



The Newsline

Our family reaching out to your family

June 2018

Hope4You

Dear church family,

As I've been at a few funerals this week, it reminded me of an often mis-used and mis-understood verse of Scripture.

Luke 9:59-60 - ESV - To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

This sounds rather harsh coming from Jesus, until we understand who Jesus was addressing and their understanding of the words.

When the man asked if he could bury his dad before following Jesus he wasn't saying that his dad had died and he had a funeral to attend to. In that culture the man's dad was probably very much alive and he was asking Jesus to allow him to stay UNTIL his dad died, which may have been years or even decades in the future.

Jesus' odd reply (to us) was that if you are going to follow Me, then do it without delay. You have received the calling and we have work to do. There is no turning back after I have called you. The old way of life has died. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - NLT - This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Many also believe the verse refers to the spiritual dead, that the man's dad had heard the call also but had rejected Christ. That doesn't seem to fit though.

God told Ezekiel in Ezekiel 24:16-18 "Son of man, behold, I am about to take the delight of your eyes away from you at a stroke; yet you shall not mourn or weep, nor shall your tears run down. Groan silently, but let there be no wailing at her grave. Do not uncover your head or take off your sandals. Do not perform the usual rituals of mourning or accept any food brought to you by consoling friends." So I proclaimed this to the people the next morning, and in the evening my wife died. The next morning I did everything I had been told to do.

God told Ezekiel that He was about to take his wife from him but he didn't have time to mourn because God had work for him to do. When God calls us and we obey in faith, there is no turning back. We are to follow Jesus from that moment forward, even when what He tells us to do seems cruel or out of character. For now we see dimly as through a veil. But soon we will see clearly and understand. This dear friends - is faith. I love you guys.

Pastor Brian

ALEXANDRIA BAPTIST CHURCH

94 West Main Street Alexandria, Ohio 43001

740-924-3961 alexandriabaptistchurch.net

Pastor Brian Potts 614-266-5415

bpottsabc@gmail.com



Israel Trip 2018

Members of our church will be leaving on June 4th and be returning on the 13th! (Some are not returning until 16th) Be in prayer for travel mercies, their safety and for the blessings they will receive as they visit the Holy Land.



June 17th

A PRAYER FOR OUR FATHER'S

Lord,

We thank you for our fathers, Who have gathered here today, To praise your holy name, For giving them strength and courage To make it along life's way.

We thank you for our fathers, Who have loved us so well, Clothed us, fed us, educated us, Now we get a chance to tell, To tell them how we love them, To tell them how much we care, To tell them we are ever so grateful,

Because they were always there.

D. Alsup



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL -

Get ready to launch into hyper drive at Time Lab, where we'll discover Jesus from eternity past to eternity future! We will have a blast uncovering truths about Jesus through his Word! You won't want to miss a nanosecond of the fun, so set your watches and make plans to join us at Time Lab

**June 24th through the 28th,
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

If you would like to help or need more information see Brenda. You can register through our church website. Hope to you all of you there, it's going to be out of this world!!!



Have fun and be safe!!!