

Morning Meditation

You Can't Make This Stuff Up, Part 2 **Philippians 2:5-8**

Last week, in this space, I shared with you how the Christian story convinces me it is true, **by its sheer unbelievability**. I fully understand those who say they can't believe it. It is truly, unlike any religion manufactured in the minds of men and I think that is why *it must be true!* **No one, but God, could make THIS up!**

I shared with you how the **Christian God is a humble God**. Our God woos us and encourages us to trust Him, but He never tries to control us or force us to follow His Son. The gospel of Christ is *always* an invitation and not a demand. And this is unlike any other god known to man.

Today, I want to share with you what I think are the craziest, least expected, MOST unbelievable parts of this beautiful story.

God, according to His original plan, steps into the middle of history **as a man**. The birth of Jesus had to be from the true God, because no one would have ever imagined it. Jesus, **The Creator** enters the world through the birth canal of **His creation**. Such a humble entrance, could only come from the mind of a humble God. **NO MAN COULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THIS!**

Now, I give you the MOST CRAZY part of the story. Jesus, who was fully God and fully man, never used His power for Himself nor for public display. (Except that withered fig tree...) **All His power was used in service to His creation, humanity**. He gave blind men their sight back. He set epileptics free. Lepers were cleansed. Sick and dead children were returned to their parents. He even provided wine from water to keep a party going.

He was/is THE most perfect expression of selfless, others-centered love the world has ever seen.

Ironically, the *powers of the day*, could not fathom a Messiah like this, and thought that kind of love should be stopped. And though He could have summoned thousands of angels to deliver Himself, these powers lynched Him to a tree and killed Him. Though He could have prevented it, yet...

He. Let. Them. Do. It!

Why? Because the Christian God doesn't fight, He serves. The Christian God doesn't coerce, He draws the world to Himself in sacrificial love.

This story must be true because only a humble, loving, giving God could ever devise such a glorious plan. Power? Yes! Of course! *But power 'laid down!'* Now that's Love! And that's the Christian God!

O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing!

Bob

WELCOME TO LIFE NAZ — MARCH 18, 2018

Wi-Fi password – nazguest

Website: www.wburgnaz.com

"Like" us on Facebook: Life Naz Warrensburg

SMALL GROUPS AT 9:30 AM

Nursery/Toddler downstairs, Room A-1

3 yrs-K & 1st-5th – Children's wing upstairs

Adult Bible Study Fellowship in rooms A-3, C-1 & C-2,

Middle High (6-8th)-Room C-3, Senior High (9-12th) – Room C-4

FAMILY WORSHIP AT 10:45 AM

Worship in Song – "That's Why We Praise Him"

Director of New Beginnings Women's Center, Patti White

Worship in Song – "Your Love is Amazing"

"At The Cross"

"Lamb of God"

Sharing at the Lord's Table

Cheerful Giving – Kids to Children's Church

Special Music – Ellen Blaize

Morning Message: "Failure, Death and the Template of Life"

Invitation to Pray

Benediction

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 21..... All-Church Prayer Meeting

March 25..... Palm Sunday

March 30..... Good Friday Service

March 31..... Stations of the Cross

April 1..... Easter Sunday

Invite Your Friends & Family to Our Easter Service

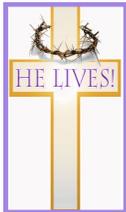
In the lobby, on the table on the East wall, are invitations for our Easter Sunday Service. Take a group of tickets and invite your family, friends and co-workers to join us. It will be full of fun and inspiration as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.



Warrensburg Life Church of the Nazarene

Join Us Easter Sunday, April 1st
Hot Breakfast 9:30 am
Easter Worship Service at 10:30 am

603 E Hale Lake Road
(660) 747-8949
www.wburgnaz.com



Wednesday Night Prayer Meetings During Lent

On Wednesday evenings, during Lent, we are inviting everyone to come and pray together, from 6:30-7:15 pm. We have a time of worship led by James Becker, a time of teaching by Matt Chapman, then we pray together with the aid of prayer guides. **Childcare provided!**



Life Naz Missionary Weekend, "Why Not Me?"

Saturday and Sunday, April 14th and 15th, we will welcome Charlotte Maxwell Bearden as our special guest. Charlotte is a retired missionary from South Africa. On Saturday, April 14th, from 6:30-8:00 pm, we invite families to join us for snacks and fellowship. On Sunday morning, April 15th, Charlotte will first visit with the Sunday School Classes at 9:30 am, and then will join us, at 10:45 am, to speak in our morning Worship Service.



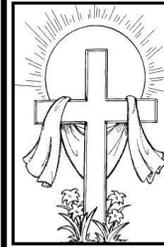
Volunteers

Today's Greeter – Linda Jennings

Today's Ushers – J.P Butler/ R. Fussell/ D. Mayo/ I. Hayslip

Today's Counters – Teresa Pryor/Julie Wohletz

Passion Week Schedule



Good Friday Service – Friday, March 30th @ 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross – Sat., March 31st, Noon to 5:00 pm

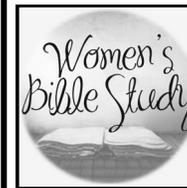
Easter Sunday – Hot Breakfast: 9:30 am
Easter Sunday Service: 10:30 am
(NO Sunday School on Easter)

Baptism Service, April 8th

The Sunday following Easter, April 8th, we will be celebrating the **Sacrament of Water Baptism**. If you are a follower of Jesus and have never been baptized, we encourage you to take this step of faith. If going under water is difficult for you, there are other options. If you are interested, please fill out a blue card and write 'baptism' on the back and you will be contacted.



Women's Bible Study



On Wednesday, April 11th, at 6:30pm we will be starting a Women's Book Study. The book is titled "We Saved You a Seat". Books will be available at the first class. This class will be facilitated by Kellie Vincent. If you have any questions, you can contact her (kelb_24@yahoo.com).

Life Naz Welcomes Patti White, Executive Director, New Beginnings Women's Center

It is our privilege to have the Executive Director of the Women's Center, New Beginnings, with us today. Patti will share her amazing story about how God led and provided for the start of this wonderful ministry in town. God is working in beautiful ways through this ministry, for 14 years running!

Welcome Patti, we are so glad you are here!

We started last week, and will continue using their baby bottles until Sunday, April 8th. If you haven't picked one up, do so today! The Women's Center is a non-profit medical clinic providing confidential medical services that are free of charge. They also give accurate information on all options regarding unplanned pregnancy.

