

They can enter life shoulder to shoulder with Jesus; fighting the good fight. Warriors together with Jesus, for justice, love, mercy, standing up for those in need. They can discover adventure with Jesus on his journey of life; discovering more and more the amazing intimacy and love we have with Father.

Jesus and the life we live with him everyday, has healed that mortal wound, for in Jesus, our life never comes to a dead end. In Jesus there is always more life to live, more love to live in and celebrate, another great adventure to live. Our lives aren't wasted chasing after the wind; in Jesus, our lives take on a wonderful eternal aspect.

So today I invite everyone to be living in faith everyday, with

Jesus. Invite him in and talk about your day, your hopes and dreams, your joys and sorrows. Invite Jesus to send the Spirit and then listen to his response. Grab that very first thought and act on it. Why wouldn't it be Jesus, you just invited him to speak.

I pray I'm not like the people of Juda who didn't listen but thought they knew better. My prayer is to walk intimately with Jesus, trusting him, inviting him into every aspect of my life, grabbing that first thought, doing it.

I pray these young men chose to live in faith everyday with Jesus. I pray they live life to the full with Jesus, and don't get sucked in by a false peace that only leads to death, to a wasted existence. That's not for them; in Jesus they have an

eternity of life to discover and enjoy, living in Father's love and affection, growing to maturity living true to who they are in Jesus. Living a life that makes an eternal difference.

Men, I pray you daily choose Jesus, and the life he's given his life for you to live. The stakes are high; its your life that's on the line.

25 August 2019

## CONFIRMATION

Jeremiah 6:14; 8:11



This week I've been reading the writings of the prophet Jeremiah. This phrase caught my attention; Jeremiah writing about the prophets and priests of his time. "Thy offer superficial treatments for my people's mortal wound. They give assurances of peace when there is no peace." (Jer. 6:14,8:11) This phrase occurred twice within a short space.

I'm sure no one would want 'superficial treatment' for a mortal wound. I'm sure everyone would want treatment that cures the wound. So what is our mortal wound?

What is it that robs us of life? What kills us? What destroys?

Jesus claim is that he has come to heal our mortal wound, that we might have life; that we

might have life abundantly, to the full. I think that is what everyone is after; a rich and satisfying life. Life lived to the full. Jesus invites us to look to him to heal our mortal wound.

I for one what my mortal wound dealt with.

By the way does anyone else here have a mortal wound? Mortal means you're going to die. Anyone here with a mortal wound? Anyone here going to die, or in the process of dying?

If you don't think you have a mortal wound, you might be trusting a lie. Would that be wise?

Jeremiah was sent by God to minister to the nation's mortal wound; but they ignored him. They believed everything was going to be OK. The crops were

good. They received good dividends on their shares. They had good coffee and cake. They felt everything was fine, no need for this alarmist Jeremiah.

But in Jeremiah's life time the nation of Judea was overrun, the city of Jerusalem destroyed and the temple was looted. During the siege of Jerusalem parents ended up eating their children, desperately wanting to survive. After that would it have been worth surviving?

They had believed a lie; which was extremely tragic because none of this needed to happen. With Jeremiah's warning came hope. Jeremiah was calling his people to turn back to their God, to trust in him, to find life in him. But they refused, thinking they knew better. They stubbornly

### Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

refused and went off and did their own thing. They believed they had the power to do whatever they wanted. I wonder if that faith changed as they were brutally forced into exile?

It didn't have to happen; but they refused to change course.

What's the mortal wound? What's the mortal wound Jesus has come to cure?

Sadly humanity has lost its reason for being. We not only lost our reason for being we also lost our identity. On top of that we also have a yearning to be loved, to be wanted, to be accepted, but that too seems to be lost, or at least illusory.

I can be breathing, but if I don't know I'm loved and wanted. If I have no understanding of my identity, no reason to get up in the morning, then I'm robbed of life; it kills my desire, I'm destroyed. I don't want to exist; I want to live,

live life to the full, abundantly.

That's the very thing Jesus comes in person to give to you, personally. He's come in person to love you, for love is personal. Jesus has come to gift you with an identity that flows from his identity. Jesus was born that your life might have an

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### What's the mortal wound?

eternal purpose; in him you have a reason to get up each morning and enjoy the day, making a difference that counts.

Did you notice that it is a personal encounter with Jesus that heals our mortal wound? Jesus loves in person.

Jesus breathes new life into us so that we are once again made in the image of God. Jesus recreates us in his image, so that we know who we are; God the Father's children,

chosen and marked by his love, the delight of his life. That's who you are.

As we walk with Jesus, our life takes on an eternal worth. We don't have momentary flashes; here today, gone tomorrow. No, in Jesus, our life has an eternal purpose, for our life now gives living expression to the very nature of God. Our life becomes a wonderful act of praise and worship, where God is glorified. The

eternal one breathes his eternity into our life, into our living.

It is a personal encounter with Jesus that heals our mortal wound.

I don't want to be one of those prophets or priests who offer superficial treatments for people's mortal wounds. I don't want to be saying everything's ok when it isn't. Everything isn't ok, that is evidenced by the fact that we all face physical death, but that's not the

scariest part. The scariest part is that most don't live life, and will end up in an eternity of regret, loss, confusion, feeling unloved and unwanted, without purpose or value, existing at best.

I don't want that for these young men, I want them to be living life; personally with Jesus. My passion is that they are discovering life in all Jesus' fullness; personally.

So the last exercise I got them to do was based around this leaflet. L.I.F.E.; that's living in faith everyday. That's living in the relationship Jesus created for us through his birth, death and resurrection. Jesus has opened the way for us to live personally with him. We are forgiven, so the way is open. Jesus has sent the Spirit to be with us; so we have a personal connection.

But if I don't live in this relationship, if I don't do something, it will all be

a waste of time. Only adding to my regret; to think I had it all and wasted it. Eternity will be a long time to lament, wishing, if only I'd acted, but never having the opportunity. That sounds hellish to me.

So I invited these young men to make time for Jesus. To read

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### Jesus, and our life with him heals. In Jesus You don't have a mortal wound!

his word; the bible. But not as a text book, but as God talking to them so that they might know him more intimately; personally.

The mortal wound isn't a deficit in our education, but a relational deficit. I want to know God, in Jesus, through the Spirit. I don't want to just know about God. His passion is that we know him personally; why else would he have come personally.

So I encouraged these young men to develop the habit of listening to God, of inviting the Spirit to speak as they talk with Jesus about their life; their challenges, their joys, bringing their hearts alive so they live passionately though him.

I encouraged them to talk with Jesus, to be attentive to his response; a thought, a feeling, a smell, an image, a word, a song, the chirping of the birds or a knock on the door. Expect Jesus to respond; his passion, way more than it is ours, is to share life with us, everyday.

In case you've missed it, