

The Ceresco Messenger

April 2024

What Is Faith?

What is faith? Faith is a response to God—not to what God has done, not to miracles. This man believed before he saw a thing. He didn't see any sign; he didn't see any wonder. What did he have? This man was looking into the face of Jesus. Jesus said to him, "Go your way, your son lives." This man became captivated by the person, the character, of Jesus Christ Himself—not a sign, not a wonder, but Jesus. The word of Jesus was enough. He trusted what Jesus told him. Is your faith that way?

God created you a certain way. God created your eye that it would respond to light. God created your ears so that they would respond to sound. And God created your spirit that it would respond to the character and the nature of God. This is not because of signs and wonders, but because of God Himself. He is the one you were made for. He is the Shepherd you were designed to worship and follow. Jesus spoke to this man and the man believed the Word. How much would our lives change if we trusted in Jesus this same way?

- What are some things in God's Word you struggle to believe?
Why do you struggle to believe these things?

How would your life change if you were captivated by Jesus and His promises, not just things He has done?

We Are Spiritually Paralyzed

Many of us do not realize we are spiritually paralyzed. You may think, *I'm not weak: I lift weights; I'm very strong.* I'm not talking about physical weakness. You may think, *I'm not weak: I have a PhD.* I'm not talking about intellectual weakness. You may think, *I'm not weak: I have a million dollars in the bank.* I'm not talking about financial weakness. I'm talking about spiritual weakness that has paralyzed you.

Our weakness is that we don't have the strength to be godly. God's plan for all of us is that we be godly. But we don't have the strength. I don't care how hard you try: you don't have what it takes to be godly. You may be strong to do as you want, but you're not strong to do as you ought. While we were yet without strength, Christ died for the ungodly. The primary source of our weakness is sin, the paralyzing force of our sin is that we cannot be what God would have us to be. But Christ has died for us in our greatest weakness.

- What are some weaknesses you often feel? Why do you think we often forget about our spiritual weakness?
- How can you seek to be godly in God's strength?

2nd Annual CRAFT/VENDOR SHOW

WHERE: Ceresco Baptist Church 230 Marshall St. Ceresco

WHEN: Saturday, May 4, 2024 TIME: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Space size: Inside 8x8 Outside 12x12 – These are approximate booth sizes.

Electricity available for inside only.

Cost per space: \$25.00 – Due upon return of application.

Tables are available \$5.00/each for inside only. Table size: 8'x2'6". Contact us immediately to reserve a table as they are limited.

If you're a returning craft/vendor would you like the same space as last year.
Yes_____,No_____

NAME: _____

Phone # _____ email: _____

Description of craft items:

I prefer inside_____, Outside_____. Need Table if available: Yes_____ No_____
Need chair: Yes_____, No_____

Application due by April 15th with payment. Make check payable to Ceresco Baptist Church and mail to: Ceresco Baptist Church, P.O. Box 35, Ceresco, MI 49033 ATTN: Dawn Frey

For questions call Dawn Frey 269-209-7427 or Sarah Collins 269-404-7772
Dawn's email rdfrey1@comcast.net Sarah's email smy04264e@icloud.com

Here's Your Sign on Scammers

By Luann Sommers



If they want you to pay with a gift card, it is almost 100% sure that it is a scam.

If they want you to wire them money, it's probably a scam.

If they call claiming to be your grandchild and they need money wired, it's a scam. They may know your grandchild's name. So much information is on the internet and with AI it will get worse. Have some code word with family members so they can verify who they are if they truly have some crisis and need your help.

If they send you a check to deposit into your bank account for \$5,000 and ask you to wire \$500 back to them, it's probably a scam. Their check is going to bounce and your \$500 will be gone.

If they call you claiming to be from the IRS, Social Security, Medicare, Sheriff's Department, or other organization - It's probably a scam. They won't CALL you they will send a letter if they have a valid concern, and they absolutely will NOT use gift cards for payment.

If they contact you and claim to have some tremendous offer you just can't refuse, it's probably a scam. Don't get tied up in their offer, especially if they want you to send them money to get the big prize and you have to act today! If it sounds too good to be true. It probably isn't!!

If they call or email claiming to be your bank, credit card company, or other financial institution and they need to "verify" your information or click on a link to enter your information, it might be a scam. Your bank and credit card company already have your information and don't need you to "verify" it.

You've just won a million dollars! It's probably a scam. You can have the money if you wire them \$5,000 to pay taxes, or fees to get your big win. They get your money, and you get nothing.

If they contact you and you MUST act right now or you are going to miss this great offer, it's probably a scam. Always stop and think before sending money in any form.

If they call you from some phone number you don't recognize and don't leave a message, it might be a scam. If it's legitimate, they will leave you a message. Once you answer the phone they know they "have a live one" and will keep calling until they reel you in. Let it go to voicemail!

Finally, if they "friend" you on Facebook or other internet source and build some personal relationship with you, and you have never met them in person, and they want you to wire money or send gift cards, it might be a scam. Scammers spend their days creating these pretend people. They steal photos off the internet to send to you, so they can prove they are a "real" person. They send you a message on Facebook. Just a hi or some other "hook." You start a conversation, and they start getting to know you. They are great. They are really interested in you and want to learn more about you. After a while there will be some crisis in their life and if they could just "borrow" money it will save their life, save the day, or some other tremendous outcome. You will be a hero! Sorry but they are not real. They are not your friend, and if you try and break it off they will probably threaten you with photos you have sent or other personal information you have shared and do not want all of your friends and family to see. They will post it on the internet if you don't send them money.



HAPPY Anniversary

Apr 4 Rick & Dawn Frey
Apr 5 Roger & Joy Sommers

Apr 1 Emily Biljum
Apr 6 Zane Ivey
Apr 10 Jenny Markos
Apr 13 Ruth Paschen
Apr 14 Reed Goodman
Apr 16 Darlene Anthony
Apr 16 Charity Gary
Apr 19 Don St. John
Apr 24 Stacey Goodman
Apr 30 Katherine Rogers

May 3 Valerie Kibby
May 3 Stephen Phelps
May 5 Jayme Biljum
May 5 Alex Finch
May 6 Jared Babcock
May 15 Marcy Bonney
May 15 Chrissy Wilkens
May 17 Kalab Gary
May 19 Heather Casey
May 24 Patricia "Trish" Ivey
May 25 Diane Biljum
May 25 Melissa Boysen
May 26 Shawn Skinner
May 27 Oak D Wasielewski

May 2 Scott & Melissa Boysen
May 6 Craig & Nicole Thomas
May 6 Alex & Olivia Farmer
May 7 Brad & Charity Gary
May 21 Jason & Emily Ivey

Flower Sign-Up

4/7/24 - OPEN

4/14/24 - OPEN

4/21/24 - OPEN

4/28/24 - OPEN

Children's Time Sign-Up

4/7/24 - Sommers

4/14/24 - Sommers

4/21/24 - OPEN

4/28/24 - Sommers



April 2024

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Relay for Life Planning Meeting 6:30 pm				Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Communion Sunday	Boy Scouts 7 pm		Bible Study 10 am WMT 5 pm Martha Circle 6 pm	Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Boy Scouts 7 pm	Relay for Life Planning Meeting 6:30 pm	Bible Study 10 am Family Night Potluck 6 pm	Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Boy Scouts 7 pm		Bible Study 10 am	Zoom Bible Study, 6 pm		
28	29	30				
		Information for May Messenger due at Noon				

Ceresco Baptist Church

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