

Attendance:

12-30-2018

585

GIVING:

YTD Goal

687,341

YTD Surplus

95,947

WAYS TO GIVE BEYOND CASH

RMBC APP

OR

text reedleymbc to 77977



Reedley Church Mennonite Brethren

1362 L Street, Reedley CA 93654
Phone: (559) 638-8123 Prayer Line: (559) 743-7808
www.reedleymbc.org

Sunday Worship Services 8:15 & 10:50am
Sunday School 9:35-10:35am
Wednesday Night Programs 6:30pm



Malcolm Light, Senior Pastor

Matt Harder, Pastor of Care & Counseling

Randy Janzen, Worship Ministries

Mike Schellenberg, Pastor of Discipleship & Outreach

Joel Kersey, Student Ministries Pastor

Micah Thiesen, Middle School Director

Sabrina Elenes, Director of Children's Ministries

Jodi Laemmlen, Director of Women's Ministries

Kelly Fox, Administrative Assistant

Kathy Hughes, Finance Clerk

Sheila Penner, Hospitality Coordinator

Charlie Rivoire, Business Manager

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kathy@reedleymbc.org

sheila@reedleymbc.org

charlie@reedleymbc.org



You are Made for More!

Consider joining the Perspectives Course this January. More info in journal and the App.

Perspectives
on the World Christian Movement

JANUARY 6TH

MEET THE PASTOR
A time of getting acquainted with Pastor Malcolm and our church.

LET'S MEET January 6 @ 9:40am in the Conference Room

ROOTED BROOMBALL

Sunday, January 20th
5:30-10:30pm

Who: All High School Students
Cost: \$10 - Pay and register on the app or Webpage by January 16th.

Register now on the RMBC High School webpage or app.

Registration deadline and \$450 deposit due January 20th, 2019

youthcon April 3-7th, 2019

DIVORCE Care

Divorce Care will begin January 9th in EC-206 at 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

RESUME JANUARY 9TH!

Soup & Swap

January 28
6:30pm
Fellowship Hall

WINTER CAMPS

Junior @ Hartland: Feb 1-3
Junior High @ Hume: Feb 1-3
High School @ Hume: Feb 22-24
Sign up today on our app!

BABY DEDICATION
JANUARY 13, 2019

Parents please contact the church office at 638-8123 by January 7th if you'd like to participate.

ROOTED PARENT MEETING
January 13th @ 2:30pm

All Rooted Ministry Parents Are Invited

- Discussion of upcoming Rooted 2019 Events
- Guest Speaker Sharing on Healthy Parents and Student Relationships
- Prayer Time for our Students

RMBC LIBRARY

Featuring a selection of Reformation Biographies
Great resource center
Something for all ages

SO MANY BOOKS SO LITTLE TIME

Sunday's 9:25-10:50am
Wednesday's 6:15-7:45pm

the Perk

Sunday 9:15am-10:45am
Wednesday 6:00pm-8:15pm
Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

Volunteers needed for Kingdom Kids

Starts Jan '17 2019

Contact Sabrina for more info

FORGED MEN'S BREAKFAST
JANUARY 19 8:00AM

JOIN US!
@ Reedley MB Fellowship Hall

Menu:
Pancakes & Eggs!

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | INSPIRATION

Tuesday & Thursday
5:30-6:30pm
in the Student Center

T-Squared
Free Co-ed Exercise Class

FELLOWSHIP MEALS

For more details on these or additional RMBC Ministries: check the App, Website, or contact the church office at (559) 638-8123. Further details can also be found in today's journal.

This Sunday's bulletin can be accessed **online** **APP**



RMBC ~ Journal

Welcome to Reedley MB! We're pleased to have you join us today for our worship services. It's our prayer that you will meet the living God in this place as we hear from the Word of God. We are here to **GLORIFY** God, **GROW** together as equipped disciples of Jesus Christ and **GO** proclaiming His gospel to all. If you have any questions, please ask, check out our app, or stop by The Welcome Center on the main lawn.

