

A Seeking Heart

By Joe Chesser

What do Christopher Columbus, Madame Curie and Indiana Jones have in common? You might also throw into the mix the Wright brothers, Thomas Edison and Colombo. Answer: they all are examples of fulfilling one of God's promises – "Seek and you will find" (Matthew 7:7). I don't know if any of these people did what they did because they believed in God's promise or not, but they do illustrate this great, universal promise of God. You will find what your heart is looking for.

We usually think of this promise of God in a positive, spiritual way. We believe and teach that if a person is truly seeking God, they will find Him. It is what God said, isn't it?! Jesus even went on to say that "everyone" who asks, seeks and knocks will find what they are looking for (Matthew 7:8). We know the verses and sing the songs. So, the person who is seeking to find the truth will find it. The person who is seeking to grow to spiritual maturity will do it. The person who is looking for a closer relationship with God will have it. After all, it's what God has promised, and "He who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23). We trust and cherish this very special promise of God.

What we may not have considered, however, is that this promise of God is also true when applied in the opposite direction. I have wondered why Eve was close enough to the forbidden tree to be tempted by it. She knew what God had said about staying away from that tree. She knew she wasn't to eat of its fruit or even touch it (Genesis 3:3). She even quoted what God had said to Satan! So why was she close enough to the tree to desire its fruit and take it? Was she finding what her heart was seeking? I think so. To the people who refuse to love the truth and desire something else instead, God has promised to make sure they find it. He has given a frightening promise to send them a "powerful delusion so that they will believe a lie" (2 Thessalonians 2:10-11).

If you are looking for ways to disobey God, it won't be difficult to find them. If you want to run with the wrong crowd, you will. If you want to be unfaithful to your spouse, there'll be opportunities. If you want to leave God, you'll find lots of "reasons" to do so. If you are seeking someone to tickle your ears, those people will be readily available (2 Timothy 4:1-4). If your heart is not totally committed to the kingdom of God, there will be plenty things to distract you from being productive (Matthew 6:33, Luke 8:14).

God has promised that we will find what our hearts seek. He wants us to seek Him, to follow Him, and to love Him with all that we have. If that is what we truly want, God will make sure that it happens. On the other hand, if in our hearts we would rather seek something else, God will make sure that there will be something available for that, too. So, be very careful with this promise of God, for you will find what you seek!



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091

September 12, 2021

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Theme: Tomb of the Unknown...

Paul is preaching today

Scripture Reading: Acts 17:16-23

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Paul will be continuing his lessons on the Psalms and stopping to sing a song from our songbook when appropriate.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** September 15th, at the building, 6:30pm- Arthur will be continuing his lessons on the book of Matthew. Come at 6 and bring something to eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday (3rd Sunday):** September 19th.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class will resume on Tuesday, September 14th here at the building.** We will meet at 10am. We will study the words of the Apostle Peter, using the study book Living Stones by Casandra Martin.
- ❖ **Second Annual National Door-knocking Day** for Heart to Heart, Home to Home. October 2nd.
- ❖ **Next 5th Sunday Singing-** October 31st. Where: TBA



- **Next Sunday is Bring-a-Friend Sunday! Think of someone to invite to worship and be sure to stay for our 3rd Sunday potluck meal as well!**
- We have 50 MAGI boxes! In each box is a list of items that should be included. We also have paper lists of what can be put in these boxes before the **deadline of May 1st**. Our boxes will be heading to children in Honduras via the church there. We might even decide to do 50 more before the deadline if we do a good job with these. We need to decide which age group we are concentrating on and do half for boys and half for girls.
- **Ladies' Class is starting on Tuesday! Be there at 10am! The first lesson will be copied for you, and then you will have the opportunity to purchase the study book.**

PRAYERS

- **Pray for the people of Afghanistan as there is turmoil while the Taliban takes control of the country.**
- Pray for the people of **Haiti** as they try to recover from the earthquake. Also pray for the people along the **East Coast** as they clean up after Hurricane Ida left tornado and flood damage and deaths.
- **Sue Barry**, Arthur's sister, is currently in remission from metastatic breast cancer! Praise God!
- Pray for **Jackie**. She is dealing with edema of the legs and feet. She also has congestive heart failure. Pray for Darlene as she cares for her and pray that Jackie can make a wise decision about whether to continue staying at Darlene's or to keep her apartment on Keystone.
- **Miki's cousin by marriage, Steve Noble**, needs a lung transplant. Please pray for him and his wife Donna.
- Pray for **Linnett Short** (lung cancer), **Zachary Cowles** (deployment with the Army), **Pat Guthrie** (lung cancer), **Dan Myers** (several health concerns), **Arthur's brother Chris** (Alzheimer's).
- Pray for our MAGI box project.
- Pray for a successful **Bring-a-Friend Sunday** next week.
- **Pray for our new ladies Bible class on Tuesday.**

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.