Don't Overlook One of "THE" Most Important Words

By Edd Sterchi

In the gospel account of John, Jesus is recorded as saying, "I am the..." in reference to Himself in several different ways and occasions. When we read these statements, I wonder if we miss a very important word in them – the word "THE"!

"The" is a definite article which indicates only one thing in reference. Thus, when Jesus used the word "the" in the following statements, He meant He was "the one and only" possibility:

- When Jesus said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35), He was indicating that He is the only source of proper spiritual nourishment.
- When Jesus said, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12), He was revealing that He is the only author of true enlightenment.
- When Jesus said, "I am the door" (John 10:9), He was saying that He is the only passageway to heaven.
- When Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11), He was pointing out that He is the only director of the church (the sheepfold) and how she operates.
- When Jesus said, "I am the Son of God" (John 10:36), He was saying that He is the only Savior of the human race.
- When Jesus said, "I am the resurrection" (John 11:25), He was saying that He is the only way to be raised to eternal life after death.
- When Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6), He was saying that He is the only avenue of access to the Father in heaven.
- When Jesus said, "I am the true vine" (John 15:5), He was saying that He is the only means of true spiritual productivity.

These are indeed powerful pronouncements from Jesus Christ. As we read them time and time again, let us be continually reminded of how Jesus is "the" only one who can make "the" difference in our lives.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091

May 23, 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 Sermon: What Are You Waiting For?

Arthur will be preaching today.

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc

Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Sunday Morning Bible Class: Teachings from the Psalms by Paul, with complementary songs.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class: May 26th at the building,
 6:30pm- We are studying the Gospel according to Matthew.
 Come at 6 and eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- ➤ Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little, and Doug and Sandy Zimmerman hope to be here by June 18th or just after to start work on the 21st and will remain here until July 8th.
- ➤ **Regional Singing:** next Sunday, May 30th at 5pm, hosted by the Horseheads church on Miller Street.
- > **Potluck**: Sunday, June 20th.



- Larry Barton, husband of Chris Barton who several of us know from the Endwell church, passed away on Wednesday. He was in the hospital for an operation and contracted Covid19 while there. Our prayers are with Chris and family at this time.
- Paul's son Zachary Cowles has been spending time with his family here before he ships out overseas with the Army later this month. He will be deployed for two years.
- There will be a workshop conducted by the Sojourners on "Life after Covid"

in the church on June 26th here at the Valley Cities building. We have invited area churches to join us and hope to brainstorm ideas of how to go forward.

PRAYERS

- Sam Barry, Robin and Katie's son, is in ICU with high blood glucose. Doctors are treating him for Type 1 diabetes, possibly brought on by Covid.
- Pat Gutherie from Kittanning has lung cancer again in his left lung and is on chemo. Pray for another remission. He says he is only moderately sick from side effects and loves us all. He thanks us for praying for him.
- Gail Westerhold has cancer on her left kidney. She will be having surgery to remove a part of that kidney on Thursday. Please pray for her.
- Pray for Linnett Short, a former coworker of Paul's. She has stage 3 lung cancer.
- Arthur's younger sister, Sue, has metatastic breast cancer and is treating it with chemo and other medicine. Her red and white blood cell count is way down so she can't continue with chemo at the moment. Please pray for her.
- Please pray for Arthur's brother Chris from England, who has Alzheimer's Disease.
- Rhoda Sutryk, Paul's former mother-in-law, is in the hospital with Covid19. She has recently improved enough to leave ICU. Her husband is also still sick from Covid.
- Winni Carlisle, one of our sojourners in 2019, has breast cancer. Please pray for her.
- Jackie was tested for pneumonia last week because she was having trouble breathing after recovering from Covid. Thankfully, she did not have pneumonia, but might have bronchitis and has to resume using supplemental oxygen.
- Rick Stapleton, one of our neighbors who has visited with us, is going in for heart surgery next week.

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