

"Living Like You And Your Brothers Are At Peace With God" (Part 1)

2 Samuel 3:20-30

*"To be Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."
(C.S. Lewis)*

"You are nothing better than deceitful hypocrites if you harbor in your minds a single unforgiving thought. There are some sins which may be in the heart, and yet you may be saved. But you cannot be saved unless you are forgiving. If we do not choose to forgive, we choose to be damned." (C.H. Spurgeon)

- Abner went in PEACE: (2 Samuel 3:20-21)
 - If David and Abner are at PEACE then everyone under their authority is at peace with one another. *"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). "Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for TO THIS, you were called, that you may obtain a blessing" (1 Peter 3:8-9).*
 - What kind of CAPACITY do we have in Christ for forgiveness, love, and extending grace?
 - Forgiveness (Luke 17:3-4); Love (Luke 6:32-36); Grace (Ephesians 4:32); **We must focus on why we CAN, not why we CAN'T.**
- Joab questions David being at PEACE with Abner: (2 Samuel 3:22-25)
 - Joab assumed the worst in Abner because of the condition of his heart. He found the forgiving of Abner to be unacceptable. *"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:7; cf. Luke 15:25-32)*
 - Joab may have had many reasons for his anger with David:
 - 1) The bitterness in his heart over the death of his brother.
 - 2) The fear of losing his position as commander to Abner.
 - 3) His genuine desire to protect David from his enemies. (1 Samuel 26:15-16)
- Joab refuses to be at PEACE with Abner: (2 Samuel 3:26-30)
 - The very deception that Joab accused Abner of was what he was committing. *"For they (Pharisees) preach, but do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger." (Matthew 23:3b-4; cf. Proverbs 26:23-26)*
 - Abner killed Asahel in self-defense and Joab murdered Abner in cold blood.
 - David made sure publicly that he didn't approve of this sin that was committed by Joab. We must never call evil good and good evil (Isaiah 5:20; cf. 1 Corinthians 5:9-13).

Worship: Leaning On The Everlasting Arms — Various Artists

O, Lord MY Rock and My Redeemer — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

★**“FOURTH OF JULY” SERVICE:** Our annual “4th of July” service has been rescheduled for ***THIS*** Sunday, July 9th, at Andy Wesley’s house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron) at 5pm! Please bring any yard games that you have and bring your lawn chairs! Plan on attending our annual outdoor Worship Service NEXT week, and plan on staying for the Pizza Fellowship Dinner and yard games after the worship service.

★**NEW MEMBERS CLASS:** For anyone interested in becoming a church member, we are offering a 3 week New Members Class starting on Sunday, July 16th, from 4-5pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is also something we would encourage our current church members to participate in, as we will be working through our By-Laws, Statement of Faith, why our church has church membership, and the roles of Elders and Deacons in the church. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up if you are interested in participating in the New Members Class. If you are unable to participate in this class in July, we will be offering the New Members Class again in October.

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We are having a Members Business Meeting on Sunday, July 23rd, immediately following the worship service. This meeting will be to discuss the *potential* of moving to a Sunday morning worship service. At this meeting we will be sharing the results of the anonymous ballot from the vote in May and opening the floor for Q&A. If you are currently a church member, please mark your calendars and plan to stay for this important meeting.

★**KINGS ISLAND:** Christina Strawn is organizing a group trip to Kings Island on Saturday, August 5th. Group Admission tickets are \$52 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina if you would like to go or you have any questions! (740-755-6512)

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of July we are collecting monetary donations for Shannon and Vicki Bobb, they are one of the missionary families that we support as a church body. They are currently serving in Cambodia, where they live and serve and meet the physical and spiritual needs of those living in that region. For information about the Bobbs and their work in Cambodia, please see the bulletin board on the back table. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Bobbs.