



Easter and Making Much of Jesus

Journey Elders

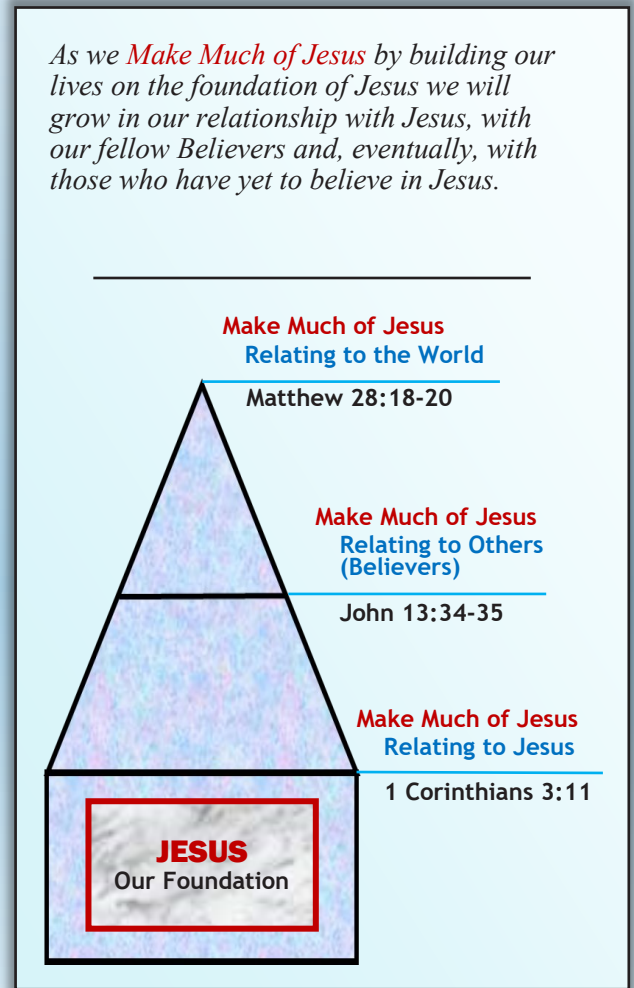
As we navigate life post-Easter, we can wonder what is next. As we at Journey Church, Make Much of Jesus, it is our goal to see Jesus in the light of passion week every single day. The gospel of the completed work of Jesus Christ with His birth, His ministry, His death, and His resurrection, should be and needs to be, in the forefront of our minds each day.

We, as elders, hope and pray for each and every one of us, that we preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to ourselves every day. This is why we “Make Much of Jesus” to keep the Gospel as our highest priority each day. By doing this, our relationship with our Lord and Savior becomes more and more real. We all need to stay in His word as He draws us closer and closer. This strengthens our love for our Lord daily. The Holy Spirit fills us with His goodness as we go out and do life. We all need this. Each day is a challenge. We don’t know what life is going to throw our way.

I am reminded of the lyrics to the gospel song “He Lives” that says, “Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.” That is what we are striving for, to build a relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ to such a degree that you know, to the depth of your soul, that He can be trusted. And you can declare, “He is my Lord. He is my Savior. He is my Christ, and because of that, I can face the next minute, the next hour, the next day. No matter what!”

Make Much of Jesus

*As we **Make Much of Jesus** by building our lives on the foundation of Jesus we will grow in our relationship with Jesus, with our fellow Believers and, eventually, with those who have yet to believe in Jesus.*



Pray
Pray
Pray

Pray for your leaders

That they would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit in leading the church forward.

Pray that this endeavor of **Making Much of Jesus** would be successful

To bring transformation and change within the Body.

Pray for yourself

That you would be open to what God wants to do in your life.

Time Well Spent

BY LEAD PASTOR MICHAEL BELL

I trust you noticed a different look to the front on this month's newsletter. The change is intentional as a reminder of our Vision 2024 to Make Much of Jesus. Each month we will share testimonies from our church family and leadership on how Jesus is impacting their lives and how they are learning more about Him in the process.

As I read this month's testimony, I'm grateful to hear the hearts of our elders to remind us that the resurrection of Jesus is a hope we can celebrate *every day*, and not just on Easter. Moving forward, I'm excited to hear more testimonies from the Journey family on what Jesus is revealing about Himself as we seek Him in our daily lives!

I love the verse above in the book of Acts and the courage being displayed by Peter and John. If we look closer, we discover what the source of that courage was in their lives. Simply put, it was because they had spent time with Jesus. If you look back in Acts 4 you discover that Peter and John had been arrested because the religious leaders were "greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus, the resurrection from the dead."

The next day when they had to answer the question, "By what power or what name did you do this?" Peter then spoke up (imagine that!) by the power of the Holy Spirit and in five verses shared a short yet powerful sermon on how salvation can be found nowhere else but in Jesus Christ "for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

*When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished, and they took note that **these men had been with Jesus.** Acts 4:13*

I often remind everyone as we gather for worship on Sunday to be spending time with Jesus. I can't stress enough that this must go beyond attending the worship service once a week! We all spend much more time away from the physical building we call "the church." God gives us the gift of time. How we steward this time is our responsibility.

