



Eagle Summit Ministry
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VISIT OUR WEB SITE: **WWW**.eaglesummitministry.org

IT'S OVER, I THINK.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the election will be over, I think. We are reminded that we should expect God to solve our challenges, not government. We should place our confidence in God, not any man. May we recognize the presence of His Holy Spirit who helps us understand truth. May we become more sensitive to the leadership of the Spirit of God in our daily lives.

MAY WE BECOME MORE DEPENDENT ON GOD.



Eagle Summit Ministry 4

Where We've Been, What We've Been Up to & Where We're Headed Next . . .

August 2—Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA

3rd Monday each month—Mending Fences Fellowship, Leadership Team, Spokane, WA

November 7 – ESM Board Meeting, New Hope Bible Church

November 8—Community Bible Fellowship, Kettle Falls, WA

PRAY WITH US THAT GOD WILL OPEN MORE DOORS FOR SERVICE IN THESE CHALLENGING DAYS.

WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY, EVEN ON SHORT NOTICE.

Need a speaker for a creative outreach program, AWANA or Kid's Clubs, Sunday School, Family Camp, Teen or Kid's camps or other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.

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"SERVING GOD'S SERVANTS"



IF CHRISTMAS HAD NEVER HAPPENED

What if there were no Christmas? The accounts of the birth of Christ are incredible. Creator God in human form in the womb of a woman, how is that conceivable? By all we understand of the Jewish culture, the marriage of Joseph and Mary and the birth of Jesus should never have happened. Mary was a teenager. She was pregnant and had no husband. Those who knew her best struggled believing her. She told them that Joseph had been honorable and that she had never been with any other man. That was humanly impossible. The shame and despair that could have flooded her mind and soul would have been overwhelming.

Mary must have had many questions. How is this possible? What will my friends and family think? Who will believe me? If God had not revealed to her that she was with child by the Holy Spirit, she may have considered other options. By today's standards, Mary could have been justified in ending the life of the child she carried. After all, she had the right to determine what was happening to her own body. Surely, in this unusual position there would be nothing wrong with considering this option. She could move to another area and no one would be the wiser. With a new start, the opportunity for a normal life would be possible.



Joseph also had a reputation to maintain. He was an ordinary man, a carpenter by trade. He was a man of honor and respected in Nazareth. Now he faced the greatest challenge of his life. How would he ever be able to maintain the respect of his customers, friends and family and prove his love for Mary? He must have wondered if Mary was telling him the truth. The idea that Mary was pregnant and that she had never been with another man was absurd. That she was with child by the Holy Spirit was also ridiculous. The embarrassment would be intolerable. Had not the angel explained to him what was happening, he too could never have been able to accept what Mary had told him.

Both Mary and Joseph had to trust God completely. The questioning neighbors and wagging tongues would make it impossible to have any normalcy. Imagine being in their sandals. How would we deal with this? If human emotion and logic ruled in this impossible dilemma, there would be no Christmas story as recorded in the synoptic Gospels. There would be no incarnation as chronicled in Scripture. Certainly, God's plan cannot be circumvented by man, but the events would be different.

By faith, Mary and Joseph accepted the angel's message. They accepted and obeyed the direction from God. Their lives were used in unique ways because they simply by faith did what God asked them to do.

They did not take matters into their own hands and do what they thought best. Our temptation may be to analyze a situation and determine what to do without once considering what God wants. God, what do You want? That should be a frequently asked question. Then not to act until we are certain we know what God wants us to do.

God has given us resources to know and do His will. We have the fellowship and friendship of those in our local church with whom we can consult. We have the principles of Scripture to guide us. We have the indwelling Holy Spirit to give us peace in making right decisions. Mary and Joseph did not have a church, a Bible or the indwelling Holy Spirit. Are we taking advantage of the resources God has given us? What decisions would we have made if we had been Mary and Joseph? Thankfully, the Christmas story is a reality, and the Son of God became flesh to die and rise again to make our eternity possible.



Galatians 4:4-5 "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." Only God could bring together just the right people in just the right place at just the right time to accomplish His will. He did it then and He will do it now.