~ Malcolm Light, Pastor

Worship Services 8:15 & 10:50am Sunday School 9:35-10:30am

Worship Today-Jan 6th

Today we'll return to our study in Matthew's gospel looking at Chapter 16. Jesus is again facing opposition by leaders among the Jewish people. Jesus confronts them with their desire for signs to give Jesus legitimacy. Jesus shows the necessity of His followers to be focused and discerning as they take His message to others. Our text will be Matthew 16:1-12.

Upcoming Events

- Jan 6: Meet the Pastor at 9:40am
- Jan 7: Perspectives Classes Begin
- Jan 9: Divorce Care Classes Begin
- Jan 9: Wed. Night Activities Resume
- Jan 13: Baby Dedication
- Jan 17: Kingdom Kids Begins
- Jan 13: Rooted Parent Meeting
- Jan 19: Forged Men's Breakfast
- Jan 20: Rooted High School Broomball
- Jan 28: Soup & Swap Women's Ministry

Palm Village

Sunday Evening Video @ 6pm

Jan 6: Your Origins Matter - Part 1

Thursday Evening @ 6:30pm

Jan 10: Jim Holm - Butler MB Church

Sunday Morning

Jan 13: RMBC - A Place to Grow

I'm Visiting

If you are visiting with us today, we ask that you fill out the *Connection Card* located in the pew in front of you. On the reverse side of the card you'll find a list of various ministries and programs we offer at RMBC. Please mark all that interest you and we will contact you with more information. If you have a prayer request, please let us know as our RMBC staff prays for each request throughout the week. *Connection Cards* can be placed in the offering plate or taken to the Welcome Center where you may receive a free gift.

Prayer Opportunities

Sundays 7:45am and 10:30am in Pastor Malcolm's office. Wednesday mornings at 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

Prayer Line - Would you like to receive our daily Prayer Line? You can via email or through our App. Please contact the church office at 638-8123 or send an email to kelly@reedleymbc.org

Sermon Materials - Pastor Malcolm sends out sermon materials ahead of Sunday's sermon each week. Find them online or via email. Contact the church office at 638-8123.

Next Sunday

We come to the high point of Matthew's gospel – Peter's confession of Jesus as Christ. It's no small thing to come to understand the supernatural truth of who Jesus is. As we study this passage, we'll also see the central role Peter is given in setting loose the gospel message to others. Our text is Matthew 16:13-20. We encourage you to invite a friend to join you next Sunday!



Perspectives
on the World Christian Movement™

Looking to learn about God's work around the world and your part in it? RMBC will be hosting **Perspectives on the World Christian Movement** Course beginning in January. Cost for the course is \$260 (assistance may be available); Alumni may attend for free. Classes will be held Monday nights, 6 to 9pm, from **January 7 to May 13, 2019**. For more information go to www.perspectives.org or contact David Nippoldt.

Stewardship

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To eGive use RMBC App or text [reedleymbc](text:reedleymbc) to 77977



Mission Center

Missionary of the Week: **John and Geri Warkentin** serving in Media Services with Multiply. John and Geri have some personal requests for clarity on tests coming up for John. They are also in the process of selling their home on Reed and moving to Dinuba. John is also busy planning training workshops for the Ukraine and Mongolia, and asks prayer for God to open opportunities in Peru and Paraguay.

Spanish Bilingual Ministry - Prayerfully consider those you know whose "heart language" is Spanish and invite them to the RMBC Study/Prayer groups.

~Spanish Language Sunday School @ 9:35 in EC 212 led by Henrique Ott

RMBC Classified Ads

Need Help? Do you need help with a home project or have a service need? We have 7-12th grade students available to serve. We also have a need for service scholarship and donations for our students heading to Winter Camp and upcoming missions trips. If you would like to receive help from students, please contact Pastor Joel. If you would also like to help donate to our youth scholarship fund for students heading to camp or missions, please contact Pastor Joel.

Lost & Found Today - Did you happen to leave a jacket or Bible at church? Stop by the breezeway this morning to see if any of the items on the rack belong to you or a friend.

