

What Do You Seek First and Where Do You Seek it?

When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do." So when the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. Moreover, all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth.

Genesis 41:55-57

In Matthew 6:31-33 Jesus accused gentiles of going after food and clothing as though they are the most important aspects of life.

They are not.

But they are important, aren't they?

If a famine hit us right where I live, in Central New York, and the only food source available was in Mexico City or Quebec, would I make every effort to connect with that food source, or would I reject it and just accept death by starvation? I believe I would be brushing up on my Spanish or French!

So, if there are things that are more important than food and clothing, shouldn't I be at least as keen to get to wherever those things are available? And, if I got food and clothing thrown in with the deal, would I be happy about that?

Yessir!

Fortunately I have never had to endure a famine, but I think it is good to be prepared mentally. I am thankful to God that I do not have to go on an odyssey or learn a different language in order to get to His Kingdom. When Jesus was on Earth the message was, "Repent for the kingdom is near!" (Matthew 3:2). John the Baptizer did not say, "Repent because a famine is coming"; His message was even more urgent than that. Since Jesus has gone back to Heaven, the message is, "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe." (Hebrews 12:28)

The Kingdom is here with us, but we still have to think and behave appropriately. Would you be willing to give up food for the Kingdom? Joseph demanded that his brothers and father should come to Egypt and obey his will in order to get food. They chose to do that rather than starve to death. Shouldn't we choose to serve God in repentance, rather than be eternally condemned?

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God"



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

May 22, 2016

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



Today's Sermon: *How God Restrains Evil in Our World*

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

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org
aicoc.org

Scripture: 2 Peter 2:1-9

Hymns: 532 All People That on Earth Do Dwell; **731** Take Time To Be Holy; **324** Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed? **753** Farther Along; **800** What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Ladies Class, Tuesday, May 24th. Sandy will lead the first lesson in our new book, Human and Holy. Our lesson will be at the building.

- **Next Potluck-** June 19th.
- There will be a campaign in June to contact all interested people in the **Tunkhannock** area for Bible studies and worship. Robin Barry and his family from Soldotna, AK plan on visiting Arthur and Sandy at that time to help with the effort.
- Check out the poster for the **Christian Town Hall** that Arthur is working on and **please add this to your prayer list.**



- **Dave and Lynne Laton** from the Elmore, AL church are coming back to spend the month of June in their camper in Tunkhannock while Dave preaches there the first 4 Sundays in the Endless Mountains church. Jerry Stumpf from Altoona, PA has volunteered to preach here at Sayre on June 5th so Arthur and Sandy can attend the first worship service at the new church.
- **5th Sunday Singing @ Horseheads church next Sunday, 4:30pm.**



You are often sorry for saying a harsh word, but you will never regret saying a kind one.

PRAYERS...

- Lori Kashorek, wife of Doug, the preacher at the church in Plattsburg, has lung cancer and is being treated with chemo. She is doing very well and the chemo seems to be shrinking her tumor.
- Jerry Frank of Austin, TX, a good friend of the Barrys, and a former member of the Endwell church, died suddenly on Friday. Please remember his wife Judy and family in your prayers.
- Emily Barry had a job interview near Buffalo last week and is waiting to see if she gets a second interview. Please pray that she is successful in securing a job soon.
- Please pray for the outreach effort of the Antioch Initiative to start a church in Tunkhannock, PA.
- Please pray that Darlene makes the right decision about a job opportunity that has come up.
- Pray for Jackie Lobevero, Darlene's mother, as she adjusts to retirement and tries to secure enough income to live on.
- Ted, Jennifer and Ethan have all been sick with sinus and respiratory ailments last week.
- Rhonda's husband, Don, is still suffering from the effects of Lyme disease.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, Erin Beiber, is suffering from breast cancer that has metastasized to her spine. She is the mother of two young boys.
- Our family and friends who need to be saved or restored to faith.
- Pray for our country, the upcoming election, and our Christian example to the rest of the world during these times. Help us to take advantage of every opportunity to share the Gospel.

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

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials.