

SCRIPTURE & SERMON NOTES

James 1:19-27 (NIV)

¹⁹My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. ²¹Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

TITLE: *Forgive(n) and Forget(ful)*

TEXT: James 1:19-27

I. DISCOVER THE LOSS OF DIGNITY IN WORLDLY CONVICTIONS.

II. DISCOVER THE "MIRROR" OF THE WORD OF GOD.

III. DISCOVER THE FREEDOM OF FORGIVENESS.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. James 1:19 calls us to be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." The world acts like such an approach to life and relationships doesn't work. Why do people believe that?
2. James compares a person who meditates on God's Word to "a man who looks at his face in a mirror." What can we expect to discover when we look intently into this mirror?
3. "You are forgiven, but you forget." What is it you forget about God? What is it you forget about yourself? What is it you forget about others?
4. What steps can you take to "make deposits of mercy"? What steps can you take to "make investments toward purity"?

Next Week: Sixth Sunday of Lent

Title: *A Glorified Memory*

Preacher: Reverend Tim Tinsley

Text: John 12:12-19

ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY	Town Hall Meeting	1:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	Women's Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Children's Combined Choirs (K-5th)	5:30 p.m.
	Youth Choir	5:30 p.m.
	Dinner	6:00 p.m.
	Adult Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m.
	Kids' Club	7:00 p.m.
	Adult & Youth Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY	Life Builders	6:30 a.m.
FRIDAY	WIC Small Group	9:30 a.m.

The church activity calendar is available on-line at www.tnpc.org/calendar.

WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE REVEREND JOHN RANTAL preach from our pulpit today. John spent many years with International Students (ISI) before being ordained in the PCA. He and his wife, Cindy, have 3 grown children.

THE FLOWERS — This morning are given by the Aguilar family in praise to God and with thanksgiving for Lulu and Becky's birthdays.

TOWN HALL MEETING TODAY! — Bring your sack lunch to eat in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the meeting itself in the Sanctuary at 1:00 p.m. Please submit any questions you want discussed to John Dishman. Copies of the PCA Vision statement (yellow sheets) can be found in the narthex. Topics for this meeting include fellowship, outreach and deeds of mercy. Child care will be provided.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES — The following women have been nominated and have agreed to serve on the Women's Ministry Council for 2009-2010: Lisa Davis, Sandy Hotz, and Karla Pollock. Linda Jacobs has asked that her name be removed from consideration at this time but will continue to serve in other capacities. Elections will be held today during lunch in the Fellowship Hall. And please mark your calendars for our upcoming April 7th meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You will find more information about this meeting in your box. Hope to see you there!

EASTER LILIES — This is the last Sunday to order lilies for Easter. A sign-up sheet and payment envelopes are in the narthex. See Judy Dawson if you have questions.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM — Children's Church is expanding and getting a new start. If you would like to be a part of the team providing this ministry to our children, please see Dave or Gayle Clelland or email Dave at david.clelland@tnpc.org. Let us hear from you soon. We hope to begin in April with the new team.

SALTSHAKERS — TNPC small group supper gatherings, is an opportunity to become better acquainted with individual members of our church family in more intimate settings. Sign-up continues in the narthex after worship services through April 5th for gatherings on 4/18, 5/16, 6/20, and 7/18. You may also sign up through Saturday, April 11 by calling Neil and Ginny Williams at (972) 235-6210 or emailing them at neilngin@sbcglobal.net. Groups of ~8 will be randomly formed and a first host selected who will contact assigned group members. Sr. high young adults through Sr. Saints are encouraged to participate. Please ask a visitor!

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY SURVEYS — Will be distributed in early April to every adult TNPC member as a first step in rebuilding the ministry to serve your needs for study, fellowship, and prayer in all-male or mixed-gender small group settings. Please fill them out and place them in the box marked "SGM Surveys" in the narthex by Sunday, April 19th. Questions? Call Neil and Ginny Williams at (972) 235-6210.

WEDNESDAY ALL-CHURCH NIGHT ACTIVITIES — Continue this Wednesday, April 1st with Children's Choirs and Youth Choir. Bring \$2 (adults, teens, children) for a lasagna dinner (served by Gayle Clelland's team) at 6:00 p.m., followed by Adult Choir, Kids' Club, Youth Bible Study "The Gospel in the Old Testament", and Adult Bible Study on the book of I John.

LIFE BUILDERS MEN'S STUDY — Will meet this Thursday at 6:30 a.m. All men are welcome to join our study of the book of I Samuel.

ANNUAL YOUTH YARD SALE — June 10-13. We need your treasures (quality household items, toys, clothes, furniture, appliances, etc.) that are in good condition. Proceeds will go toward TNPC Youth Summer Camp and youth activities. Admin. Bldg. Room 103 has been designated as the storage room for items donated. Questions?—Please see Renée Cox.

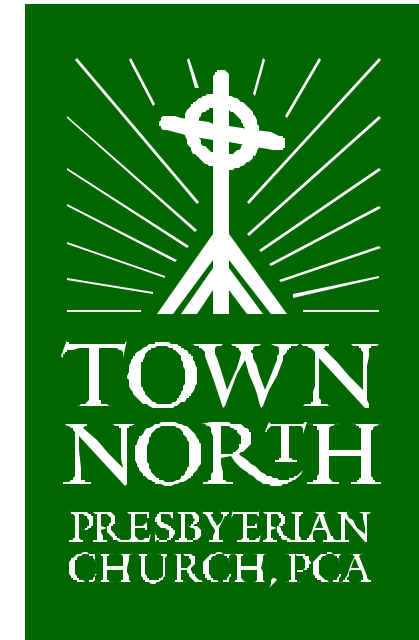
VBS! — Interested? Please contact Helen Shaver or Lulu Aguilar.