Kingdom Kids is looking for 30 people to serve our Washington School children, beginning January 17, 2019. We will help elementary aged children discover the God of the universe. Contact Sabrina at 638-8123 or sabrina@reedleymbc.org.



Did you know our specialty drinks can be ordered year round? Just ask for it at



Winter Camps Are Coming - Winter Camp registration for 4-12th grade is now available! Junior and Jr High Campers will go to camp February 1-3 and High School Campers February 22-24th. Jump online to find information on how to start the registration process!

Rooted Ministry

2.42 & Wednesday Nights Return - All 6-12 grade students are welcomed back to Rooted 2.42 Monday, January 7th. We will continue each Monday through the semester, except for school holidays. Rooted Wed Nights start back up January 9th at 6:30pm.

High School Broomball Event - High School Students are invited to join Reedley, Dinuba, Kingsburg and North-Fresno MB high schoolers for an evening of pizza and broomball at Gateway Ice Center on Sunday, January 20th from 5:30-10:30pm. Sign up on the App or High School Webpage. Deadline to register is January 16th. Cost is \$10.

Parent Meeting - All JH/HS parents are invited to join us for a parent meeting on Sunday, January 13th at 2:30pm in SC200. A guest speaker will train on the topic of healthy parent and student communication, we will discuss the upcoming 2019 calendar, and spend time praying for our students.

Growth Groups - All high school students are invited to sign up for our weekly Growth Groups starting up at the end of January. These groups are intended for students who want take the next step in their pursuit of Jesus and engage in deeper relationships within our youth community. Five groups will be running throughout the semester. Check our App or Webpage to learn more about the groups and sign up to attend.

Forged Men's Breakfast is Saturday, January 19th at 8:00am. Join us for a morning of great food, fellowship, and an inspiring word from Rev. Angulus D. Wilson, PhD, Fresno Pacific University Campus Pastor. Come early for coffee at 7:30am. We will also be announcing our upcoming weekly study. Questions? Contact Pastor Mike at 638-8123 or mike@reedleymbc.org

Women's Ministry

MOMS Fellowship will resume January 8th.

MOMS Bible Study will resume January 15th.

WOW Bible Study will resume January 8th with a new study of Psalm 23 by Jennifer Rothschild.


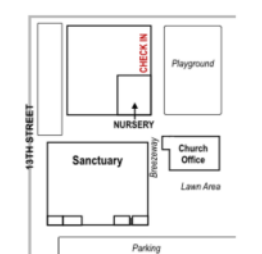
Wed Night Women's Bible Study will resume January 9th from 6:30-7:45pm in EC205.

They will begin the study *Finding I am* by author Lysa TerKeurst.

Divorce Care begins this week on January 9th and runs through April 3rd, Wednesday evenings in EC 206 from 6:30-8pm. Contact Pastor Matt at 638-8123 for more information or matt@reedleymbc.org.



Wednesday Night Meals are served in the Fellowship Hall 5:30-6:10pm. Cost is \$4.50 for adults, children 6-10 \$2.50, up to age 5 eat free. Maximum \$18 per household. Menu for Jan 6th: Frito Boat, Pasta Salad, Veggies with Ranch and a Cupcake. Kids Option: Corn Dog, Veggies & Cupcake.

<p>The Cry Room (Sanctuary) is available for moms and dads to be with young children when needed during service times. Children must be supervised at all times.</p> 	<p>Nursery Care is available for children up to 3 years old in the Children's Center during morning Worship Services & the Sunday School Hour.</p> <p>Nursing Moms desiring more privacy may use the infant room in the Children's Center Nursery to view the morning services.</p>	<p>Children's Church is for ages 3 - preschool during morning worship services.</p> 
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Signs of Trust

Matthew 16:1-12

How do you develop trust in someone in your life? What's the criteria you use that allows you to say, "Yeah, I want to trust you."? Is your trust in someone something that grows over time? Does someone need to show you they are worthy of trust or demonstrate some things to you before you'll grant them your trust? What's it take? What needs to be seen? What needs to be experienced for you to put your trust in someone? Do you trust quickly or easily? If your honest, do you rarely or ever really give your trust to someone? What's it take for someone to earn or receive your trust? This is a really important question to wrestle with. Being we're in church, we talk a lot about trust: the need to trust God with your life, to trust God with your finances, or with your kids, or with your marriage, or a job, fill in the blank and you've likely heard someone say – you just need to trust God.

And this is really critical when we think about trust Jesus. Because there we rightfully talk about trusting Jesus for our very salvation. So again, I ask, what's it take for you to be willing to trust someone in your life?

It's been a while since we've been in Matthew and I think it's helpful we summarize where we were prior to the Christmas season. As we'll see more over the next two Sundays, chapter 16 is the pivotal chapter in Matthew's gospel. Following increasing hostility from the Jewish religious leaders and political machine, in chapters 12-15, Jesus has increasingly been turning to the disciples to help them understand more clearly His unique identity and mission. He is a prophet, though one without honor among His own people. He is the compassionate healer and supplier of Israel's needs, though they misunderstand His earthly mission. He is the Son of God who can walk on water, can calm stormy seas, and is worthy of worship, even though His disciples falter in fixating on Him. He is the compassionate healer and provider for the Gentiles, even when His disciples wish that were not the case.

Jesus has slowly lead His disciples along to understand the true nature of His person and mission; and the roles they will play as well. Jesus has done this all with an eye towards building and asking for them to trust Him. In the opening of Matthew 16, we are given a story that's really two sides of the same coin. Trust is not easy for Jesus to gain, whether it be from those who have been actively opposing Him like the Jewish religious leaders, or those who seem committed and with Him like the disciples. As Matthew prepares to move us to one of the climatic moments of his gospel, He first reminds us of our need to trust Jesus for who He is not because of what He can do. Let's open our Bible's to Matthew 16.

Have you ever heard the phrase, the enemy of my enemy is my friend? It's an ancient proverb that basically says if you and I dislike the same person – it doesn't really matter if we like each other. We can unite on our mutual disgust of our enemy. Countries do this all the time. For example the United States gets into bed with Iraq in the 1980's not because we think Sadaam Hussein is a great guy, but because He shares in our dislike of Iran and the Ayatollah. The Pharisees and the Sadducees, while prominent in the New Testament time and writings were anything but friends. But their mutual rejection and hatred of Jesus made them friends. Many of us are familiar with the names Pharisees and Sadducees but are not quite sure what makes them different from one another.

The Pharisees were self-righteous legalists who asserted themselves in the face of God. The Pharisees loved Law and laws and setting out numerous restrictions on what was right and wrong before God. They took the Old Testament and went far beyond its teaching to set up an elaborate system of traditions that they held everyone else accountable to. They saw Jesus as a usurper of their own religious authority and control over the people of Israel and sought His destruction as a result. The made a great show of themselves before others and taught that their own righteous acts before God would save them and if only you would live like us you to would know God's favor. The Pharisees were not very fair, you see.

On the other hand you had the Sadducees. The Sadducees were the political elite and aristocracy of Israel. They were in bed with the Romans and used Rome to gain more and more political power regardless of what they had to compromise in terms of faithfulness to God. **The Sadducees were self-indulgent; seeking to please themselves apart from God.** The Sadducees saw only the Torah as God's authoritative word and rejected all the prophets, and anything to do with the afterlife or the resurrection. They lived only for the day and moment, and believed that at death you just went away. Which is what made them quite sad, you see. They saw Jesus as ruining their political advantages and His "kingdom" as

a competition to their own. These two groups couldn't have been more opposite from one another, and were often at one another's throats in the first century world.