As we are now moving past the celebration of Easter, I want to encourage you to be intentional to spend time with Jesus. As you wake up to start your day, thank Him for the gift of a new day. Talk to Him about your joys and your fears. Thank Him in prayer for loving you and for the grace and mercy He sends your way daily. As you take time to follow The Essential Jesus reading plan, ask Him to open your heart to grow deeper in hearing, understanding, and applying His truth to your life.

The beauty of being with Jesus is that others will notice that you are being changed because of the company you keep. Others will wonder why you seem to have peace when circumstances in your life are anything but peaceful. Others will see your courage that Jesus makes possible in the face of trials and sufferings. Like Peter and John, may others recognize that we live for Someone greater, we trust in Someone greater, we hope in the One who is the source of all hope. This hope is Jesus Christ and spending time with Him is time well spent!

Make Much of Jesus - *Pastor Michael*

IN THIS ISSUE

Vision 2024	1
Time Well Spent	2
Essential Reading Plan	2
Baseline Life Group	3
Grief Ministry	3
The Pregnancy Center	3
Ladies Iron Sharpens Iron	4
Mega Camp	4
Archery	5
Awana	5
Missionary Focus	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Journey Calendar	7

Online Reading Plan at
journeyclinton.org/essential-jesus



BASELINE Life Group

Curriculum

Introductory Class
- All facilitators

The Bible
- Jon and Lisa Balk

The Gospel
- Pastor Michael and Christina Bell

What does it mean to be a Christian?
- Jerry and Joyce Duey

Prayer
- Daryl and Wendy Yoder

What is the Church?
- Jeff and Ann Reed

Roles of a Believer
- Jeff and Ann Reed

Doctrine
- Pastor Michael

Wrap Up/Celebration
- all facilitators

[Come Join Us](#)

[← We Are Here](#)



Journey Church and The Passion Experience team are blessed with many, many enthusiastic volunteers who make this gospel centered outreach possible. TPE team would like to personally thank all the volunteers who provided prayers, encouragement and physical support. You prayed, helped convert the church facility into the scenes of the "Passion week", provided plants, props and material, filled many vital roles during the event, and returned on Saturday to tear down and get the church ready for Easter. Bravo and kudos to all who helped in any way. The event was attended by a record number of folks from our surrounding area - the impact of which we may never know this side of Glory. Thank you for your servant's heart to bless our community with the love of God through this re-creation of Christ's final days leading up to Resurrection Sunday.

~The Passion Experience Team

Grief books are available in the church office. This is a set of four books to be sent to the grieving person four times in the first year. People find them very helpful as they go through the grieving process. A donation of \$10 is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Tietjens or the Church office.



Ladies Iron Sharpens Iron Conference April 13

You're invited to
 join us for a Day Out at the
 Women's Iron Sharpens Iron Conference
 Saturday, April 13
 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
 Calvary Church, Moline, IL

Women's Iron Sharpens Iron is an opportunity to connect with women from our church and community, as well as women from across the region, who all want to grow in their relationship with Christ. It's a relaxing, refreshing, enjoyable day away to focus on your faith walk through praise and worship, large group speakers, and small group sessions on a wide variety of topics, all relating to being women of Faith in today's world. There's even a wonderful track designed just for teens ages 13-18. Delicious boxed Chick-Fil-A lunches are available for purchase ahead of time if desired. You can reserve yours when you sign up.

There are several ways to get involved. You can:

- ◆ Meet us there
- ◆ Carpool with the group from Journey, leaves at 7:30 am and enjoy fellowship on the drive to and from
- ◆ Join the Journey Church group to eat supper together afterwards for a nice time to celebrate and share what we have learned throughout the day before heading home



Be Refreshed · Be Renewed · Be Rejuvenated

A one-day equipping conference for women (13 years and older) featuring:

- Inspiring keynote speakers
- 16 breakout seminars uniquely designed for women
- Christ-centered worship

Saturday, April 13, 2024 • 8:30am-4:00pm
 Calvary Church • 4700 53rd St. • Moline, IL 61265



ALISA CHILDERS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



RACHEL LOVINGOOD

Iron Sharpens Iron
Proverbs 27:17

However you decide to participate, it's a day well invested. You can show up and get a ticket that day or sign up at the Connection Point to reserve your spot. Questions can be directed to Annette Eslick or the Church Office 563-243-4164.

Registrations opens April 15, activities fill up fast!



June 10-13
6:00-8:30 pm
Family meal served
5:15-5:45 each evening

We are looking forward to this June when we will once again have our Mega Sports and Art Camp. Please be considering how you may be able to help and mark your calendar for this outstanding children's event.

Email Joy Lower at joyl@journeyclinton.org with any questions.

HELP WANTED!

No matter what your energy level or gifting, *YOU* can be a part of Summer Camp.