March 2009

Net General Fund Starting Balance (at Feb. 2009 close):	\$4,602
Actual Revenue (4 Sundays):	\$32,858
Actual Expenses (4 Sundays):	\$25,757
Net General Fund Ending Balance (4 Sundays):	\$11,703
Estimated General Fund Needed Revenue for March (5 Sundays):	\$45,000

Town North Presbyterian Church
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(972) 235-1886 www.tnpc.org

As we confront the challenges and opportunities of the third millennium, our vision is to be a worshipping community of disciples who are bringing God's Kingdom to bear upon the world and building His Church among all peoples.



The Week's Order of
WORSHIP
for
THE LORD'S DAY

The Christian Year: Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2009 10:30 A.M.

Worship Theme: God's Forgiveness

PRELUDE

Fiona Garwood

ACTIVITIES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Elder Tony Anthony

PREPARING IN STILLNESS

CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 25*

PASTOR: Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths;

PEOPLE: Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

PASTOR: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

PEOPLE: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

INVOCATION *Reverend John Rantal*

PASTOR: O Lord, open my lips,

PEOPLE: And my mouth will declare your praise.

* HYMN OF PRAISE *Hymn 125*
Let All Things Now Living

* CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN *Joel 2:12-13*

LEADER: “Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

ALL: Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

* CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ALL: Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PEACE OF GOD *Titus 3:3, 5-7*

LEADER: Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. The peace of the Lord be always with you!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

* CONFESSION OF FAITH *WLC 46, 48&49*

LEADER: What was the estate of Christ's humiliation?

PEOPLE: The estate of Christ's humiliation was that low condition, wherein he for our sakes, emptying himself of his glory, took up on himself the form of a servant, in his conception, birth, life, and death; and after his death, until his resurrection.

LEADER: How did Christ humble himself in his life?

PEOPLE: Christ humbled himself in his life, by subjecting himself to the law, which he perfectly fulfilled; and by conflicting with the indignities of the world, temptations of Satan, and infirmities in his flesh, whether common to the nature of man, or particularly accompanying that of his low condition.

LEADER: How did Christ humble himself in his death?

PEOPLE: Christ humbled himself in his death, in that having been betrayed by Judas, forsaken by his disciples, scorned and rejected by the world, condemned by Pilate, and tormented by his persecutors; and having also conflicted with the terrors of death, and the powers of darkness, felt and borne under the weight of God's wrath, he laid down his life an offering for sin, enduring the painful, shameful, and cursed death of the cross.

PRAYING TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE *Elder John Dishman*

PRAYER RESPONSE *Congregation sings with Choir*

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.

WORSHIPPING BY GIVING *(Sign, pass & return Friendship Pad)*

♦ Offertory **Ten Thousand Angels** (by Ray Overholt, arr. by Tom Fettke)

They bound the bands of Jesus in the garden where he prayed.

They led him through the streets in shame.

They spat upon the savior, so pure and free from sin.

They said, “Crucify him! He’s to blame.”

He could have called ten thousand angels to destroy the world and set him free.

He could have called ten thousand angels but he died alone for you and me.

Upon his precious head they placed a crown of thorns;

They laughed and said, “Behold, the King.”

They struck him and they cursed him, and mocked his holy name.

All alone he suffered everything.

He could have called ten thousand angels to destroy the world and set him free.

He could have called ten thousand angels but he died alone for you and me.

To the howling mob he yielded; He did not for mercy cry.

The cross of shame he took alone.

And when he cried, “It’s finished.”, he gave himself to die.

Salvation’s wondrous plan was done.

He could have called ten thousand angels to destroy the world and set him free.

He could have called ten thousand angels but he died alone for you and me.

* PRAISING OUR GOD *Doxology (Hymn 731)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heav’nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* DEDICATING OUR LIVES & GIFTS

ALL: O Lord our God, the Giver of all good:

We bring you these gifts

as a token of our consecration to your service.

Grant that now and at all times

our gratitude to you may be as great as our need of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HEARING SCRIPTURE **Matthew 18:21-35** *Elder Jeremy Omas*

READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD *Ensemble & Congregation*

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.

This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe!

This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.

Till on the cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.

For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;

Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost it's grip on me;

For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

(Children ages 4&5 may leave for Children's Church during last stanza.)

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;

From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;

Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I stand.

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APPLYING GOD'S WORD *Reverend John Rantal*

“Forgive(n) and Forget(ful)” — James 1:19-27

(Scripture text and sermon outline on the back of the worship guide.)

* RESPONDING IN SONG *Hymn 604*

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (verses 1-4)

* BENEDICTION *I Peter 5:10-11*

PASTOR: And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ; after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power forever and ever.

ALL: Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

POSTLUDE *Jami Calatozzo*

Assisting in worship leading today is Elder Doug Pollock.

Scripture quotations are from the New International Version of the Bible.

** Congregation Please Stand*

If you would like to know more about becoming a Christian, the preacher is available in the narthex after the service.

Copies of the brochure “How Do I Become a Christian” are also available in the narthex.