



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony's message is from the New Testament book,
Mark 9:2-8

Sermon Notes:



Welcome as We Celebrate the Glory of Jesus!



New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Vol. 10, Issue 19

Pastoral Pondering

I love verses that encourage me in my walk with God and often just in my plain old daily walk. (Is there a difference?) I was reading recently in Malachi and read over a verse I had read many times. Don't you love it when all of a sudden something new pops out of something old?

The verse is Malachi 2:15. *"Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth."*

I first remember reading this verse when God impressed on me for the first time the solemnity of the marriage vow. I am saddened to say it was years after I had made that covenant. God is real serious about covenants. More on that later. The second time that a portion of this verse stuck out to me was when God pointed out that He had a purpose in making them one. He wanted Godly offspring. Well that seems straightforward. As we had children they were the result of our oneness and should be raised to become Godly offspring. Sounded real easy for me to do. That is until I look back and realize how little my striving to produce Godly offspring really produced things. Yes I took them places and walked with them along the way explaining what little I knew and telling them of the faithfulness of the Father, but for all of that when I look back I can only see the hand of God on the big changes in their lives. I still look for that movement in some where despite my best efforts they don't seem to be fully where God wants them to be.

In my most recent reading of this verse I was struck by a small phrase that I am sure God must have added into His most recent update. I had never seen it before. *"with a portion of the Spirit in their union?"* Is there truly a piece of my marriage that is a portion of the Spirit, separate from my wife or I? I know that the Spirit dwells in each of us. I have come to grips with the idea of the two of us as individuals becoming one unit permanently glued together by God. This, however, seems to say something a little more. It sounds like there is an extra,

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Visitor Card

We'd like to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out this card then drop it in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

- First-Time Visitor
- Returning Visitor

Name:

Date:

Email:

Phone:

How to access the sermon archives:

If you would like a copy of an audio (CD) or video (DVD) of a sermon from our archives (\$2 per copy), please complete the following and drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room. Your order will be available for pick-up at the video booth the following week.

Name:

Sermon Date:

Scripture Passage:

To download sermons for free, go to newlifechristiancommunity.org

Prayer Card

If you are in need of prayer or would like to share a praise report, please share it below then drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

Please check a box below:

This may be added to our congregation prayer wall

Share this only with the pastor and elders

Optional:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

If you would like someone to pray with you today, you may come to the front of the church immediately following the service.

Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry
Jim Nelson 651.283.2132
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Children's Church Ministry
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Sunday Meal Services
Barb Manship: 612.804.9793
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Transportation Services
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Video Ministry
Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172
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Youth Group Ministry
Pastor Chandler Wiley:
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Announcements & Events:



Praise God! We have collected 2/3rds of our goal for Feed My Starving Children. We still have \$1500 to go to reach our goal. We have an anonymous giver willing to match all donations taken between February 12th-19th. This is an exciting opportunity for New Life to reach its contribution goal!

Please prayerfully consider giving during this time frame. Check out the red poster board in the entrance to find an amount comfortable for you. When donating please place your check written out to Feed My Starving Children in an envelope provided along with the donation card and place your envelope in the collection box or give to Lorraine Milner.

Missions News:

Save the date! Next Sunday (February, 19th), following our service (during lunch in the banquet rooms), come join Claire Neuman and Carly Peikert as they tell us about their respective mission trips. We are so blessed to have them home, let's learn with them and praise the Lord together for all that He has done as they testify to His work on these two mission trips.

Transportation Services Need:

We have a need at New Life for people who are willing to serve the body by means of providing rides. We are still looking to add people to our transportation services list who would be able/willing to help if someone from New Life would need a ride to an appointment, to pick up groceries, to visit family members, or various other reasons. The goal is to provide the contact list to those who may have a need for rides with names and contact information so they can reach out when a ride is needed. Please contact Zack Fugate either in person or by phone at 715.379.2918 if interested. Thanks for prayerfully considering to serve in this capacity from time to time.

Health Alert:

It is a bit later than usual in the year but the Influenza is at its peak and quite virulent! If you are experiencing any flu type symptoms, please protect your brothers and sisters of Christ and stay home. We have a fabulous way for you to still attend services online. Go to newlifechristiancommunity.org and click on 'Watch.' The service is live at 9:30 am every Sunday. You can also catch it later by clicking on 'Sermons.'

Ruby's Food Pantry Distribution

"Sharing and Caring through Food"

Home & Away Ministries Ctr, 210 Park Ave E, Luck

Tuesday, February 21st 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

\$20 cash donation

IMPORTANT: Bring 2 laundry baskets/boxes to carry food.

Please consider helping someone who can't drive but would benefit from this opportunity to restock their own pantry.

Pastoral Pondering

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third piece added in when the two become one. A "portion" of the spirit. King James uses the word remnant. In the Old Testament the word is mostly used like residue or left over piece. The picture to me is a piece of the Spirit that is set aside for this union. Almost like this is the thing that binds them together. Separate from either of them and the Spirit that indwells them but together with them as one. I have in my head the picture of molten plastic. When the "molten" spirit of two mixes with the molten residue, the Spirit that is reserved for that union, they become one piece. What God has molded together, how could this ever be separated. What happens to that special piece of the Spirit designed to complete that union? It is one with the two. It can never be separated. I would argue that it can never be removed from that intended union no matter the distance of the physical beings. Three in one once again.

What a fantastic picture of the Trinity. Three yet one. A cord of three strands. The whole picture helps me understand why Jesus used marriage metaphors and word pictures to try to get across the union of us as Christians with Him. It would appear that it is His intention from the beginning to make them one. Stuck together inseparably, creating a picture of the Trinity and a picture of the life in Christ. Through our marriage, the world can see the results of this kind of work of God. Now I know why God looks so harshly on breaking covenants. To attempt to break such a bond would be to blur what God wants the nations to see clearly. It would be to give a distorted picture of God Himself. It would be to violate His name, a thing He takes very seriously. As we live out our life together in the bond as one, let us instead, honor that picture. Christian may we always show the world clearly what it means for two to become one eternally.

Rene Milner

Pastoral Eldership Team:

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Dale Mattson 715.566.2302
Greg Mattson 715.417.2444
Rene Milner 715.557.0185

Upcoming Potlucks & Meal Teams:

Feb 19 Meal Team #4
Feb 26 Meal Team #5

Fellowship follows our service every Sunday, along with a great meal.



This Week's Schedule of Events:

Feb 15 Immerse Family Studies
6:30-7:45 p.m. at NLCC

Feb 16 Men's Bible Study
6:30 a.m. at NLCC

Feb 16 Women's Bible Study
9:30 a.m. at NLCC building

Feb 16 GriefShare Evening Meeting
6:30 p.m. at NLCC Grn Rm

Checkout New Life Online

newlifechristiancommunity.org
Find Links to:

• *Events* • *Sermons Online* •
Set Lists • *& More*

Tune into our pastors' podcast at the beginning of each week through our website, or the podcast icon on your Wi-Fi device.

February Memory Verse:

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." (ESV)

Deuteronomy 6:5