When we were last in Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples were in the north eastern region of Israel, in Gentile country. Following the healing of the Canaanite woman and the feeding of the 4000, Jesus and the disciples got back in a boat and sailed for the north western shore of Galilee, back in Jewish territory. The moment they step off the boat, Jesus and the disciples are greeted by these two groups. Look at verse 1. *"And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven.* The word test is important to see in this context. It's the same word used when Satan leads Jesus out into the wilderness in Matthew 4. The test here is not so they can test Jesus because they are concerned His message might not be orthodox, **they are "testing" Jesus so they can expose His inability and show Him a failure.** There is no real desire for understanding, their minds are already made up. They are looking for blood. Jesus knows this and exposes their ruse for what it is showing them **attentive to the temporal, and blind to the eternal.** Verse 2, *"He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times."* You have the ability to predict the weather by what you see around, Jesus says; but when the very promise of God's word stands before you in living breathing flesh, when you have been witness to miracles of healing and provision, when you have heard the true exposition of God's word, you are blind to the signs. You know all about your current world, but you are blind to the world to come.

Verse 4, *"An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah."* So he left them and departed." Jesus is simply pointing out that His opponents are without excuse, **they are active in their unbelief and are looking for reasons to reject Jesus and not trust Him.** When Jesus was asked for a sign in Matthew 12, I preached on that passage on May 13 if you're interested, Jesus gave the same answer – the sign you will get is the sign of Jonah, which is Jesus' way of alluding to both His death and resurrection. But before we move on, there's an application here I think we need to give some consideration to. Some think that spiritual blindness is sad, but somewhat harmless. I mean, people don't understand or don't want to understand, but in the end it's no big deal. But what this interaction is showing us should be sobering – **when spiritual blindness is embraced, as it is actively being done by the Pharisees and Sadducees, it results in more hardness of heart and more darkness.** Blindness leads to more blindness, and rejecting Jesus often leads to more rejection. So Jesus is graciously giving us a warning here to consider. With it though in the story, Jesus again leaves for the more fruitful lands of the gentile country to the north.

On the way, **Jesus warns the Disciples about the teaching of Pharisees and Sadducees.** Verse 5, *"When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring any bread. Jesus said to them, "Watch and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."* And verse 12 makes this explicit, *"Then they understood that he did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees."* Jesus wants His disciples to be wise and discerning of those who might look religious, might look like they are worthy of trust, but in the end are blind leaders, blind guides, and blindly walking away from God.

But the Disciples at first respond in an almost comical. While the Pharisees and Sadducees are active in their unbelief, **the Disciples are passive, being rather self-absorbed.** Jesus warns, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and scribes and the disciples rolling with what Jesus said, verse 7, *"And they began discussing it among themselves, saying, "We brought no bread."* I envision the scene like this, "Thaddeus, you got some bread right?" "Bread, I thought Phillip was getting it this time?" "Yo, Phil, you got the bread?" "Nope, but maybe Tommy did." To which the rest of the boat says, I doubt it. "Pete, where's the bread?" and Peter says, "You know, I just walked on water guys, do I have to do everything around here?" Jesus warns them about teaching, and what do the disciples do, they start discussing toast. And it's easy sometimes to get frustrated at the disciples or to see them as just bumbling fools. But we would do much better to see ourselves reflected in the disciples rather than be their judges. I mean how many times has the Lord had to be merciful to me when I have been slow to understand what he is doing in my life? How many times has Jesus had to extend grace to you, when you have fallen in that sin... again, and again, and again, and asked forgiveness ... again, and again, and again. What Jesus is about to say to the Disciples, and really to us, might sound harsh, but in the end it's mercy and grace, and love, and patience towards us. It's a reminder again that Jesus is faithful when we are faithless; trustworthy when our hearts are not wanting or able to trust.

Jesus aware of this discussion, in His statements and questions to the disciples provides us with six principles for learning to trust Jesus.

The first principle is this: **Spiritual understanding cannot come apart from faith.** Verse 8 Jesus starts by gently chastising, but chastising none the less, *“O you of little faith”*. All spiritual understanding, all spiritual growth, spiritual life itself arises from faith; comes as we put our trust in Jesus Christ alone. For Jesus to say the disciples are of little faith doesn't speak to the quantity of their faith, He's not chastising them for not having enough faith, but rather a shortcoming in the most important aspect of their discipleship – they don't trust their master. And we too can fall in this, and fail in this. We can talk about faith, but when life happens do we actually trust the master?

