



The Messenger

February 21, 2021, Number 8

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Todd's Take

I'm writing this on Tuesday in the midst of an unprecedented cold spell here in Texoma. At our house we have lost electricity and are fighting freezing water lines. As we suffer through this cold I'm wishing I had been more prepared. Looking back there are plenty of things I could have done to have made the conditions more bearable.

A Facebook friend of mine asked what we will buy after we get through this season. Some said generators. Others indoor propane heaters. Other are longing for more firewood. But it's too late for that. Maybe we can prepare ourselves better for the next storm, but it's too late now.

Preparation is a key to survival and I wasn't prepared. The weather forecasts told me it was going to be bad, but I just shrugged it off. I thought, "Certainly the predictions were more alarming than they had to be." And no disrespect

to weather forecasters, but they're not always right and, to be honest, I really didn't want to believe them. I was told, but I failed to prepare. It's sad to be warned and dismiss those warnings only to find yourself in a terrible mess. I start play the "woulda, coulda, shoulda" game.

Of course, we can never know everything that is going to happen, and we can't prepare for every possibility. But what a tragedy to be warned and to not prepare.

The Bible is a lot of things. It's the story of God. It's the story of man. It's the story of God's love and mercy and grace. It's all that, but it's also a warning. The Bible is a forecast of what is to come. The Bible gives us a glimpse into the future. It's kind of like watching a weather forecast.

You know when you watch those forecasts the meteorologist will normally give you some advice to weather out the storm. Like a weather forecast the Bible gives us advice to be prepared for what is coming. It's then our choice. Shrug off the warning or take them seriously and make preparations.

The gist of the Bible's forecast is that one day we will see another unprecedented day. The day will be a day of accounting for our lives. It's sometimes hard to believe because it will be like no other day we've ever experienced. Sort of like this week.

But the Bible is pretty certain on this one. It's calling for a 100% probability. And the good news is that we can be prepared. If you are not prepared there will be an eternity of the "woulda, coulda, shoulda" game. And what a tragedy it is to be warned and to not prepare.

So be ready. Embrace faith in Jesus Christ.

Preparation is key.



New Sermon Series Begins Today
"Confronting Christianity"

NEWS & NOTES

Sympathy

Our sympathy is with the family of **Barbara Corbett**, who passed away on Tuesday, February 16. Services will be held this Tuesday, February 23 at 1PM here at Park Avenue Church.

Spiritual Practice Challenge

As a follow up to Covenant Sunday consider participating in the monthly spiritual practice challenges. Go to www.pacoc.net/eyesonJesus or contact **Lantz Howard** for more information.

Share Your Story

We would love to hear the story that God has written in your life. We are looking to produce 3-5 minute videos featuring the stories of our members, to encourage the body of believers, remind us of God's faithfulness in our lives, and glorify God for all that he has done. This could be a story of your spiritual journey, the transformation Jesus has brought about in your life, or a time when God has answered your prayers. If you would be willing to share your story of God's power in your life, please fill out the form at www.pacoc.net/stories

Youth Ministry

- **February 21:** Rescheduled due to weather. Park Avenue Youth Parents meeting at 5PM. We will be done by 5:30.
- **February 21:** Park Avenue Youth will meet from 5:30-7:30PM in the Gym!

Prayer List

Mike Morgan, Ken Washburn, Garland Nevil, Carol McClure, Daisy Miller

Ongoing Needs

Jim & Jane Scroggins, Kimberly Pendergrass, Peggy Clark, Keith House, Corky Armstrong, Betty Clark, Dewey Martin, Bob Corley, Sandra Aynes, June Washburn, Nancy Richard, Greg & Vicki Oliver, Terry Waggoner, Kay Skelton, Lisa Cobble, Bobby & Peggy Slaughter, Nancy Richard, Sandra Thomas, Larry Long, Judy Shelton, Mary Pope, Gene Stogner, Peggy Parkey, James Hawk, Kaile Williams (Norris)

Homebound

Ray & Marsha Jones, Chris Keene, JD Huffman

Missions

Hammer & Dela Afakule (Togo), Mario "Pepe" Torre (Monterrey, Mexico), Jimenez family (Colombia)

Friends of Park Avenue

Rebekah Taylor (great niece of the Russells), Becky Sanchez (wife of Gil Sanchez, Director of orphanage in Mexico), Kathy Hill (friend of Chris & Candis Slaughter)



CASA DE LA ESPERANZA
FAMILY MISSION TRIP
JULY 2-10
\$250 / PERSON

Priority registration for Park Avenue members open now through March. Registration for all begins in April.

REGISTER AT PACOC.NET/CASA



GRACE OFFERING

PICK UP A CAN TODAY TO START COLLECTING COINS

We will fill Daisy's Little Red Wagon on
SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH



SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 26-28
MEN'S HIKING TRIP



JULY 19-25

PROMISED LAND

For The Record - February 14, 2021

Online Worship	306
Giving Goal	\$18,974
Received	\$10,413

*You can give online at pacoc.net/give
 Thanks for your ongoing financial support*