

**BARAH MINISTRIES**  
**The Lord's Supper - Unity – December 15, 2013**

**/ Welcome To  
BARAH MINISTRIES  
a Christian Church  
Good Morning!  
Let's Make a Mental Shift\**

Good morning!

Galatians, Chapter 2, Verse 20 says...

*/GAL 2:20*

*"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in (dwelling) me; and the (Zoe) life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me (unconditionally) and (who) gave Himself up (as a substitute) for me."*

Today we're going to get an opportunity to look back at this Christ who gave Himself up for us.

This is why we're here today. So, that we can learn about Christ and what He's done for us. We're here to be transformed, like we read in Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 2...

*/ROM 12:2*

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.\

Before we get started, let's take a few minutes to reflect on our Lord and Savior, and let's listen to a song by...

**/MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

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

God is Faithful\

**/OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray...\

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

Please help us today to learn about unity. Help us to learn how to lean on others, even those whom we don't agree with. Help us to get along, even when things aren't going our way.

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

**/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES**

Caleb Alburn  
Deacon\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. Just in case you haven't heard yet, I'm going to be teaching The Lord's Supper message for today.

I remember when Pastor Rory let me know that I was going to be teaching it, the first thing that God put in my mind was the topic of Unity...

Well... apparently, He told the same thing to Deacon Elliott, because that's what his lesson was on. But, don't worry, because I won't let that deter me!

**/TODAY'S STUDY**  
**The Lord's Supper - Unity\**

First...a few announcements.

**/TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**December 15, 2013\**

/Mark Your Calendars!  
The next Lord's Supper Celebration is January 12, 2014\

Deacon Elliott Clark will deliver the Lord's Supper Message that day.

/Mark Your Calendars!  
No Face-to-Face Bible Study

December 29  
January 24\

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Lessons will be posted.

/Happy Birthday  
RYAN SALOUM  
November 25\

/Happy Birthday  
Maureen Slobig  
December 15\

/Adopt a Family  
Briel Merino  
Mandy Alburn\

Now let's take the offering. Welcome up Deacon Denny Goodall.

**/TODAY'S OFFERING**  
Deacon Denny Goodall\

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy

Even though we are sanctioned by God to charge for the many things we provide so you can worship God, we choose not to exercise our right. Therefore no price appears on any material from Barah Ministries so that anyone who desires biblical teaching may have it free of charge.\

/Barah Ministries Financial Policy

Even though the materials we provide are free of charge, they are not free of cost. We appreciate it when the Word of God motivates you to give financial support so as to provide for biblical teaching, both for yourself and for others.\

**/OFFERING VERSE**

MAT 6:32

*"For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."*\

/Remember to give with the motivation suggested in Scripture

2CO 9:7

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*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**

*Give Thanks\*

Before we get started with that lesson, and while I'm still in the process of plagiarizing lessons, I'd like to share briefly about my experience at the VA hospital.

Mine, however was much different than Elliott's... I was hoping that I was going to get to meet some really awesome war hero. Maybe I would meet someone who killed a dozen men, or better... maybe someone who saved a dozen men...

Well, the gentleman that I met had a different story... I'll just share the story with you.

I had just sat down after helping the vets get there ice cream. Susie rolls this nice, smiling war vet next to me. I shook his hand, he let me know his name was James, but there was something I noticed right away about him... He was extremely lucid... almost too lucid.

Like Elliott, I didn't want to come out right away and ask him about his war stories, so since the football game was on, we started talking about sports. I found out that he doesn't care much for football, he's much more interested in basketball.

His favorite team was the Lakers, and that's because they win all the time. After, we had talked a little about sports, I asked him what branch of the military he's from.

He let me know he was in the Air Force. I thought... great! I have plenty of questions I can ask about the Air Force... Finally, I'm going to have some stories to bring back to Elliott!

I asked him if he ever jumped out of an air plane. He told me, "Yeah... I went to jumping school."

I asked him if he jumped out during combat. He said, "No, never during combat."

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I said, "Oh, so you only during jump school? That's cool! How many jumps did you have?" He told me, "Oh, well I never really jumped out of a plane. In jumping school, they just taught us how, just in case we ever needed to."

