINISTRIES On Pal Talk!\

Barah Ministries is on Pal Monday to Friday at 7PM CDT. Tuning into these lessons is easy to do. Here's the process...

/BARAH MINISTRIES ON PAL TALK revealing

www.paltalk.com

Download the software

Choose a nickname

Sign into the Royal Family Room

Listen!\

Next, let's take the offering.

/THE OFFERING

Deacon Elliott Clark\

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy

No price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.\

/1SA 16:7

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

/Remember to give with the motivation suggested in Scripture

2CO 9:7

Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful (grace oriented) giver.

/OFFERING SONG

All the Words\

/TODAY'S STUDY

Unconditional Love Requires a New Identity\

We continue our study of the CREATOR.

<CREATOR VS. CREATURE CONFLICT 21 C's SLIDE>

Who is the CREATOR? Our Creator is Jesus Christ...our Lord, our Savior and our God...in John, Chapter 17, Verse 6, the Lord says, in a prayer to His Father...

/JOH 17:6

"I (the Lord Jesus Christ) have manifested Your name (God the Father) to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word."

As a Pastor, I'd like to be able to say the same thing to my Heavenly Father one day. I'd like to be able to tell Him that I have cared well for the ones whom He has given me, namely you...that your souls were important to me...and that I cared for your souls and nourished them and watched over them and guided them. And I'd like to see Him nod His approval that I have done the job He gave me very well...like in Matthew, Chapter 25, Verse 21...

/MAT 25:21

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

I'd like to be able to tell my Heavenly Father I loved you unconditionally... that I gave all of myself to you... that I willingly accepted the blows inflicted from loving you...that I forgave you when necessary... that I was comfortable with the fact that I don't control you and that I honored your freedom. Yet in the wee small hours of the morning...in the times of silence and solitude...a depraved mind can hardly grasp that it is ever doing enough for God.

I often wonder, in those times, how God sees me. The bible gives us answers, like in...Isaiah, Chapter 46, Verse 4 and Verses 8 to 10, which says...

/ISA 46:4

"Even to your old age I will be the same, And even to your graying years I will bear you! I have done it, and I will carry you; And I will bear you and I will deliver you."

/ISA 46:8-9

"Remember this, and be assured; Recall it to mind, you transgressors.//
Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is no one like Me..."

/ISA 46:10

"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'"

I heard that last verse differently this week. When I look at it usually, it says to me that God declared one side from the other side...He declared one side to be the beginning and one side to be the end. This week I heard the verse this way...God has declared what the end looks like from the very beginning. When I look at this verse this way, I know the answer to my question...God already sees what I look like in the end...and He is totally comfortable with the progress He is making with me. I'm convinced that whenever doubts creep in about whom we are and how we are doing, we need to remember that God knows us and He is perfecting us and He is not counting our sins against us like we are counting our own sins and our own faults against ourselves.

I rested well. And I think you should, too! Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

When I Think About Home

Welcome back!

Then my mind drifted to Ephesians, Chapter 6, Verse 1...

/EPH 6:1

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

I made a seemingly innocuous comment in a lesson recently...I wondered aloud what God the Holy Spirit would be like as a coach if He were human. I wondered what He would want from me. This week, Ephesians, Chapter 6, Verse 1 came to mind. Like any great coach, God the Holy Spirit would trust Himself as a coach...He would know His own ability as a coach...and He would want me to obey Him. If I agreed to obey Him, He would give me instruction...and it would sound like this...Ephesians, Chapter 4, beginning at Verse 22...

/EPH 4:22

...in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit...\

/EPH 4:23

...and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind...\

/EPH 4:24

...and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.\

God the Holy Spirit would tell me that he wanted me to forget everything I have learned up to this point. He would suggest I put it away in a corner for safekeeping if I feel attached to it. But He would say that He doesn't want how I was to interfere with what He is about to teach me. He would say...as in Luke, Chapter 5, Verses 36 to 38...

/LUK 5:36

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) was also telling them (the scribes and Pharisees) a parable: "No one tears a piece of cloth from a new garment and puts it on an old garment; otherwise he will both tear the new (garment), and the piece from the new will not match the old (garment)."

/LUK 5:37

"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it (the wine) will be spilled out, and the (wine)skins will be ruined (as well).\

/LUK 5:38

"But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.//And no one, after drinking old wine wishes for new (wine); for he says, 'The old is good enough.'"

Alas...we would prefer to drink the old wine, and we would say it was good enough...and we would not long for the new wine. We would not necessarily relish new instruction, but we would gravitate backwards to the things we have thought and done in the past.

So God the Holy Spirit would say to us that He knows how hard His request is...that we forget the old and that we learn the new. So He would promise that one day, we would be living differently than we are now. He would say that to forget the old and embrace the new will be made easier by coming into a classroom environment...learning a new way of living...by renewing...and then trying out the new ways under pressure.

In the classroom, God the Holy Spirit would renew our minds...He would tell us to stop doing the old things...to learn something new...and then to put the new thing to work in our lives. Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verse 22...

/EPH 4:22

...in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit...\

/EPH 4:23

...and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind...\

/EPH 4:24

...and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.\

If we are willing, we would listen to Him, and God the Holy Spirit would teach us a new way of life.

So it is with the Church Age Believer...the New Spiritual Species. At the moment of salvation, the Old Self Life was dead to us. Yet we still enjoy drinking this old wine...and often we have no desire for the new wine... the old wine is good enough to us. In the throes of our study of legalism, I often wondered exactly what the New Self Life is all about. I wondered when God was going to teach the New Self Life to me. I was thoroughly familiar with the corpse called the Old Self...and I knew nothing about the New Self. That's what happens when you learn doctrines instead of truth. But once our eyes are opened to the truth, we can easily see that God has had our instructions available for us all along...if we were just willing to notice.

So if I said to God the Holy Spirit, "I hear you about the Old Self and the New Self. But in this New Self what do you want me to do?" Here's what He said... Ephesians, Chapter 4, beginning at Verse 25...

/EPH 4:25

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.\

/EPH 4:26

BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger...\

/EPH 4:27

...and do not give the devil an opportunity.\

/EPH 4:28

He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.\

/EPH 4:29

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.\

/EPH 4:30

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.\

/EPH 4:31

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.\

/EPH 4:32

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.\

And to this I would say, "Holy hell!" And then I would say, "Is that it?" And He would say, "Not quite." God the Holy Spirit is pretty clear what He wants from the New Self, and as we learn more and more about the New Testament, we will feel His presence and His coaching to be an invaluable part of the Christian experience. The Spirit is calling us to live like royalty.

/CLOSING SONG

We Are Royalty\

CLOSING VERSES

/JER 29:11

"For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."

/1PE 5:6-7

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,//casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.\

/JUD 1:24-25

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,//to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.\

/CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

THANKS INTERCESSION PETITION

And we pray that you continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of your person, your thinking, your work, your reputation and your essence...we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

/Thanks for coming! Thanks for watching! Thanks for listening!

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