

redeemed rebels
crucified with Christ
raised up with Christ

embraced by God
being refashioned
into Christ's image

making disciples
by His Holy Spirit
for the display of His glory

FFC Women's Ministry



SINGLE MOMS & WIDOWS TUESDAY JUNE 22

6-8PM

Single Moms and widows at FFC, sign up for your free oil change by a qualified servant from FFC. We'll need your car's make, model, year, & engine size. Please call today. 759-6632 (x24).

VBS SOCCER CAMP JUNE 28-JULY 2

6-8PM

Choose to invite your friends and neighbor's kids for a fantastic week of VBS Soccer Camp!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY TUESDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

10—11:30 AM

Mark your calendars!

MONDAY MINISTRY STUDY 8:30—11AM

If you'd like to give a Monday morning to show some love and sit in on a Bible study at Cornerstone Manor (homeless shelter), call Ruth at 759-6632 (x24).

Choices

We don't serve a God who forces our praise or our obedience, but a God who desires us to glorify Him and be in a wondrous relationship with Him, by choice. A choice requires an action, and every action has a consequence. Some choices we'll sit and weigh out, we'll make lists evaluating the options, pondering them quietly or discussing them openly. Other choices we'll make flippantly, without pausing or taking a breath. Still, every choice has an effect. When the soldiers came for Jesus, He made a choice, and long before that His choice had been made - for us, to God's glory.

In preparation for the horrific crucifixion, Jesus clung to His father. Just before the arrest, Jesus spent time with the Father in prayer, crying out, "My Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." (Matthew 26:39). Jesus knew the anguish He would have to endure. He had the power to stop it, but there He chose, "not as I will, but as You will." After the most brutal torturing, and as He fought each final breath on the cross, observers stood by and mocked, "save yourself," but still He chose the Father's glory. He chose being reunited with each of us. In Luke's account we read that he called out, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Who was He praying for? Who was He showing us to pray for with an attitude of forgiveness? For those who stood by and mocked, for those whose hands pounded metal nails into His wrists and feet, for those who had followed faithfully for years and now denied Him.

Thankfully, we know this isn't the end of the story. Rather, by His victory over death, His resurrection - His return to the Father, we have hope. We have the choice of a united relationship with our Father. We choose to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him (Luke 9:23). After our first choice to get in a right relationship with the Father by confessing and turning towards Him, there is the daily choice of choosing to be like Him - choosing obedience, choosing to confess our sins each time, choosing what's best for others, choosing humility.

Are you choosing Christ's mindset today? Are you choosing the Father's will instead of your own? Are you choosing Christ's kingdom above your personal kingdom? Is God's glory your motivation with each choice? Or, are you focused on getting what you think you deserve, on your circumstances, on the scorecard of how you're being treated? As believers, we aren't stuck in a life of being self-focused and self-centered. Instead, through the power of the Holy Spirit, because of Christ's victory coming off that cross, we can choose joy in Him, in every circumstance. What's your choice this minute? Next hour? Tomorrow?

~Alexis Langheier

taste
of
FFC

July 20, 7pm

Taste and see
that the Lord is good!

