



APPNOTES

Date: Apr 06-Apr 10, 2020

Series: Witness: The Miracles of Jesus

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 I have found it so necessary to feel grateful for the little and simple things in my life right now. I get to work from home with my family and pets close by, the stress of running to fulfill many obligations has come to a screeching halt, but mostly, I am enjoying family time! Boy were we lax in that before being forced to go NOWHERE! It has made me realize how thankful I am for what God has given us and would normally overlook. Through all of this uncertainty and suffering, we need to have faith, believing He is with us and will make all things right. Let us praise God for this pause in our busy lives we came to recognize in our last series, "Margin", and be thankful. Rather than feeling anxious, pray and thank Him for the blessings around you. There you will find peace.

John 19: 25-27 On the day you are tested in your faith, will you stand alone or have many to be witness? Jesus had only one faithful apostle to witness His very real and very dark, painful death on the cross - John. John was there and comforted Mary, a mother who had to see her own flesh and blood, tortured and killed. Are you able to put aside your own fears of judgement from others or beliefs not grounded in the Lord to comfort those who standing in their faith? Is your faith on solid ground that you would take the place of John? The gift of salvation we were given on that Friday at the cross was not meant to be taken for granted, but rather to be shared. Stand strong in your faith and do not waiver for anyone. In this way, we bring glory to God.

1 John 3:16 The greatest love story of all...Is there someone you love enough to die for? As a mom, I say I'd take a bullet for my kids or put myself in front of the speeding vehicle. But outside of an adrenaline rushing event with the absence of thought and planning, I may not be able to go through with it. Could you still die for someone if it were planned? Guess who did. Jesus, our Savior. The crucifixion was planned and the suffering He would endure before His death was known. Can you imagine knowing that? It didn't stop Him though! Jesus died an excruciating death for you and for me because of the love He has for us. Now, that is a very different kind of love. One that I certainly want to know and feel for eternity.

Deuteronomy 31:6 Dear Heavenly Father, in this time of health and financial uncertainty, I pray we find our peace and hope in You, our amazing God. I pray we feel Your relentless love. Lord, some may find it hard to see You while so many are suffering, but show them the truth. Show them You're right here and moving in a big way. I pray they know You're not the creator of this sickness, but the One to bring healing. I pray for all those suffering. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Friends, I challenge you to look around and find God at work. Find Him in the sunshine, in laughter during family video chatting, in the medical personnel treating and loving on the sick, those maintaining our household needs, and in the kind words being spoken by a neighbor. You're not alone and you are most certainly loved.

Romans 6:23; John 3:16 Today, Good Friday, we remember and reflect on what Christ did for us. He willingly suffered an excruciating death on the cross so that we have the opportunity to have a relationship with God. Our sin separates us from God, creating a chasm so wide we could never get across it on our own. Through the cross, Jesus bridges that gap for us. Because Jesus died, we can have forgiveness and we no longer have to pay the penalty for our sins, which is death. Jesus died in our place. Forgiveness and eternal life can be ours, but we have to choose those gifts. When we choose to believe in Jesus and what He did for us, our sins are forgiven and our relationship with God is restored. We have the blessing of a relationship with Him while we live on earth and we look forward to eternal life with Him someday. If you have questions or want to talk to someone about what Jesus has done for you, please message us!

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