

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2023.04.28

Website: oakgrovecofc.org

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Sermon recordings

Click or type the short URL, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/Recordings/.

Speaker-AM: Steve Helterbrand

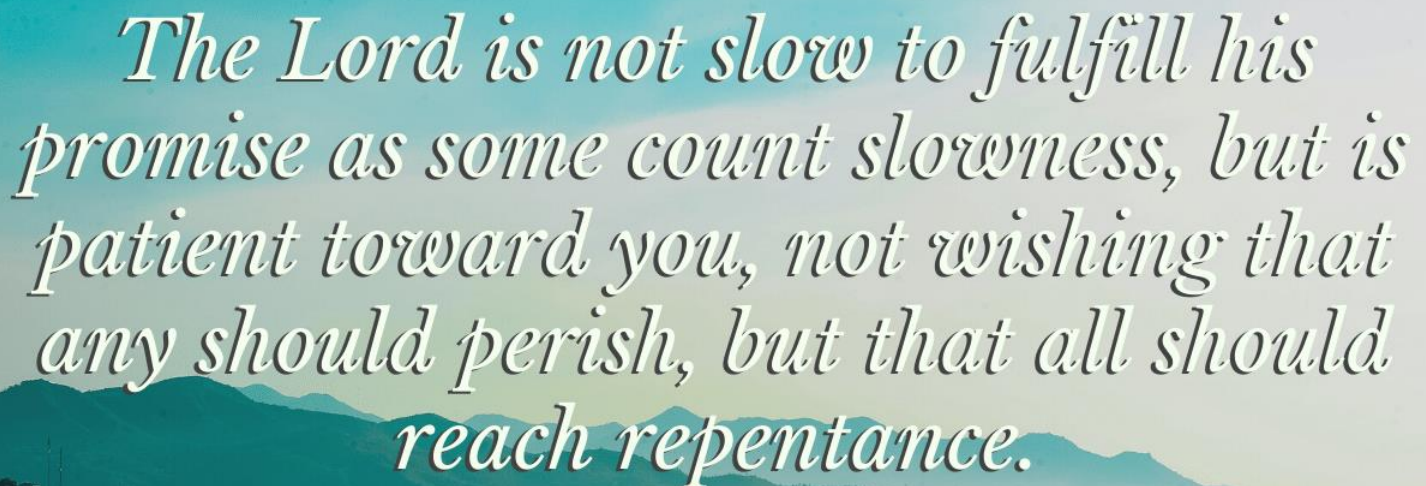
Title: Thief On The Cross

Recording:

tinyurl.com/SteveCross

Speaker-PM:

Song Service, no recording



The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2 PETER 3:9

Connell's

I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Psalms 32:5 KJV

What Have You Done? 10/23/2019 By Robbie Moreland

1 year consists of 365 days. 1 day has 24 hours, each hour has 60 minutes and each minute has 60 seconds. That is a lot of time. 8760 hours a year. Lots of work. Lots of fun. Lots of sleep!

But, how much of that time are you using for yourself, and how much are you using for God?

Eph 5:13-16

13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. 14 This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” 15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

Consider this idea as we consider a few ideas.

Good deeds.

What about good deeds? What have you done for your fellow man this week?...this month?...this year?

What have you been doing? Have you been helping those in need of money? In need of help moving? In need of cutting wood or watching their kids? Maybe just sending a text when they are sick or in need of encouragement?

Anything at all? Hopefully so. If not, it's time to make a plan to improve.

Galatians 6:9

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Sometimes we can grow tired of always helping others. We may sigh and grumble about it even. But, we have to remember what we are doing is not only helping others, it is something God wants of us, and requires of us. Don't give up, and keep helping!

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

This week, check in on your brethren, family, friends, and neighbors. See if there is something you can do for them.



Spiritual study

What have you studied about spiritual things recently? Have you read your Bible, studied a topic or idea this week?...this month?...this year?

How are you doing in spiritual learning? Reading your Bible? Reading a spiritual book, reading an article, a tract, or a website? Anything at all? Hopefully so. If not, it's time to make a plan to improve.

When we read the Bible, we are fed by God's Word and supplied for our spiritual life. Jesus mentioned this in Matthew 4:4 when He said, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."

Other verses in the Bible also makes it clear that God's Word is nourishment to us.

1 Peter 2:1-3

2 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, 2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, 3 if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

We can not physically live without food for more than a few weeks in most cases. Days when it comes to water. If we are not feeding ourselves spiritually, how long until our soul gives out as well? I would say it would not take long. We need to feed ourselves each week, and probably each day if we went to be truly filled and nourished enough to survive. Once a week on Sunday might keep us alive, but it won't give us enough strength to enter into spiritual warfare. Therefore, It's very important, that we're supplied by reading and feeding on God's Word as much as we can, as often as we can.

So, one practical idea we may not have thought of to help us balance the time. For those of you who work out by running or exercising. Why not put on an audio bible while you work out? Two for one improvement of body and soul! The same can go for a ride in the car, getting dressed, or other times we can multitask if needed. We have busy lives, but I'm sure we can squeeze in some time during our day for study.

Evangelism

What about your Evangelism? Who have you mentioned Christ, invited to worship, or discussed spiritual things with this week?...this month?...this year?

Once again, take a few moments to consider yourself. Have you been talking to your co-workers, friends, relatives, or those you meet day-to-day about anything relating to Christ? Something as little as “I’ll pray for you” or even asking for a bible study?

Anything at all? Hopefully so. If not, it's time to make a plan to improve

We are told it is our job throughout scripture, and the purpose of being a Christian, to bring others to Christ.

2 Timothy 4:5

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

To fulfill our duty, we have to be bringing others to know Christ. Do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry is pretty plain and simple here. Paul was telling this to Timothy, but it also applies to us.

Our practical application here is simple. Seek out the lost, and bring them in. Bring up spiritual matters when the occasion rises. Seek out those who are interested and set up a bible study. Invite friends and family to hear the word preached. The only way for us to increase, is to be out there working. The gospel needs to be taught.

Let's get to it. Let's take this lesson and apply it this week. We have work to do. First, study on you own. Second, help someone else in need. Finally, talk to someone about Christ. An easy list of homework for us, myself included. I know I am lacking in all three of these in many ways. Let's all work and strive together for Christ this week...month...year...and throughout our lives.