
Upcoming Events

Blood Donation with Carter Blood Care, April 11th (10AM)
Church Picnic at Mesquite Park, April 18th
Church Retreat at Tulsa, OK, June 26-28

Weekly Schedule

Tues, Mar 24th (Mesquite) Ladies Prayer @ Thampi & Lizzy's res. (7 PM)

Wed, Mar 25th (Carrollton) Sebastian & Lally's res. (7 PM)

Fri, Mar 27th (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)

Sat, Mar 27th (Metro) Bible Study & Impact @ Metro (7 PM)

Sat, Mar 28th (Metro) Fasting prayer
1st session combined 10AM-1PM
2nd Session 2-4PM Ladies, Young & Men's Mtg
3rd Session 5PM-7PM

Metro Church of God Monthly Support for Missions 2009

Pray for the following Ministries

- **Voice of the Martyrs:** Organization aiding Christians around the world who are being persecuted for their faith in Christ.
- **SAT 7:** Christian satellite television station by and for the People of the Middle East and North Africa.
- **Arabic Airtime HCJB Global:** Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Radio and Healthcare in more than 100 countries.
- **Church of God, Mumbai** (Rev A. Mathai)
- **Church of God, Calcutta** (Rev. K.M. Thankachen)
- **Church Of God, North Kerala (Malabar)**, India
- **Mt. Zion Bible College** (Rev. P.J. James)
- **Rajasthan Mission**

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metrochurch
of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

March 22, 2009

Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.
...It is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord
GOD, that I may declare all thy works. (Ps 73:1,28)

Welcome

“Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.” Matthew 5:8

Many of us have heard this verse many times, maybe we have even quoted it ourselves, but to a lot of us this promise of seeing God seems so out of reach. ‘Pure of heart’ seems like a term reserved only for pastors and the most elite of Christians. But really what does it mean to be pure of heart? The word pure is synonymous with clean, a word we daily use as we shower and cleanse ourselves from all the dirt that has piled on throughout the day. Cleanliness is an ever day task, we could hardly call someone who has not showered in a couple of weeks clean. To be clean requires daily cleansing and purifying, and in the same way to be ‘pure of heart’ does not mean we never get dirty or that we are perfect but that daily we are cleansing and purifying ourselves in God’s presence.

Many times the guilt of past sins can block us from seeing God and reaching new levels of intimacy with him. Psalm 32: 5 “Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity...and you forgave the GUILT of my sin”. How merciful is our God that he not only forgives our sin, but he also heals the guilt of our sin. When we hold on to the guilt we are saying that Christ’s death was not enough to cover our sin. We are diminishing the power of the cross and the worth of Christ’s blood to cover even the greatest of our sins. We need to stop listening to the condemnation of our past sins and cling to the promise that God is big enough to heal even the guilt of our sin. When we rely on our own strength to do this, we fail, but we need to understand what Psalm 18:32 says, “It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect”. We cannot get to that level of purity and perfection on our own, but we need to rely on God to arm us with that strength, and then we can really begin to see God.

It is awesome to note that the word says ‘Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall SEE God’. When we compare hearing someone on the phone versus seeing them in person, we can agree that there is a deeper sense of intimacy when you can actually SEE them. We can confirm this importance even in the recent presidential campaigns that have taken place. Both Obama and McCain had realized that one of the best campaigning techniques was for candidates to travel and meet with voters face to face. This allows voters to get a better picture of who a candidate is more than just reading about them in a paper. Seeing a candidate brings much more fervency, dedication, and support from a voter than to one who simply just reads and hears about a candidate. In the same way, when we get to that level of intimacy of truly seeing God’s face, our fervency for God’s commission and our dedication to his purpose will be greater than ever before in our lives.

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Sermon Notes

Many of us today talk about God from our experience of having heard and read about Him, but the time has come for us to speak and share about God in the way we know Him now, and that is according to how we have SEEN Him. Once we begin to daily purify ourselves, remove the guilt and shame of our past, and actively long to see His FACE and not just his helping HAND, God will reveal Himself to us in a more profound manner. With a clearer picture of who God really is, our lives will inevitably be transformed and we will be able to truly fall in love with Him. Let this be our encouragement and challenge: we do not have to be perfect and we do not need to rely on our own strength to see God, rather we just need to come into God’s presence daily and rely on His strength to make our ways perfect. Let’s start to truly desire to see God’s face and know Him more.

Yours in Christ,
Stacey Mathew