I asked him if he flew in the planes. This is where it got interesting. He told me that he flew in B-52s.

I asked him what did he do on them. He told me, "Oh, you know... I just flew around with the crew." Awesome... so, you were a pilot then? He said, "No... I just helped out on the plane."

At this point I was a little bit disappointed... Now, I was just fishing... I asked the question that I know I wasn't supposed to ask, but I needed something.

I tried to be slick when I said it... Oh... so did you see any combat?

His response was perfect... "Well, no... I mainly just stayed on the ground and worked on the base..."

My conclusion after our conversation is that James was a spy. It's the only thing that made sense!

In all sincerity... I truly was moved by what I saw at the VA hospital. All of these war vets with the most diverse backgrounds, and even more diverse stories, all sitting there together still united with a common bond after all these years.

It was summed up to me best by another war vet. This is what he said...

/It doesn't matter if you like that person or not. They're your teammate. And, you're always going to have their back.\

That's unity! That's a relationship. That's the topic of our Lord's Supper today...

All of us having the same mind of Christ. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 2:16 that we have the mind of Christ.

/1 COR 2:16

We have the mind of Christ.\

We hear this passage all of the time in Philippians...

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/PHI 2:5

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,\

/PHI 2:6

Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,\

/PHI 2:7

But emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.\

/PHI 2:8

Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death of a cross.\

/PHI 2:9

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,\

/PHI 2:10

So that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,\

/PHI 2:11

And that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.\

We hear this passage often, and the verse we often highlight is Philippians 2:5... I love the way the NIV says it...

/PHI 2:5 (NIV)

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset of Christ Jesus:\

At least for one moment every month, we do this as a ministry. We look back together at the cross with one mind and celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ.

As a ministry, I want to look back too. I want to look back on the last year that we've had... All the ups and downs and bumps and bruises.

I want to give us some kudos for sticking together through thick and thin...

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Pastor Rory comes in the beginning of this year and dropped a bombshell on us. It shook Barah to the core.

Over the year, I've had the opportunity to hear dozens of your stories on how it affected you. And, I've got to hear your thoughts on the matter... But... I haven't shared mine. I'd like to do that now...

Because I have a unique perspective... I was a high school youth group leader at one of those large "religious" churches that we talked so poorly about over the years.

We had a thousand plus members. We built multi-million dollar additions to our church debt free. We had a band, and a fully paid staff. But believe it or not...

We didn't preach tithing. We taught faith alone in Christ alone for salvation. We taught once saved, always saved.

In fact... our core subject matter was similar. What was different, as we've been taught here, was indeed the legalism...

One church was pharisaical in their actions.

One church was self focused.

One church was all about bettering themselves.

One church continuously put down other Christian organizations and pastors.

Where the other church preached love.

And the other church focused on others.

The other church did what they could to better other people's lives.

The unfortunate reality is... we all know which church is which.

My other church didn't talk bad about other Christian churches down the street. In fact, many times we joined with them in community events. That's called unity.

Christians... people... coming together from different Christian denominations for one common goal... to share with others the love of Christ. Even though those organization may have some disagreements on different topics.

Unity... that's what I think about during The Lord's Supper. I think about what Christ offered those who didn't think or believe the same things which He taught, but He loved them anyway.

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There's so much that we can learn and apply to our lives from that example. From the example of God coming down from Heaven, and giving His life on the cross for others...

Putting others first... especially, when it's not convenient for us.

Think about that during The Lord's Supper...

First Corinthians, Chapter 11, Verses 23 through 26...

/1 COR 11:23

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;\

/1 COR 11:24

And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."\<

/1 COR 11:25

In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."\<

/1 COR 11:26

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.\

Please partake of the elements. And, as you do so, focus on the unity that you have with Christ and the unity that you can have with each other also.

/LORD'S SUPPER SONG

Give Thanks\<

/BREAK

*When I Think About Home\<*

Welcome back!

Now, after a first half like that... and after an entire year talking about it... you didn't actually think that I would go the whole year without mentioning it did you?

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I understand that what I'm about to say might be raise some eyebrows, but I'm going to say it anyway.

