

# Sunday Gathering

The Believer, Exodus 5:1-6:1  
- Bradley Bell

July 9, 2023

Lamentations

## Call to Worship - Genesis 3:15

God always cares for his people. From the beginning, he created humanity in a beautiful garden, filled with life and food, with a command to rule over it. There he gave man and woman the gift of marriage, and together they walked with God each day. Even when they disobeyed God's direct command, he made a way for them to be saved through the promise of a coming Savior. He spoke to the serpent who deceived the woman,

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. Genesis 3:15

That promised offspring of the woman would one day be bruised upon the cross. But in so doing, he would actually be crushing the head of the serpent. Let's declare this truth together:

Jesus Christ has defeated the power of Satan, sin, and death!

So this morning, even though we come still facing the hardships of a fallen world, God is caring for us. He has walked with us each day this week, and he calls us to worship him together. Let us praise him!

## *Praise Him Praise Him (Lifeway)*

## Confession - 2 Timothy 2:11-13

It's easy for us to shake our heads at the Israelites in the book of Exodus. Their complaining and fear and doubt can give us a kind of superiority complex. Yet, how often do we have a similar attitude?

In Detrich Bonhoeffer's book *Life Together*, he quotes Martin Luther saying,

"The Kingdom is to be in the midst of your enemies. And he who will not suffer this does not want to be of the Kingdom of Christ; he wants to be among friends, to sit among roses and lilies, not with the bad people but the devout people... If Christ had done what you are doing who would ever have been spared?"

Let's take a moment to consider this question and confess our need for God together:

Where in your life are you choosing ease over the hardships of following Christ?

Now let's find hope and strength in this prayer from 2 Timothy 2:

If we die with him, we'll live with him;  
If we stick it out with him, we'll rule with him;  
If we turn our backs on him, he'll turn his back on us;  
If we give up on him, he does not give up—  
for there's no way he can be false to himself.  
2 Timothy 2:11-13, MSG

## *I Asked The Lord That I Might Grow*

## *Christ Is Mine Forevermore*

## Sermon - Exodus 5:1-6:1

## Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

## Psalm 126

## *Man Of Sorrows*

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## **Benediction - Galatians 2:20**

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus.

Family Groups - We invite you to visit one of our Family Groups, which meet in homes throughout the week. We describe them as "intentional environments to be transformed by the gospel through relationships. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us, and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Giving & Visitors - Also, now is our time for giving—ushers, please come forward. If you are a visitor with us this morning, please grab a visitor card from the basket so we can get to know you more. You can give it to someone with a lanyard or leave it in your seat.

Antioch members, remember that giving is part of how we participate in God's mission. If you prefer to give digitally, visit our website or find us on GivApp.

### Announcements

For everyone, here are a few ways to take the following steps:

1) Food pantry will be this Saturday, July 15th. Servants should arrive by 9:30 AM and doors will open at 10:00 AM. Box prep will be this Friday morning. Quite a few of our regular folks are out of town this week so please consider serving on Saturday and/or helping with box prep on Friday. Both of these are kid-friendly service opportunities that typically last 2-3 hours. See Steve Leach for details on Saturday Food Pantry and Sarah O'Malley for details on Friday box prep.

2) Our July Family Meeting will be two weeks from today on Sunday, July 23rd at 6:00 PM. Dinner and childcare will be provided, but we need everyone to RSVP. These are important gatherings for covenant members and we encourage you to make every effort to attend.

3) Please be in prayer this week for our mission team to Grenada!

Please stand with me. We begin each gathering with a call to worship and end with a benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing. I invite you to open your hands in a posture of reception.

Church, Yahweh has knelt and answered you through the suffering of his sent one, Jesus Christ. Now it is no longer you who lives, but Christ who lives in you. So let us go from here, enduring hardship by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave his life for us.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

You are sent.

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