

Tomorrow we celebrate Memorial Day, and I would like to share a story with you from Mark.

Mark 2:1-12

1 *When Jesus came back to Capernaum a few days later, it was heard that He was at home.*

2 *And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer space, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them.*

3 *And some people *came, bringing to Him a man who was paralyzed, carried by four men.*

4 *And when they were unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and after digging an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralyzed man was lying.*

5 *And Jesus, seeing their faith, *said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”*

6 *But some of the scribes were sitting there and thinking it over in their hearts,*

7 *“Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins except God alone?”*

8 *Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were thinking that way within themselves, *said to them, “Why are you thinking about these things in your hearts?”*

9 *Which is easier, to say to the paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven’; or to say, ‘Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk’?*

10 *But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—He *said to the paralyzed man,*

11 *“I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet, and go home.”*

12 *And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”*

Some of you may be asking what this has to do about Memorial Day and honoring soldiers?

Let me share another story with you. Last year, this church had a friend who was facing a huge, needed miracle.

One of our friends who has been a voice in this church for many years had just found out that his wife was dying from cancer. He sent out a call for prayer.

As we began to pray, we felt we needed to do more, as Andrew Wommack was about to have his Healing Conference, we called him and said we would like to pay for her to go.

They agreed and she received faith and teaching she had never heard before.

Today she is completely cancer free.

I just talked to him last week, and he is still talking about what they had learned from Andrew and how she is healed with a heart of thanksgiving.

Again you may be asking yourselves what this has to do with Memorial Day.

Memorial Day started out as Decoration Day after the civil war citizens began holding springtime tributes to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and flags.

It then gained national recognition with the widely observed, official "Decoration Day" was declared on May 30, 1868 by General John A Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Eventually, after World War 1, the day was expanded to honor all American service members who died in any conflict, not just the Civil War, when Congress declared it a federal holiday naming it Memorial Day in 1971.

We live in one of the greatest nations on the planet, but it took a lot to achieve.

In Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every matter under heaven—

- 1 A time to give birth and a time to **die**;
A time to **plant** and a time to uproot what is planted.
- 2 A time to kill and a time to **heal**;
A time to **tear down** and a time to **build up**.
- 3 A time to **weep** and a time to **laugh**;
A time to **mourn** and a time to **dance**.
- 4 A time to **throw stones** and a time to **gather stones**;
A time to **embrace** and a time to **shun embracing**.
- 5 A time to **search** and a time to **give up as lost**;
A time to **keep** and a time to **throw away**.
- 6 A time to **tear apart** and a time to **sew together**;
A time to **be silent** and a **time to speak**.
- 7 A time to **love** and a time to **hate**;
A time for **war** and a time for **peace**.

As we are seeing what is happening between the US and Iran today, it sure seems like we are heading into a time of war.

I started today with the passage from Mark, talking about 4 men who did everything they could to get their friend to Jesus to be healed.

We as a nation are continuing to fight for our healing and freedom.

Your church helped a friend in a time of need for healing.

There is a time under heaven for everything, we honor our fallen soldiers today by living and continuing to be free from every thing that is not of God.

We honor our fallen soldiers today by honoring the men and woman who live today and can help the fallen get the healing they need.

Coins and blessing!

I believe that our founding fathers and sisters who came to America for a better life, were responding to something much bigger than just a freedom from persecution.

You see I believe they were stepping out in **FAITH!**

Just as our military protect the USA, they are stepping into that Faith.....

Hebrews 11:6

New American Standard Bible

6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.

Without faith it's impossible to please God, so our relationship with the Lord is dependent on it.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the certainty of things hoped for, a proof of things not seen.

Faith is what brings the things God has provided for us from the spiritual realm into the physical realm.

Our faith is the victory that enables us to overcome the world.

Everything the Lord does for us is accessed through faith.

There is a human faith that is inherent within every human being, and there is a supernatural faith of God that only comes to those who receive Jesus.

Human faith can only believe what it can see, taste, hear, smell, or feel; it's limited to the five senses.

Using natural human faith, we fly in airplanes when we don't fully understand how they work, and we don't know the pilot, but we trust that everything will be okay.

That takes human faith, which God gave to every person.

What if I asked you to fly in a plane if you could see that the engine was falling off or the tires were flat?

Your senses would forbid it.

Yet when it comes to God, we have to believe things that we cannot see.

You haven't seen God or the devil.

You haven't seen heaven or hell.

You haven't seen sin; therefore, you wouldn't know what you would look like if your sins were taken away.

However, you have to believe in all these things to be born again.

How can you believe in things you can't see?

The answer is that you can't believe in invisible things with human faith.

You need God's supernatural faith.

Romans 4:17 says, (as it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed, that is, God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that do not exist.

The context of this verse from Romans speaks about how God supernaturally blessed Abram and Sarai with a child in their old age.

Abram was 100 and Sarai was 91 when Isaac was born. The year before Isaac's birth, when Abram still did not have a child by his wife,

God told them the child was coming, and He changed Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah.

Abram meant "high father," but Abraham means, "to be populous, father of a multitude."

God changed Abram's name and called him the father of a multitude before it came to pass.

WORSHIP

Romans 4:17 explains this action by saying that "God calleth those things which be not as though they were."

We are still living in this blessing of FAITH, God has called us to be a nation Under God!

Last week I mentioned the dollar bill, that say's "In God We Trust"

Many have died, so we could live, but the one who died for all, Jesus He came so that we could live in FAITH Forever.....

That's the kind of faith we have to use to receive salvation.

We have to believe in God, whom we have not seen, and believe that our sins are forgiven, which we cannot prove by natural means.

It takes God's supernatural faith to receive salvation.

Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

We access God's faith through His Word.

When we hear God's Word, the Holy Spirit empowers it, and if we receive the truth, God's supernatural faith enters us.

We were saved by using God's supernatural faith to receive His grace.

Romans 12:3 says, "God hath dealt to every man THE measure of faith".

Tomorrow, Pastor Steve will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, we will be enjoying desserts and the lake with corn hole and ping pong games in the background.

FAITH FOR TOMORROW

Pastor Shaun Rost

We get to enjoy all of this from a measure of FAITH, from a small group of people who trusted in the Lord to begin something new.

I stand here today asking that we continue to stand on that measure of FAITH! As our flags are raised hi in the Red White and Blue that are seen all over the world.

That we say thank you to those who have fallen by living for the ONE who was raised up three days later so that we could live forever.

FAITH, in Jesus is making AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!

The Lord has given us everything we need, including all the faith we need.

Thank you for stepping into FAITH, with me and with AMERICA as we continue to fight for the peace, love, grace, wisdom, and presence of GOD!