The second principle is also in verse 8. *“Jesus aware of this said, ‘O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread?’”* The disciples are distracted by their immediate circumstance. They hear the word leaven, ignore everything else, and launch into a discussion on bread. In contrast to the Pharisees and Sadducees who are well aware of what Jesus is saying and simply reject, the disciples are a little oblivious as their focus is simply on the world around them. And the principle for us in learning to trust Jesus is this – **remove distractions and abandon an earthly focus.** We can get very preoccupied with our worlds, sometimes overly preoccupied, to the point that we hear God speaking but we're not paying attention to what He's actually saying. Sometimes this is because we simply are not able to understand and need to find clarification; often it's because we're only listening for what we want and not for what God wants with our lives.

Principle three is very close to what Jesus said to the Pharisees and Sadducees, and serves as a warning for us as well as Jesus' disciples – **lack of trust is a symptom of lingering blindness.** It's a short question, verse 9, *“Do you not perceive?”* Can't you see, Jesus asks. Surely you who have been with me the longest can see who I am and what I am about. And the question should cause in us not shame but humility. None of us will ever arrive in this life. We are all under the process of Jesus continuing to work the blindness out of us. So we shouldn't beat ourselves up so badly when we fail to trust, and we should be patient and persevering with others when they struggle to trust Jesus.

Principle four is this: **learning to trust Jesus we need to remember God's previous work.** Again verse 9, *“Do you not yet perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered?”* Rather than a lack of bread when Jesus mentioned leaven, we might have expected the disciples to remember the recent miracles of Jesus in feeding 5000 people with five loaves and two fish, or 4000 people with seven loaves and a few fish. And can't we be like that. A problem comes into our lives, or a challenge, or a difficulty – and we get overwhelmed with the problem that we focus on the immediate and forget that God had been faithful in the last challenge, that God was trustworthy when our lives fell apart before, that God was with us when no one else seemingly was... this is perhaps the second most important principle to adhere to and master in learning to trust Jesus as His disciple. God has been at work in the past, which is a guarantee He will be at work in the present, and for our future.

Principle five is closely related to principle four: **we learn to trust Jesus by appropriately depending on Him.** *“Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? How is it that you fail to understand that I did not speak about bread?”* Again, not only should there have been memory that Jesus has done mighty things, but at the end of each of the miraculous feeding stories, the disciples picked up ample provisions for themselves to. Part of trusting in Jesus is trusting He will always provide what we need. This is different from providing what we want, sometimes what we want is inappropriate, sinful, or just not necessary. But we have a good Father, we have a loving Lord and Savior and He has promised to always provide what we need, but will we trust and depend on Him for it.

Let me close with the last principle. It's not in the text, but it is the underlying current to any discussion about signs.

Principle six: **we need to see who the signs point to.** Jesus does not do miracles to impress us or astound us, they are there to open our eyes to who He is – that He is the Christ, the Son of God, the way and the truth and the life, the only one worth of our trust for the salvation of our souls.

Signs of Trust
Matthew 16:1-12

Pastor Malcolm
January 6, 2019

The Enemy of My Enemy is My Friend (Matthew 16:1-4)

Pharisees: self-_____; _____ themselves _____ of God

Sadducees: self-_____; _____ themselves _____ from God

Together they “test” Jesus to demonstrate His _____ and _____

Jesus shows them _____ to the _____; and _____ to the _____

Jesus’ opponents are _____ in their unbelief, looking for reasons to _____

Application: When spiritual blindness is _____ more darkness _____

Warnings about Leaven and Worries About Bread (Matthew 16:5-7)

The leaven Jesus warns about is _____ of the Jewish leaders (16:12)

The Disciples are _____ in their unbelief, being self-_____ (16:7)

Principles for Learning to Trust Jesus (Matthew 16:8-12)

Principle 1: Spiritual understanding cannot come apart from _____ (16:8a)

Principle 2: Remove _____ and _____ an earthly focus (16:8b)

Principle 3: Lack of _____ is a symptom of _____ blindness (16:9a)

Principle 4: We need to _____ God’s _____ work (16:9b)

Principle 5: We need to _____ depend on Jesus (16:9c-10)

Principle 6: We need to _____ the signs point to

Open Your Heart and Mind

- Do you trust quickly or does it take you a long time to trust others? Why?