ESM VAN PROJECT



We have had two ongoing ESM van issues that no mechanic has been able to solve. One is a mysterious inconsistent "clunk" that five or six mechanics have not been able to locate. It seems to be connected to braking, but the brakes are fine. The sound has moved from the front of the van to the back

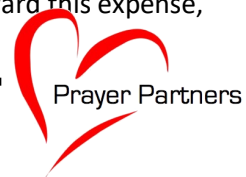
and from left to right sides. At times, I have not only heard the sound, but have felt the vibration through the frame. It's a mystery. Was a tool left in the frame when the van was assembled?

The second problem is a coolant leak in the air conditioning system. This problem has also been checked repeatedly. The last mechanic said he could not find the leak and that we should just have the system recharged each spring. Any long trips in the summer are a challenge with no air. We have delayed taking the van to a Ford dealership to get these problems solved simply because of the expense.

Your gift would help us with these repairs. With unknown causes. I am estimating up to \$1,000 for repairs. With the Covid 19 challenges, I did not use the ESM van for travel this past summer. It would be encouraging to get these problems solved now in preparation for summer 2021 travel. If you would like to help toward this expense, mark your gift "ESM VAN" and we will use your gift accordingly.

YOUR PRAYERS CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN AND ENCOURAGE US.

- Diane is currently on a two week regiment of the antibiotic meropenem administered through a PICC line every 8 hours at home. Pray with us that this will be effective.
- Continue to pray for a "Timothy" to partner with us and eventually lead Eagle Summit.
- Pray with us for open doors to serve as the Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.
- Pray that our ESM budget goals will be met for 2020 and the new year to come.
- Pray that the heart of our nation will turn to God.



Thoughts From Diane . . . PAIN

I couldn't believe the pain. I'd been through a lot of disease by the time I was ten and probably should have figured out how much pain there would be having a baby. My mom was not the close, loving, teaching Mom but I loved her very much. I thought I could get through the birth of my first baby, no problem for me there. I talked to women at my church about a lot of my questions but it was still a time when women didn't get into the intimate details and I wasn't about to ask.



Fast forward to the present and I've realized that there had been more to learn. Thankfully, God has always gone before me and stood beside me. He knew my beginning and He knows my end. The pain in the last ten years has been awful. When I quit work several years ago my doctor hoped there would be healing. That wasn't to be, this bacteria had been around a very long time. The pain has been endless. I worked a long time even through the pain, but always felt I was where God wanted me to be. I didn't look back when I was done.

Now there is no cure, only maintenance and I've lost a lot of weight. I live in a world of machines and medicine that George and I have decided on together. I'm thankful for family and friends who have stood by me with prayer, running errands and entertainment (eating out on a rare occasion when I could). My husband, what can I say, has done cleaning, changing sheets every week, done my dishes, washed the laundry and more.

My son and daughter have helped so much also. George junior would be here in a second if I asked and he calls to check up on me often. My daughter has done things my husband has not been able to do. She helps with cooking and household thing I can no longer do. She has even helped with administering my IV antibiotics. I'm not here to live in the shadows. Jesus has promised to walk me through those, Psalm 23:4.

The promise that follows is also encouraging. Palm 23:6 "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. I'm sure I'm one of countless others who have believed those promises before I was born. I have lived with and been followed by goodness and mercy every day. I will until my life on earth ends. I still have pain and I will "dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Joy is not the absence of pain, but the presence of God.

I Corinthians 15:58 Standing Firm, Diane



Benefits of Gratitude

I was recently challenged anew with the value of thankfulness. Surprisingly, one of the most important requirements to successful learning is gratitude. I assumed it would be discipline or reading or organizational skills, or a dozen other academically related qualities. That was not the case. One article lists 30 benefits of gratitude. I have also challenged students to think of everyday things for which we should be thankful like fresh water, heated homes, more food than we need, clothing, vehicles to get us to our destinations. Thankfulness help us focus on what is important. Here a few benefits of gratitude listed in one educational article: the tendency to have a more positive mood, a greater sense of connection to others, a more optimistic outlook, and better sleep duration and quality. Just maybe God is even smarter than our best educators. What do you think?

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 "IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS . . ."

