



Ripples

A Christian Reflection ~ April, 2017



Easter: God's Perfect Love

Looking back on my life, there are certain precious memories of times during the year where everything seemed to stop, where we could all take time to reflect on the most important things in life, and what life is truly all about. One of those times, maybe more than any other besides Christmas perhaps, is Easter Sunday. I have to believe that for a Christian, this day represents the very heart of everything we believe when it comes to life and the salvation provided us through our faith in Jesus Christ, Him having made that perfect sacrifice on the cross some two thousand years ago.



That amazing sacrifice has not always been easy for me to understand, nor freely accept. What I mean by that, is that it causes me to look deeply into my inner most soul and realize that God does not operate the way people do on this earth. He operates out of perfect and unconditional love, reaching out to us and accepting us with all of our faults and imperfections. That He was beaten, humiliated and literally sacrificed brutally on the cross by His own choice, with the understanding that, ***we were worth it!*** The scripture that always comes to mind is Romans 5:8 that says, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." How powerful is that!

Again, Easter represents ***God's Perfect Love*** in that He does not require us to work towards Him, but rather He invites us to accept the sacrifice made that would allow us to be reunited through our faith in Him. And not only that, but the sacrifice would give us eternal life that doesn't start after we leave this earth, but while we are still here! May God greatly bless each of you as you celebrate Easter this April 16th and what it means to you!



Scripture of Reflection: *"He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"* —Luke 24:6-7



CHRISTIAN RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES IN DISTRICT 13

Bible Studies & Fellowship Opportunities:

- Seattle Base – Breakfast Bible Study & Fellowship
 - Wednesdays, 0645-0745 @ Cutterman Dining Hall
 - For more info, contact Mr. Vic Primeaux, cmfvic@wavecable.com
- Seattle Base – Breakfast Bible Study & Fellowship
 - 2nd Friday of each Month, 0615-0720 @ Coho Room, Cutterman Dining Hall
 - For more info, contact Mr. Larry Simpson, ocfoutreach@comcast.net
- Seattle D13 / Jackson Federal Bldg – Noontime Bible Study & Fellowship
 - Wednesdays, 1200-1300 @ Rm 3408, Jackson Federal Bldg
 - For more info, contact Mr. Vic Primeaux, cmfvic@wavecable.com
- Everett NavSta (Smokey Point Chapel) – OCF Bible Study and Fellowship
 - 1st Wednesday of each Month, 1100-1200 @ Chapel Library
 - For more info, contact Mr. Larry Simpson, ocfoutreach@comcast.net
- Bangor (NBK) Chapel – Ladies Bible Study & Fellowship
 - Wednesdays, 1000-1130 @ Bangor Chapel Conference Room
 - For more info, contact Mrs. Bobbie Simpson, ocfoutreach@comcast.net
- Bremerton/Bangor Officer's Christian Fellowship (OCF)
 - Thursdays, 1800-2000 @ various host houses
 - For more info, contact Mr. Larry Simpson, ocfoutreach@comcast.net

Special Dates and Upcoming Events:

April 13: Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday)

April 14: Good Friday

April 16: Easter Sunday

May 5: The Pierce County Prayer Breakfast is held on the first Friday in May each year at the Tacoma Dome Convention Center in Tacoma, Washington. This year's date is May 5, 2017 with special guest speaker Clint Gresham! See <http://prayerbreakfast.info/> for more information on this event and their weekly Wednesday morning breakfast and fellowship held in Tacoma.

Christian Resource of the Month:

Bible Gateway – www.biblegateway.com Bible Gateway (@BibleGateway & @BibleGatewayApp) is your rich social and personal connection to freely read, research, and reference Scripture on your desktop, laptop, tablet, smartphone . . . anywhere; in more than 200 versions and more than 70 languages! Its simple yet advanced searching capabilities allow you to quickly find and compare particular passages in multiple Bible translations based on the keywords, phrases, topics, or Scripture references you have in mind. For a bit of history of how it all got started: The original multilingual searchable Bible website, Bible Gateway was started in 1993 by Nick Hengeveld, a student at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI, who had a visionary passion to make the Bible digitally accessible to everyone through the very new technology at the time called the Internet. It's a great resource for any Christian to have at hand and keyboard!