Finding God in His Word

Read Matthew 16:1-12

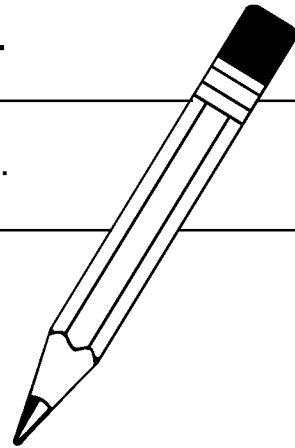
- Have you ever seen a situation of “the enemy of my enemy is my friend”? What was the reason for it and the result?
- Why do you think the Pharisees and Sadducees are so afraid of what Jesus is teaching and doing? With your understanding of who the Pharisees and Sadducees were, what does Jesus say and do that threatens them?
- The first application we looked at here says, when spiritual blindness is embraced more darkness results. How have you seen this play out in the life of someone who consistently rejects Christ? How does this serve as a warning for us in our own lives?
- Leaven, or yeast, works behind the scenes unseen, yet permeates everything. What might some of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees might Jesus be warning about? What is some teaching we need to be careful about letting get a foothold in our lives?
- Why is faith necessary for spiritual understanding? Why can there be no true spiritual understanding without faith?
- Distractions and an earthly focus can hinder our ability to trust Jesus. Give some examples of having seen this.
- Lack of trust is a symptom of lingering blindness. Why is it hard to trust God? What blindness’ do you find creep up from time to time and you need to overcome?
- How can remembering God’s work in the past help us to trust Him now and into the future? Give an example of this principle in your own life.
- Jesus will provide for our needs, so we need to appropriately depend on Him. Again, what makes this difficult or challenging to do? How do you determine what you need from Jesus and what you don’t? How are you dependent on Jesus right now in a situation in your life?
- Jesus uses miracles and signs to point to the nature of His person and work. Why are we easily tempted to make more of signs than we should? How do we demand signs from God in our lives as His followers? How do we work to see signs as proof of Jesus’ deity?

Live the Christ Life

1. How is your trust of Jesus in your life right now? What are you needing to work on? Which principle might you be able to work on this week to bring about a greater sense of trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior?

Trust in God.

Trace the letters.



TRUST
IN
GOD



Ages 3+

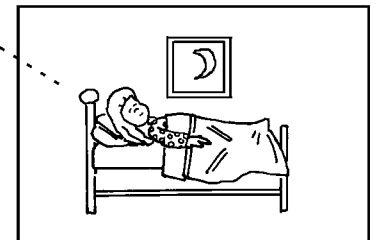
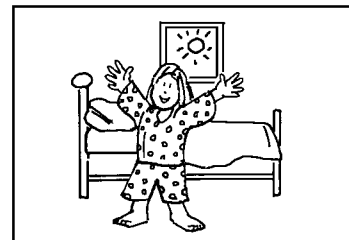
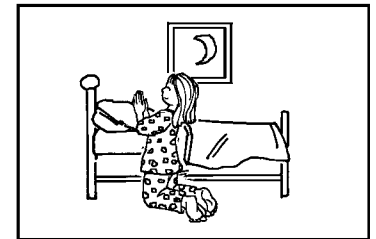
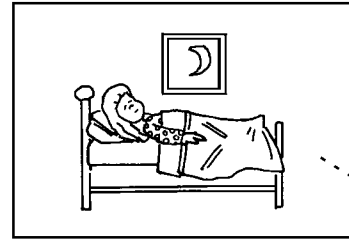
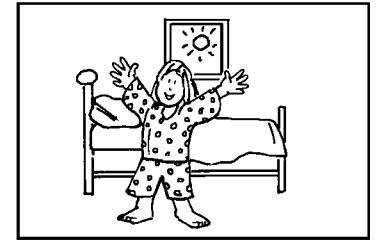
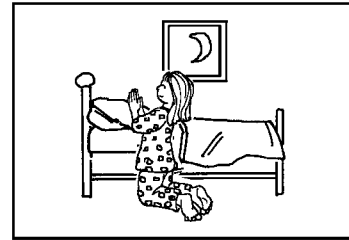
January 6, 2019 • Psalm 4:1-8



Trusting God

The Lord God hears my prayers. When I lie down to sleep, God makes me feel safe.

