

River of Love

CROSS CREEK
BAPTIST MISSION
Moving Mountains!

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Oak Grove, MO 64075

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Pastor Ray Gurney

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The Lord Is Our Protector; Psalm 46 by Pastor Ray

May 1, 2021

The first morning in Guatemala, I received a text from my brother Bob with Psalm 46. Perfect timing as I was to bring the morning devotion. Not only did I use 46 that morning but the entire trip we referred to it and shared it with many people in our travels. You should read the entire passage but just briefly here is what it spoke to us. *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake...the Lord almighty is with us...He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear, He burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still and know that I am God". "The Lord Almighty is with us."*

We faced some heavy-duty trials on our trip but we counted on God to work out the details. While on the way to the jungle we had to stop in the city of Chiquimula because Cesar was watching the news program saying the President was considering shutting the entire country down again because of the biggest outbreak of Covid and guess what; it was Chiquimula!

Due to a series of sporting events and people going crazy in bars and restaurants without taking precautions, the outbreak spread. Traveling further toward the jungle with a shutdown occurring would mean we would be unable to return to Cesar's home and have the expense of living in hotels and trying to stay fed. This could be a God-sized issue. So Cesar decided we stay one more day in Chiquimula awaiting the President's decision. While we waited the Lord was at work. It was amazing what He did with the time we spent there. Psalm 46 is so true. Nothing is going to stand in the way of the Lord. While our schedule changed the mission didn't. People we saved, a new ministry was started, one that will be a lasting ministry. Prayers of some old parents for their son to get right with Jesus were answered, a young wife was overjoyed for her husband to hook up with her Savior. It was a wonderful experience. When the President said the country could remain open we loaded up and headed for the jungle. It was perfect timing for pastors in the jungle as it was a good day for them to meet. The meeting with them was the reason we had journeyed so far.

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Special points of interest:

- **UPRISING**
- **MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST**
- **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY

“ UPRISING”

Erwin McManus

What is the one thing that's impossible to change about yourself?

You can change your appearance, your habits, your friends, your job...but you can't change your character. Not on your own.

You were in God's imagination before you were ever born. All the talent, gifting, and creativity you possess was placed in you by God Himself. Can you imagine the things you could do, the impact you could have on the world, if you tapped into the dreams God has for your life?

In each of the six Uprising video Bible study sessions, Erwin McManus provides Biblical and practical teaching that will challenge you to allow God to transform your character to be more like His. He illuminates the desperate heart cry of every human being – “I want to live” – and then serves as a guide on a quest to answer that cry.

...continued from page #1



Life Line Screenings go beyond regular checkups to look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up



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Carotid Artery/Plaque Screening Ultrasound scan of the carotid arteries that screens for plaque buildup.	Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation) Screens for irregular heart beat.	Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Screens for an aneurysm in the abdominal aorta, which could rupture.	Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening Screens for peripheral arterial disease in the lower extremities.	Osteoporosis Risk Assessment Ultrasound screen of the heel bone to determine abnormal bone mass density.
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We will be in your neighborhood soon on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at Oak Grove - Cross Creek Baptist Mission

Get your special Community Circle pricing!

Three ways to register:

Call toll-free: 1-866-229-0469

Online: www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle

Text: the word circle to 797979



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MOTHER'S DAY MAY 9TH



Men's Breakfast

Men will have their monthly Breakfast Saturday, May 15, 2021@ 8:00 AM at Sandy's Restaurant in Blue Springs. Please invite your neighbor or a friend to join us. It's a good time to fellowship with other men in our community.

God's Sustaining Grace by Chrissy Kirkman

We'll face many pitfalls in the marathon of life. But regardless of what we go through, we can count on God's sustaining grace.

The Bible says in 1 Peter 5:12, "My purpose in writing is to encourage you and assure you that what you are experiencing is truly part of God's grace for you. Stand firm in this grace" (NLT).

There are three times in life when it will be easy for you to stumble, to get cast off to the side of the race, and to not finish well. But in each of these situations, God's sustaining grace will get you through it.

God's sustaining grace helps you keep standing when you're tempted. Temptation is the first thing that can cause you to stumble. The Bible says, "God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure" (1 Corinthians 10:13 NLT).

God says, "I will provide the sustaining grace to always give you a way of escape." That way of escape may mean blocking a certain website. It may mean running out the door. It may mean changing the way you're thinking. But God will provide a way to escape temptation.

God's sustaining grace helps you keep standing when you're tired. Sometimes you're not tempted. Sometimes you're just

tired! Life is often exhausting. It requires a lot of energy, especially when you're trying to do the right thing rather than the easy thing.

But where do you get the power to do the right thing when you're dead tired? "It is God who enables us, along with you, to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned us, and He has identified us as His own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts" (2 Corinthians 1:21-22 NLT). Having the Holy Spirit in your heart gives you the energy to do the things you can't do in your own power.

God's sustaining grace gives you the power to keep going when you're troubled. There are some hurts that all the wishing in the world won't make go away. Some things in life are unplanned, unrelenting, and undeserved—and they hurt the most. What do you do in those situations? You first stop doing the "if only" game and instead focus on Christ and His sustaining power. Isaiah 41:10 says, "Don't worry, because I am with you. Don't be afraid, because I am your God. I will make you strong and will help you; I will support you with my right hand that saves you" (NCV).

Remember that you're never alone in life and never without hope. Whether you're tempted, tired, or troubled, you can count on God's sustaining grace to uphold you. **He WILL show up for you!**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS FAMILY NIGHT!

Wednesday night dinners begin at 6:00 PM.

The cost is \$5.00 a person for ages 7 years through adult. 6 years and under are \$3.00. The menu for the month is listed on the right.

Please sign-up on the list on the information table each week. If you are running late that night, please call the church so we can set aside the proper number of meals for you.

- **May 5, Tacos**, Spanish rice, black beans, cheese dip, chips, salad & dessert.
- **May 12, Smoked Turkey**, baked potatoes, veggie mix, rolls, salad & dessert
- **May 19, Brisket**, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, corn, rolls, salad & dessert
- **May 26, Spaghetti & Meatballs**, green beans, French Bread, cottage cheese, salad & dessert

National Day of Prayer

May 6, 2021

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

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MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Hey Ladies, it's that time of the year again! The men are in the kitchen fixin' up breakfast for **Mother's Day, May 9th**. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 AM. Everyone's welcome, so please sign up on the sign-up sheet at the welcome table. Men, please let Pete Lyon know if you can help. We always look forward to this GREAT breakfast men!



LADIES DAY OUT

Come one, come all, Ladies! Mark your calendar for **May 20, 2021** at 2 pm to join your Christian sisters on the patio-weather permitting. We will have a devotion, games, talking (no gossip) and of course, food! For dessert, if you are able, bring something your mother or grandmother was maybe known for! If possible, bring a picture of her and be ready to share a favorite memory with us. Remember, you are always welcome to bring a friend, neighbor or relative. Hope to see you there!

Dixie