

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

INTRO to MISSIONAL LIVING

TODAY, June 25th

I AM in the Atrium

As our culture changes, we are challenged afresh to rediscover our identity as God's missionaries to the world. Intro to Missional Living is a basic-level course designed to equip you on how to engage with non-Christians and how to live on mission in everyday life. There will be two classroom sessions on Sunday mornings, today and July 9th, and one Saturday morning session on July 1st when we will go out as a team and engage with non-Christians.

China Exchange Volunteers Needed

July 18-30

Teachers and students from Parkview's exchange partner university in China will come to Iowa City. You can bless the nations without leaving home! We need:

- **Host Homes:** A place to sleep and eat breakfast from 9PM to 9AM for 2 or 3 Chinese guests (girls or guys). Guests will be participating in planned activities during most daytime hours.
- **Friends and Drivers:** Come travel with or hang out with our guests during any daily activities in the morning, evening, or both.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Paul at parkviewgw@gmail.com.

Summer Fun Nights

Parkview is hosting fun, low-key events throughout the summer in various locations in the Iowa City area. Our first event is **Tuesday, July 4th** at dusk. We will gather behind Northwest Junior High to watch the Coralville fireworks together. Bring a blanket and chairs, invite your friends and family, and enjoy the show with Parkview!

SUDAN PARTY

Friday, June 30 8PM-1AM

Serve and bless our Sudanese brothers and sisters by caring for their children (70+, ages 3-17) and making friends with parents and others during their party. Families are welcome! (Sometimes children make the best ambassadors!) RSVP to Paul at parkviewgw@gmail.com.

SOCCER CAMP

July 10-14 5:30-8PM

Penn Meadows Park, North Liberty

Grow your soccer skills and your relationship with God at this fun NEW camp experience. Feel free to invite your neighbors, friends, and classmates, too! This week-long soccer camp is for kids who have completed K-4th grade. Sign up on the Events page at parkviewchurch.org, or stop by the kiosk in the foyer.

Facilities Meeting

TODAY, 8:15 & 10:45AM in Room 107

Parkview staff and leaders invite you to hear facilities updates about our Central and East Campuses and North Liberty land. We invite you to share feedback and pray for Parkview as we make decisions about the future of Parkview's facilities and land.

Series: Beatitudes
HAPPINESS WHEN HARASSED

Pastor Jeff Gilmore
June 25, 2017

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."
Matthew 5:10-12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,
2 Timothy 3:12

I. THE REALITY OF HARASSMENT AND PERSECUTION

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account."
Matthew 5:11

II. THE REASON FOR HARASSMENT AND PERSECUTION

A. Beatitude people are different.

B. Beatitude people are accessible.

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,
Colossians 1:24
But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.
1 Peter 4:15

- Punishment is what JUST people give to those who are EVIL. Persecution is what EVIL people give to those who are GOOD.

C. Beatitude people shine light in the darkness.

- The more Christ-like you are, the more the darkness is going to hate you.

III. MY RESPONSE TO HARASSMENT AND PERSECUTION

A. Recognize the _____.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
Ephesians 6:12

B. Refuse to _____.

Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."
Romans 12:17-19

C. Respond _____.

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21

- You never get ahead while you are trying to get even!

How Should I Respond Positively?

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
Matthew 5:44

- You have control over your reactions by the Holy Spirit's power. Love, pray, and do good to them!

D. Rejoice Over It.

Rejoice and be glad...
Matthew 5:12a

Why Should I Rejoice Over That?

Three Reasons to Rejoice:

- ✓ God's Spirit can be seen in my life. (1 Peter 4:14)
- ✓ I'm in good company and that God can trust me. (Acts 5:41)
- ✓ It is only temporary. (2 Corinthians 4:17)

E. Remember my _____.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
Matthew 5:12

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.
Romans 8:17 NIV

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.
Matthew 19:29

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) What is your faith costing you?
- 2) What could cause you to deny your faith?

A great indicator of our faith is...

- ❖ What do I do with my discretionary money and discretionary time?

- 3) How many people in your sphere of life know you are a Christian?

- There is a price to be paid for following Jesus, and there is also a reward which is guaranteed!

- 4) How are you using your life?