Match the pictures.



Reedley MB Church

Kid's Notes

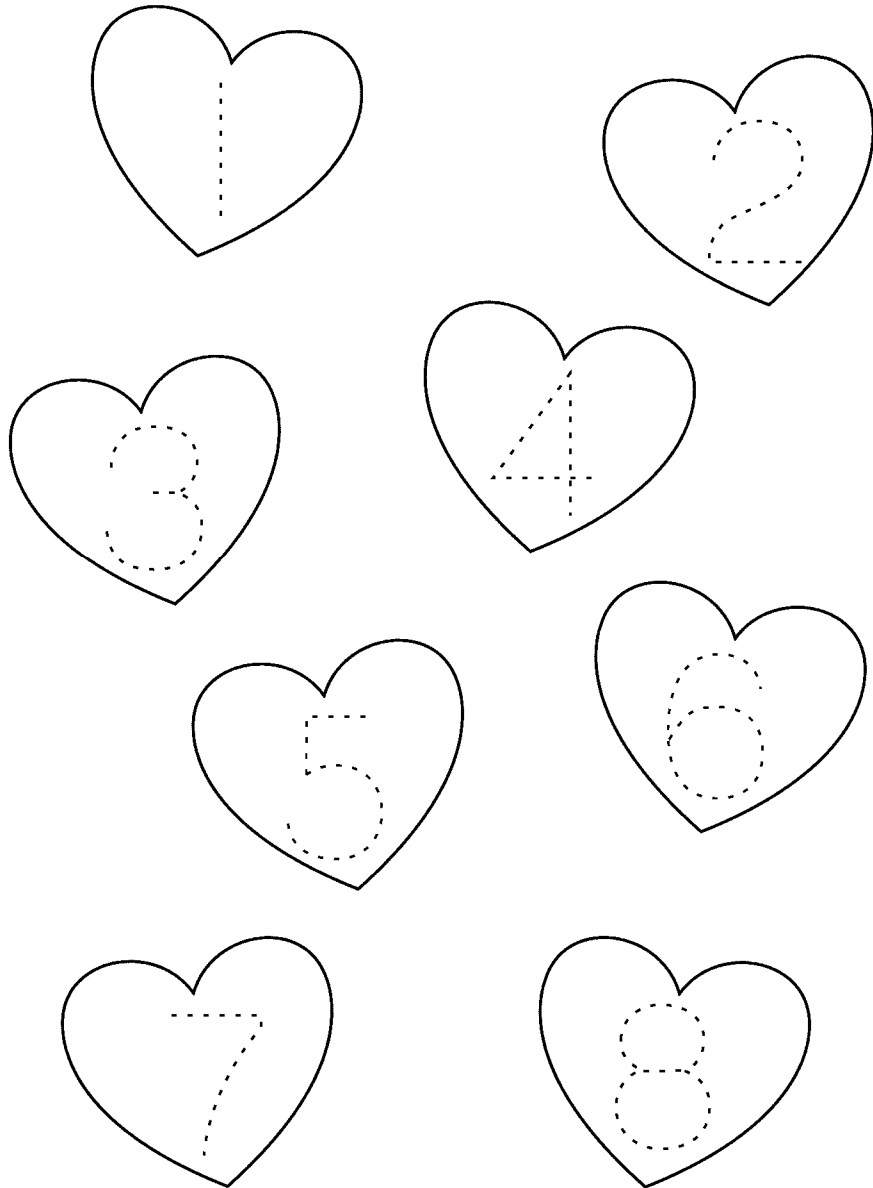
1362 L Street

Reedley, CA 93654

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God fills hearts with joy!

Count the hearts. Trace the numbers.



Let God's light shine on you.

Find and circle the hidden objects in the picture.