I understand, that to a Pharisee I don't have the credentials to speak about it... but I do have common sense.

I know I'm a little bit late... but better late than never...

/The doctrine of rebound negates the power of prayer.\

Now, I know that's a slightly different angle than most might take.

But, according to the doctrine of rebound, God doesn't hear my prayers unless all of my known sins to date have been confessed first. Or rather... God won't answer my prayers...

Which means that every prayer of mine that has ever been answered was merely a coincidence, because I don't rebound.

Or in other words. There's no reason to pray... Because, God's going to do it anyway. So, what's the point in praying?

If you heard my lesson last week, there's one thing that I'm never going to budge on... that's the power of prayer... because it works...

Now, Pastor Rory told me that if I'm ever going to teach something I need to have biblical backing.

Now, don't worry... I'm not going to go into detail about this. It's already been done. I'm going to let us out in a timely manner today. I know we're getting hungry.

Even though I don't think you need it I went ahead and spent some time to develop a list of verses in the Bible about prayer where confession isn't found for you...(Start clicking through verses)

These verses talk about how to pray, how not pray, what to pray for, what not to pray for... virtually everything about prayer, but not confession. In fact, the few times that confession is mentioned, it's in reference to pre salvation.

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Don't worry... I'm going to go through each and every one of them, because you're not going to want to stay here until next year...

But, for over three years now... this has been on my mind. I moved my life down here to be part of this organization.

I was told that any teaching that defied what this church believed would be extinguished immediately, because Barah Ministries wasn't going to stand for legalism.

Well, considering I had just relocated three states away. I thought it would be better that I keep quiet and to myself. I just knew that I wanted to serve God any way that I could.

So, I prayed that God would take care of the matter... whether that was Barah or whether that was me.

This was going to come out one way or another. I owe it to you Barah Ministries, as a Deacon, to be upfront. I owe it to you to exercise my spiritual gift on your behalf... even though it might not necessarily be the easiest thing to do.

With that being said... thank you for an incredible year. Thank you for your continued support. Thank you for sticking through the ups and the downs. Thank you for tuning in the lessons that the deacons have put up this year.

I'm excited to serve you, and I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for us next year! Thanks again!

/GEN 18:27\

/1 CHR 16:11\

/PSA 4:1\

/PSA 50:15\

/PSA 55:22\

/PSA 141:2\

/PSA 145:18\

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/PRO 15:29\

/JER 29:11\

/JER 29:12\

/JER 29:13\

/JER 29:14\

/JER 29:15\

/JER 33:3\

/MAT 6:7\

/MAT 7:7\

/MAT 7:11\

/MAT 21:22\

/MAR 11:24\

/MAR 9:29\

/LUK 6:12\

/LUK 11:9\

/LUK 18:1\

/LUK 18:2\

/LUK 18:3\

/LUK 18:4\

/LUK 18:5\

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/LUK 18:6\

/LUK 18:7\

/LUK 18:8\

/JOH 14:13\

/JOH 14:14\

/JOH 15:7\

/JOH 16:26\

/JOH 16:27\

/ACT 9:40\

/ACT 10:9\

/ACT 12:5\

/ACT 12:12\

/ACT 16:25\

/ACT 20:36\

/ROM 8:26\

/EPH 6:18\

/PHI 1:3\

/PHI 1:4\

/PHI 4:6\

/COL 1:3\

/COL 4:2\

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/1 THES 5:17\

/1 TIM 2:1\

/1 TIM 2:5\

/1 TIM 2:8\

/JAM 1:5\

/JAM 1:6\

/JAM 1:7\

/JAM 4:3\

/JAM 5:13\

/JAM 5:14\

/1 JOH 3:22\

/1 JOH 5:14\

/1 JOH 5:15\

Our closing song is The Essence of God by June Murphy.

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**/CLOSING SONG**

The Essence of God\

/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.’\

/1 PE 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...\

God, thank You for teaching us that we can work together despite differences. Thank You for teaching us that You work all things out for our benefit. I pray that You continue to form this ministry into your image. I pray that You take us next year to places we never thought possible. 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. And we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, and in Christ’s name... Amen.

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

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