

*Announcements*

Jerald T

*Song Leader*

Tim E

*Prayer Leaders*

Kevin H

Jerald T

*Lord's Table*

Kevin H

Tim J

Alvin T

*Lesson*

Video

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me..." JOHN 14:6

*The Mountain Cannot Grow*

An ancient Chinese parable tells of Old Tan Chang who had a small farm overshadowed by a towering mountain. One day he got the notion to get rid of the mountain. With the help of his wife and sons, he began to hack at the rock around its base. A neighbor walked by and scoffed, "You will never finish the job, old man! There are not enough days in the year for you to do this. Your life will not be long enough to tear down the mountain."

But Tan replied confidently, "I am not as foolish as you think, my friend. I may be old and feeble, but after I am gone, my sons will continue to peck away at the mountain. Then their sons and their sons' sons will do the same. Since the mountain cannot grow, someday it will be level with the ground, and the sun will shine upon our land."

The Scriptures emphasize that God's work often takes hundreds of years with each generation doing a little bit more until finally God's work is completed. The Hebrew writer tells us that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob all received promises from God, but those promises were not fulfilled in their generations (Hebrews 11:13). They "pecked away" at the mountain one stroke at a time, and later generations received a multitude of blessings.

It is an important reminder for our "instant culture." We have become accustomed to instant coffee, instant messages, microwave meals and a multitude of other products all designed to help us receive what we want as quickly as possible. The result is that when we pray for God's will to be done in our lives, we want it done within the next two minutes. There are great things to be achieved simply by laying a groundwork that succeeding generations can build on.

This is a good reminder when we tackle a task that seems to be endless. Frequently we must tell ourselves that "the mountain cannot grow" and every chip we take out of the mountain makes it that much smaller, and in time, the mountain will be gone.

Most of us face some obstacles in life that seem like mountains. When we feel like giving up we can remember "The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me" (Psalm 28:7). We take hope, encouragement and strength from the promises of God's word.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

*PRAYER LIST*

- Kevin's sister, Gigi, fell on the ice and broke her back; prayers for her healing.
- Pam G's coworker Al has been diagnosed with prostate cancer; she asks for prayers for comfort and healing.
- Wendy requests prayers for several co-workers and acquaintances dealing with cancer: Carla, Jim, Lisa and Latasha.
- Tim E – pinched nerve
- Deb H – health
- Sonja M - health
- Pam G's sister, Diane
- Gary B's dad (cancer)
- Military: Tré C (Rena's husband/Tim & Dawn J's son)
- Expectant mothers: Sierra H, Holly E, Ashley G

# We Have an Amazing Story to Tell

## Exodus 18

Notice the topics Moses and Jethro discussed in Exodus 18. They first asked how each other were doing (18:7), much like we would today when we see friends we haven't seen in years. Then Moses told Jethro three things: the miracles of God with the Egyptians, the hardships of travel, and God's deliverance. Jethro's response was one of praise and worship to God for all that He had done for Moses and the people. Moses gave God the credit and pointed to Him in front of his family. It is very encouraging to see family members talk about how great the Lord is, but of course, Moses told Jethro these things because what God did was incredible! We, like Moses, have an incredible story to tell – one that is much more amazing than that of the exodus. God has delivered His people from the bondage of sin! We need to be excited to tell our physical families, spiritual families, and friends about the amazing story of God delivering us from sin and the life we can now live in Christ.

*Tell me the old, old story  
Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and His love.  
Tell me the story simply,  
As to a little child;  
For I am weak and weary,  
And helpless and defiled.*

*Tell me the story slowly,  
That I may take it in -  
That wonderful redemption,  
God's remedy for sin.  
Tell me the story often,  
For I forget so soon;  
The early dew of morning  
Has passed away at noon*

The words to the hymn, "Tell Me the Old, Old Story" were written as a poem by Katherine Hankey, in 1866, while she was recovering from a serious illness in London. It was set to music by George Washington Doane, who was impressed by the poem when it was recited by Major General David Russell in 1867.

Nathan Lee & Eric Wallace  
11/24/19 - *General*