



TRUE LIGHT

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

March 12, 2023

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Sunday School :
9:30 a.m.
Worship:
10:15 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck
573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson
573-820-0329
David Carson
573-276-5567
Stan Dauck
573-293-5594

DEACONS

Wayne Reams
Joe Watson
Rodney Williams

OFFICE: 573-293-5620
Bernie Church of Christ
P.O. Box 366
Bernie, MO 63822

EMAIL:
berniechurchofchrist@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.berniechurchofchrist.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Bernie church of Christ

"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

**We Welcome You
To All Of Our
Services**

WHAT JESUS CAN'T DO!

Mark succinctly told the story of Jesus' visit to his hometown in six short verses:

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. He was amazed at their lack of faith (Mark 6:1-6).

Notice how the last two verses are piercingly straightforward: *He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.*

Ouch! The lack of faith in Jesus' family, relatives, and neighbors prevented Jesus from doing miracles in his hometown. Mark didn't say Jesus would not do miracles. He didn't say Jesus refused to do miracles. He didn't say the townsfolk didn't want Jesus to do miracles. Mark was emphatic: *He COULD NOT DO any miracles...* (all capital letters added for emphasis). **Double ouch!**

We need to ask ourselves, "What is our lack of faith preventing Jesus from doing among us and through us?"

Let these words settle into your heart like they must have weighed down the heart of our Lord. Mark's point was unmistakable: the lack of faith on the part of Jesus' family, kinfolks, and relatives, prevented him from doing any great miracles. All he could do was lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. **Triple ouch!**

Why did Mark include it in his gospel? After all, his gospel is the shortest and most compact story of Jesus among the four gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Beyond Ouch to Healing: Our answer lies in Mark's description of the place where the lack of faith occurred. He used three terms for his family - *his own town, among his relatives and in his own home* (Mark 6:24) - to describe the people who had this lack of faith. Mark wants us to feel the weight of these words and know for whom they are applicable today. Who are Jesus' mother, brothers, and sisters, today? He answered that question earlier: his disciples (Mark 3:33-34). This story is about us and for us!

Mark wrote to followers of Jesus who were facing, or about to face, very difficult times because of their faith in Jesus. Would they have faith enough to continue following Jesus? Would their commitment to follow him persevere even if they had to suffer, face hardship, endure persecution, or even face martyrdom? Would they follow Jesus in the way of the cross and still believe that Jesus was the all-powerful Lord, Son of God, and Messiah? Would Jesus' kinfolks after his resurrection be like his kinfolks before his resurrection?

Mark included this story of Jesus' visit to his hometown to awaken the Lord's people in their lack of faith. Over time, we can grow immune to the power and presence of Jesus among us. Nothing spectacular seems to happen. We see our resources and personal vitality evaporating. We go through hardships, disagreements, church problems, and lack of productive ministry. Before long, we become like fleas in the flea circus, trained by our disappointments and difficulties to settle for a life with little faith and low expectations. We become a place and a people where Jesus can't do any great thing because of our lack of faith!

Our first step away from this downward spiral toward little faith is to recognize it! We must admit our low expectations and little faith. We must confront ourselves and our acceptance of low expectations. We need to ask ourselves, "What is our lack of faith preventing Jesus from doing among us and through us?"

The goal of this admission is not to justify our continued wallowing in the mire of little faith and low expectations. Instead, it is a call for us to reawaken to the Jesus we find in the gospels and at work through the people in the early church. Jesus is the same Lord.

Continued on back

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

March 14 - David Billingsley
Kim Flowers
March 15 - Beckie Tanner
March 17 - Brian Thomason



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Tape (Scotch/Masking) * Paper
Napkins * Paper Plates & Cups *
Spaghetti O's * Liquid Fabric
Softener * Ketchup
Pickup Date April 17, 2023

WILLING TO SERVE

March 12, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw
Opening Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....David Burleson
Dismissal.....Rodney Williams

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Cameron Traw
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

March 19, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Jason Karnes
Prayer.....Sam Garner
Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

Continued from front:

He still pours out the same Holy Spirit. He longs to do the same thing in us that he did when he was on earth as described in the gospels and in what we see in the early church in the book of Acts. Rather than accept a theology of a lesser Jesus today than then, we need to recommit to be a people of faith, believing that Jesus is still the powerful and active head of his bodily presence in the world, his church.

Isn't it time for us, and those around us in our congregations, to go back and focus on Jesus?

Don't we need to remind ourselves of who Jesus is, what he can do, and the mission he longs to accomplish through us?

If he did great things through his people once before, can't he do them again through us, today?

I don't know about you, but the last thing I want God to say about me, my friends in Christ, my missional community, or my congregation is this: *"He could not do any miracles there ... He was amazed at their lack of faith."*

Let's reconnect to Jesus and his power, through a vibrant faith full of expectation.

I don't want to settle for less of Jesus; I want to expect him to be at work for more!

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com



Attendance for March 5: 114 * Contribution for March 5: \$5096**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Amelia Garner has been very sick with vomiting and stomach cramps. Doctor's haven't been able to find out why. * **David Burleson** is scheduled to see his cancer doctor tomorrow regarding elevated white blood cell counts * **Brian Thomason** suffered a stroke last week and is doing remarkably well * **Loretta Carson** had some tests in St Louis Wednesday * **Sonja Mays** is not doing well at all * **Marty Howard** recovering from back surgery * **Louella Akers'** cancer has spread and she is on hospice care * **Pat Ingle** is back home; no visitors at this time please * **Janet Wood** is home recovering from knee replacement surgery * **Fern Botsch** on hospice care * **Gloria Moore** has been having a lot of health issues * **Karen Forkum** struggling with many health issues * **Don Jackson** still struggling with infection and swelling in his knee * **Larry Frank** (Patsy Hardy's boyfriend) has been diagnosed with lung cancer, and cancer has been found in several areas

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * David Burleson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Sonja Mays * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Gloria Moore * Ida Roberts * Waynetta Rodgers * Jane Smith * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beard * Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Ronnie Goins * Patricia Greninger * Nolan Hollowell * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jerals * Holly Johnson Kristin Meadows * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Linda Morgan * Paula Mason * Mike Napier * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Nikki Reif * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

Dixie Billingsley * DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Jodi Claeys * Ruth Dauck * Jerry Grimes * Katie Hicks * Grant Howard * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Eva Latham * Nikki Lawrence * Tim Lecroy * Shug Lee * Jerry Don McGowan * Mary Provance * Brenda Robinson * Kevin Steed * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Heather Whitehead *

Our Shut Ins

Louella Akers * Fern Botsch * Travis Cooper * Sue Flowers * Don Jackson * Sonja Mays * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson *

Looking Ahead

Ladies Lunch Out will be Tuesday at 11:30 at Samurai X Hibachi and Sushi in Dexter. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

Wednesday night fellowship meal will be baked spaghetti, garden salad and garlic bread. Desserts will be needed.

There will be a baby shower for Ashley (Williams) Johnson March 18 at 1 p.m. in the fellowship room. Ashley and Cole are expecting a boy (Waylon Cole) and are registered at www.babylist.com/ashley-colejohnson. It will come up "private address" with due date July 8.

Gospel Meeting at Gideon April 2-5 with guest speaker Brent Newton.

First Sunday potluck and early evening service April 2. We will have a potluck immediately following morning worship followed by a 1 p.m. evening service. Everyone is encourage to attend the potluck.

Easter Dinner will be served in the fellowship room April 9. We will have a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer shortly if you'd like to attend.