



Lemoore church of Christ

April 26, 2020

Would You Recognize Him?

Have you ever been somewhere and seen someone you knew, but because they were the last person you ever expected to see in that particular place or under those particular circumstances, you completely failed to recognize them? That happened more than once with Jesus' disciples when it came to Him.

From Matthew 14:22-33 and Mark 6:45-51, we learn that Jesus had sent His disciples away so that He could have some time to pray. A terrible storm arose and threatened to sink the little boat that they were in. After their straining at the oars for hours, fighting the storm throughout the night, in the early pre-dawn hours Jesus came to them walking on the water. At first, they didn't recognize Him. (Let's face it, they did not expect to see anyone walking across the waves; would you?). In fact, Mark says something that might surprise many people. He writes that Jesus "**would have passed them by**" (vs. 48) – a strange statement indeed... unless of course one recognizes the reason why Jesus was there in the first place. He wasn't there for Himself; He was there for them. Remember, it was He who made them get into the boat in the first place. He knew the storm was coming as well – He is God! So why this event anyway? Most likely because they had to have impressed upon them, their sheer helplessness to overcome and save themselves from such storms, versus His infinitely powerful authority over such storms, and His complete and total ability to save His disciples even in the very midst of all such.

From Luke 23 and 24 we learn that there had been a horrible political and spiritual upheaval; a terrible storm of chaos, controversy, and crucifixion - tearing through

the very heart of Jerusalem. That Sunday afternoon, as a couple of His disciples were walking towards Emmaus, Jesus joined them, but they did not recognize Him. How could they have? He was the last person on earth they expected to see in that situation. After all, they knew He was dead – and as you read their report of that you can sense their sheer hopelessness due to it. However, when they finally did recognize and understand that it was Him that was there with them, their excitement could not have been greater! We see this same sequence repeated in other places with other disciples as well (Lk. 24:36-49; Jn. 20:11-29, 21:1-7): A storm-driven time of hope and despair, until Jesus is seen and recognized there!

As you walk through the Coronavirus or whatever other storm you may be experiencing today, don't miss the all-powerful person, presence, authority and providence of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is there. And the sooner you see and recognize His presence, the sooner your joy and excitement will overpower your hopelessness and despair.

Have you seen Jesus My Lord?

Five Minutes with God: This week:

Sunday	Day 117	Mark 6:1-6
Monday	Day 118	John 5:1-15
Tuesday	Day 119	John 5:16-23
Wednesday	Day 120	John 5:24-30
Thursday	Day 121	John 5:31-40
Friday	Day 122	John 5:41-47
Saturday	Day 123	Matthew 9:35-38

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23

Prayer List:

Lorie Witt has been diagnosed with COVID-19 after 2 negative tests. She and Justin are in quarantine at this time.

Richard Hunsbarger, Stephanie Tishmacher's step-dad, was hospitalized with COPD this past week at the VA hospital in Fresno. He has been intubated to give his lungs a break. Sharon is unable to be there with him.

Bodie, friend of Bailey Radcliff, diagnosed with 2 brain tumors.

Rita Frankmore dismissed the hospice nurse and is now under the care of a home health nurse.

The Lopez Family, Mirella had to take Janessa to the emergency room. Dr. says no the virus at this time but she is still very sick.

Twila, Darlene Wilson's daughter, has been exposed to the virus and is in quarantine. It is also affecting her lupus.

Linda Storey, formerly from Hanford, in hospital in Fresno with blood clots

Meryl Wamhoff and Wayne Bergeron, friends of Lisa Butts both diagnosed with cancer.

Helen Dowell, sister of Shirley Garretson, passed away in Arkansas. Services are pending at this time.

Lora Virden is recovering at Becky's.

Red Cooper will be having a CT scan and additional tests prior to aortic valve replacement surgery.

Jr. Gutierrez living in a highly infected area of So. California.

Jeff McCord temporarily off work during COVID

Gary Radcliff, Garth's father, is currently cancer free but may have radiation again in the future.

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom Esophageal tumor has shrunk. No other cancer detected. Will talk with surgeon in the future regarding removal of tumor. Kim thanks everyone for their prayers.

Marlon Raygoza that he gets the supervision he needs to make positive changes in his life.

Linda Frye, Cancer

Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin, blood clots in his legs but has returned to work.

Angie and Tito Cano-no active cancer was found in PET scan-on maintenance meds

Alexis Raygoza is recovering from health issues.

Bart Massey, friend of Dixie Blair, stage 4 stomach cancer

Doug Standridge

Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment

Our Mission Work:

- First Responders including many of our members/family:

Nicole McCord Director of pre-natal building

Katelyn McCord working in the ER

Zeb Reid Deputy Sheriff in Tulare County

Christy Reid working in Pharmacy

Martin Gutierrez working officer in So. CA

- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting

Thank you to all who have been texting and emailing updates and additions.

Events list will return to the bulletin when our shelter in place is lifted.