Volunteers Needed for:

- ◆ Greeters
- ◆ Small Group Leaders
- ◆ Kitchen Help
- ◆ Registration
- ◆ Assisting with Activities
- ◆ Preparing Snacks
- ◆ Decorating & Set-up
- ◆ Photography
- ◆ Sport Coaches

Volunteer training is Saturday, May 11 at 9:00 am.

ARCHERY PROGRAM



Journey Church
Clinton, Iowa
1010 13th Avenue N, Clinton, Iowa 52732
563-243-4164 • www.journeyclinton.org

YOU ARE INVITED!

7 Week Program • 3rd-8th Graders

Every Thursday, April 11 - May 16

6:00 - 7:25 pm • In the gym

Cost: \$10 per person/\$15 per family

Our archery class will use the curriculum developed by the National Archery in the Schools Program. This is the same program that is used in the public schools in the State of Iowa and nationally. Our lead instructor is a nationally certified Archery Coach who taught archery for several years in the Clinton Community School District.

Sign up at www.journeyclinton.org/archery

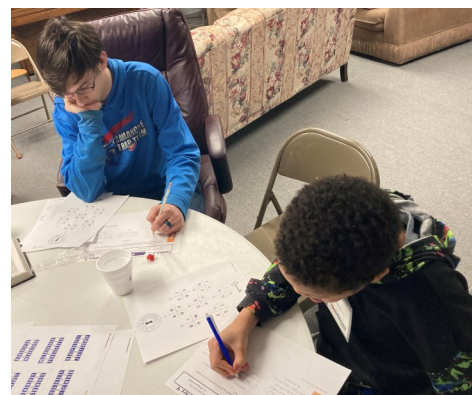
Awana News

BY ANNETTE ESLICK



study the events and completing word puzzles to successfully 'escape' the Youth Room. I'm happy to report that everyone made it out! lol!

April is the last month of Awana for the school year. Please be in prayer for the kids and leaders as we are finishing up our last few lessons and reinforcing the things we have learned this past year. They all have grown in their faith walks and many children have taken big steps of accepting Christ as their Savior and/or being baptized this past year. What a blessing to have so many new brothers



and sisters in Christ growing and impacting their world for Christ as they have continued to bring their friends to see what it's all about.

If you would like to join the fun, please see Annette Eslick about how you can get involved in this life changing ministry. The future church is just getting started and it's exciting to watch!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
6:15 - 7:45 PM
AGES PRESCHOOL - 6TH GRADE



Missionary Focus

Kyle and Carrie Eipperle



Kyle and Carrie and their young family accepted God's call to serve with SEND International in Ukraine in 2002. Kyle's primary ministry, initially,

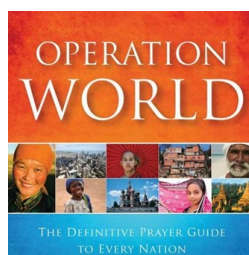
was to teach and mobilize the Ukrainian church into cross-cultural missions. Kyle also began to develop Russian and Ukrainian language prayer guides. He became involved in research concerning unreached people groups and created prayer booklets and an internet site that featured people group profiles in the Russian language.

Unreached people groups are defined as a group of people distinguished by language or culture that are generally less than 2% Christian and lack the resources to evangelize that people group. There may be some Christians in a people group, but they do not have the ability to reach their own people with the gospel. This is usually due to insufficient training or not enough Christian workers. (Indopartners.com). Another ministry that Kyle pursued was the research of customs and culture of unreached peoples in areas where SEND could potentially begin church planting work.

When Ukraine became a missionary sending country, the family relocated to the United States in 2019. Yet, they did not feel the task that God had assigned them to do was finished. Kyle has since joined Operation World (OW), on loan from SEND International, as a research associate.

The primary focus of Operation World is research, and mobilizing prayer and mission for the nations. Their resources include global and regional trends, how they affect world mission, and how to pray. Kyle's responsibilities are to oversee the translation and distribution of OW materials to the Russian and Ukrainian language speaking world. These resources are valuable to inform missionaries where needs exist, specifically in eastern Europe. The goal for Operation World prayer guides is to have people from every nation, praying for people in every nation. Operation

World resources equip believers to respond to God's call for his people to pray.



The 7th edition OW prayer guide contains articles on 242 areas and territories; each article contains, among many things, information on the denominations, movements, and religions present. Gathering the breadth of data in and of itself requires years of information gathering, researching, praying, networking and more. Once gathered, the data are analyzed and prayer points written, then they are reviewed by contacts made through the research gathering process. (operationworld.org)

Kyle researches from his home in Ohio, Illinois as well as attends conferences with others around the world as part of the necessary networking.

Kyle and his family will be visiting Journey church Sunday, April 14 to share about his ministry, update us on how God is using Operation World resources and to inform us about the state of Christianity around the globe. There will be a lunch following the church service, Kyle will speak at that time. Come hungry and come eager to better understand God at work around the world.

