

Pastor's Corner

November 2008

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

I spoke the other Sunday on the Scripture that reminds us we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. One of the simplest ways to love our neighbor is to share words of encouragement. I don't think that I ever remember a time when people were so concerned over the state of our economic affairs. Many have watched as the monies that they had put back for retirement have been lost, and all of us have watched food prices continue to climb. There are many who are worrying about their jobs and whether or not they will have a job in the days ahead.

However, in our struggles we must keep our focus on God. "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28: 20b.). We are never alone and Scripture says "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you." (Mathew 7: 7).

There are times when we allow the world to consume our thoughts and our actions, and we must step back and ask ourselves just who is in control.

In the book of Job, God's servant Job is beset with many problems. He lost his family, he lost his friends, his wealth; his body became covered with sores; his own wife told him to curse God and die. Yet, Job held on to his faith in God. Sure his faith wavered. Read the book, and you will see how he became so burdened that he questioned God. But God responds in chapters 38-41 with words that we need to hear. I won't take the time to list it all, but listen to a few quotes. "Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young?" After reading again the words of the Lord as found in Job, I realize that God is in charge of all things, and if we place ourselves in God's hands then we have nothing to fear.

Peace be with you

Rev. Eric Lane