



WHO IS THIS MAN? THE SON OF MAN

The church office will be closed December 25-January 1

CLEARING COLORADO MISSION TRIP 2018: The high school ministry is going on a mission trip to Colorado Springs June 24-30 for students grade 8-12. Cost is \$550 by Dec. 31, \$600 by Feb. 11 and \$650 by Mar. 16. A \$50 deposit is required when you register but counts toward the trip balance. Sign up via forms on the APP or Lakeland Connect.

EASTLYN HOUSE CLEAN-UP DAY: Sat, Jan. 13 from 9a.m.-11:30a.m. The Eastlyn House and adjoining lots need to be cleaned up. Bring your families, yard work tools and pick-up trucks. Meet us at 2717 East Linwood Blvd, KCMO 64128. Questions? Contact Pastor Dan.

UPCOMING MESSAGES:

DEC. 24 —THIS FULFILLS WHAT WAS WRITTEN: Dec. 24 (2:30p.m. or 4p.m.) we celebrate the birth of Christ and finish our *Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament* series.

DEC. 31: Guest speaker

UPCOMING SERIES: FINANCIAL FREEDOM

JAN. 7 —FREE YOUR MIND: This week we begin our Financial Freedom series by learning to see money as God sees it. Armed with this view, we protect ourselves from harmful thoughts and habits that wreck our financial well-being.

JAN. 14—ALIGN YOUR HEART: Our series “Finding Financial Freedom” continues as we learn to understand our own hearts and attitudes toward money. Those who are married also learn to see their spouses point of view, giving us the only hope we have of managing money TOGETHER.

JAN 21—WALK WITH GOD: The most important aspect of financial freedom is TRUSTING IN GOD. In this message we learn some very concrete ways to trust God to provide all we need!

JAN 28 — MILESTONE PATH: THE EXPEDITION: Do you influence others? Do you have children? Do you have employees? Do you oversee a ministry? Most of us LEAD something and there is biblical wisdom that can all make us better leaders. In this MILESTONE message, we will outline what may well be your next step in your spiritual journey.

HOPE CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE: Take an ornament from the Christmas tree at the back of the sanctuary to support the ministries at the Hope Center. Purchase the item and place it unwrapped under the tree by Dec. 24.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TIMES will be 2:30p.m. and 4p.m. There will be no Sunday morning service on Christmas Eve.

YEAR-END GIVING: Your giving must be dated by Dec. 31 to count for the 2017 year. You can also give online using the APP or Lakeland Connect.

VERONICA'S VOICE RETRO TRIVIA NIGHT: Saturday, Jan. 13 at 7p.m. in the Lakeland Lobby. Cost is \$25 per person or \$200 for a table of 8. Register at www.veronicasvoice.org or contact Vince Tucker: vincetucker1969@gmail.com

BRIDGES MILESTONE: A retreat for 5-8 graders, parents and older siblings. Come learn how to connect as a family from Mike and Becky Qualls. Feb. 2-3, 2018 at the Three Trails Conference Center in Independence. Register via Forms in Lakeland Connect. (Registration Deadlines: \$50 by Dec. 17, \$55 by Jan. 7 and \$65 by Jan. 21)

STRENGTHS IN PARENTING CLASS: Did you attend The Call Milestone and discover your strengths? Are you also raising children? Through this class, we become aware of our own strengths and biases as a parent and appreciate the strengths of our children and help them apply their strengths everyday. Jan. 14, 21 and 28 from 5-6:30p.m. Childcare provided for an additional fee. Registers via Forms in Lakeland Connect or the APP.

12TH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: Join us for a potluck as we take down the Christmas decorations on Jan. 5 from 6p.m.-9p.m. Pick up a FREE meal ticket at the Kiosk so we can provide enough meat for everyone. Bring a side or dessert to share.

REFIT FOR WOMEN: New classes added for a new year! Join us Sundays at 4:30p.m. AND now on Thursdays at 7p.m. Refit is a powerful, uplifting fitness experience structured around cardio-dance and strength training. No cost, located in the Campfire room upstairs. Contact Alisha Smith at trevorandalisha@gmail.com or Melissa Maciejewski at melissa.macfam@gmail.com with questions.

WHO IS THIS MAN? THE SON OF MAN

"... I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." --*Mathew 9:6*

Son of Man will have the authority to bring us relief.
Authority makes us very nervous in our culture.

Referring to *Matthew 9:1-8* the story of the paralyzed man, it's easier to say "Your sins are forgiven," because there's no way to verify whether it happens.

"Stand up and walk" — if it happens, Jesus proves he has the power which belongs only to God ... to forgive sins. If the man doesn't walk, Jesus is a fake.

The phrase, "Son of Man," comes from the Old Testament book of Daniel. Daniel, the prophet, has a vision of four beasts coming out of the sea.

Out of the seas of chaos come incredible authorities that try to control with power and vengeance.

Daniel's vision continues *Daniel 7:14-15*:

"He was given authority, honor and sovereignty over all nations ... His rule is eternal it will never end."

These are nearly the same words used when God made his covenant with David.

The title "Son of Man" carries tremendous meaning:

- ✦ "For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve." --*Matthew 20:28*
- ✦ "For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." —*Luke 10:10*
- ✦ "The Son of Man must suffer many terrible things ..." — *Luke 9:22*

Christmas is the promise and the guarantee of all promises.

- ✦ The Old Testament prophets said the virgin will be with child.
- ✦ The Old Testament prophets said the anointed would come from the insignificant town of Bethlehem.
- ✦ The Old Testament prophets said he would be scorned, whipped, beaten and killed.
- ✦ The Old Testament prophets said the Son of Man would come at the end of all the empires and establish a kingdom that would never end.

Reflection

Consider your view of authority. How does the Son of Man discussed today challenge or support your view?

What obstacles keep you from rejoicing and having joy? **GL:**
CAN YOU HELP MAKE A QUESTION / OBSERVATION FROM THE BOY FALLING OFF THE DECK STORY?

WATCH ... WAIT ... LISTEN

December 17, 2017



Bible Reading Track:

Zechariah 1, 8; Nehemiah 7-13; Malachi 1-4



CHRISTIANITY: Jesus' story makes all the pieces fit:

The origin of the universe.

The amazing power of love.

The problem of evil and how it will be solved.

Atheist: we're just animals passing on genes.

Buddhist & Hindu: we're illusions waiting to be reabsorbed into the universe.

Witchcraft: spells and chants to create our own god to take care of us.

Judaism: following a strict Code of Laws.

Islam: we're so dirty, God can't be among us.

Jesus is saying ... ***I love you and I can treat you better than that!***

Reflection

Homework: Watch SNL's Thank You, Scott.

