

The Springfield Redeemer



**Trust in the Lord with ALL
your heart, and lean not on
your own understanding.
Proverbs 3:5**

The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society June 1, 2020, Vol. 9, Ed.6

Holy Grounds Opens With Bible Study

By Roberta D'Amico

On Monday morning, May 18, 2020, the Coffee House opened with the first Bible Study since mid-March! People have surely missed coming to the Study! Six people were able to come the first day. Brian Greene opened the Study with prayer. He has also been preaching a Sunday Service at 8



o'clock here at the Coffee House.

Back in March, when we had to close due to the Corona Virus, we had just begun the Book of Daniel, a

perfect book for these times! So now, 10 weeks later, we happily began with chapter one again.

We each read 5 verses from our Bibles about how Daniel and his 3 friends from the Tribe of Judah were taken captive by King Nebuchadnezzar and brought far away to the foreign country of Babylon. We thought about their families - how they must have been praying that God would spare their sons. This led to a discussion of God answering prayer. Does He always answer our prayers?

Many verses in the Bible assure us that He does (1 John 5:14), but it doesn't always seem so, perhaps we tend to look for the answer we want and are comfortable with, and when God has a different answer, we don't recognize it! But God's answer to Daniel's mom and dad was, *No, I have a bigger plan!* God was going to use Daniel in Babylon to change history, to make Him known in far places, and to foretell the future!

Daniel's mission to Babylon was not without its challenges, though; they tried to make him eat the King's food which was not allowed for Jewish people to eat. Daniel was a true leader even as a

young man. He did not panic when he found himself in a dilemma, but sought God's guidance and trusted that he had God's favor. But, at the same time, we found in chapter 3, that Daniel was prepared to sacrifice himself, to do God's will. He was fully committed to obeying God.

Many people, even Christians, here in America are so stressed about the Corona Virus. It appears that in other parts of the world where Christians have far less of this world's stuff, even food, they have greater faith. Perhaps we, who live here in more prosperous America, have a tendency to depend more on human initiative and have less need to depend on God! But now, in the midst of this Corona Virus pandemic, we see that everything is not in our control, and that we must trust God. He knows what is going on. He is still in control. He has a plan, and His plans are good and right.

Whether we have a pandemic or not, we have an enemy! And we are in a war with him that began back in the Garden of Eden. We will have to fight this battle every day of our lives until the Lord comes back. That's why God provides us with the Armor of God (Ephesians 6). The battlefield is our faith, our mind and emotions. The devil takes advantage of every crisis. For some people he will attack their faith by getting them to fear. Others he will encourage to take matters into their own hands and defy the rules, even endanger others. He will do anything to get people to doubt God and not trust Him! But resist the devil and he will flee!

So, this is a time for all to draw near to God, to deepen our relationship with Him, spend more time with Him, and if you are not a Born-Again Christian, consider that knowing God is the most important thing in the world. He is the source of life and peace.

Pastors Pray Together While Apart

Thursday, May 7, 2020, was the National Day of Prayer and it couldn't have come at a better time, as we still need much prayer here in this pandemic of the Corona Virus. Every year pastors of the Springfield area gather on the first Thursday of May to pray for our city, our churches, our country, and the world!

Every year they have gathered at Court Square in downtown Springfield, and a good crowd of Believers from all different churches in the Springfield area joined this wonderful time of prayer. This year we could not do that, because of social distancing. However, that didn't stop us! We found another way! The pastors (no more than 10) gathered at a local church, called Calvary's Love, on Oakland Street, with the pastor of that church - Pastor Juan Feliciano - and The Q 99.7 fm radio station. They broadcasted it at 5 p.m. on their Facebook page, live!



To start, a pastor read Jeremiah 29:7, "Seek the peace of the city where you live." It was awesome to hear their prayers. Each pastor came up to the mic and prayed for different groups of people, like the fire department, the police, the teachers, children, elders, medical people, all those who were sick, then the stores, pharmacies, and other places which were essential to be open, and the people employed there.

This was our opportunity to lift up the Name of the Lord! The answers are not out there apart from God. The world needs Jesus! So pray without ceasing, everywhere and all the time. Even when in line to get groceries! Pray for the Harvest! Pray America turns to Jesus!

Coffee House offers Fish for funds

As we continue to operate into the summer, there are bills due, and to meet them, we are offering Fish Dinners for \$10.

Coming June 19, Friday, Pastor Cooley's Favorite Fish Dinners will be available! They will include Swae fish, fries, salad, and dessert.

These delicious dinners, cooked by Pastor Cooley, will be available for Take Out only, at Holy Grounds Coffee House! From noon to 3 p.m. Please come and enjoy!



Specifically, the funds raised with the Fish Dinners will pay the current insurance bill of \$720. God bless you as you join with us to keep the ministry of Holy Grounds operating.

Please order in advance if possible: tickets are available, please call: Pastor Cooley at (413) 626-6807 or Roberta at (413) 330-4658.

Ongoing Events

- **SUNDAY SERVICES:** 8 a.m.- Redemption Gate Church with Pastor Brian Greene; 10 a.m.- Motivated by Faith with Pastors Bobby & Kim. (Will be starting up again soon.)
- **MONDAY -- FRIDAY:** Morning Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. ***Come and be blessed studying the Bible with us!***
- **WED** – Trust Jesus Recovery at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **THURSDAY:** Women's Bible Study 1:00 p.m.; (Still on hold.) FIAT 2nd and 4th Thursday 7 p.m.
- **1ST SATURDAY:** June 6 , "Marriage with God" 4 to 6 p.m.
- **SATURDAY NIGHTS:** Open Mic and Fellowship, (Still on hold)..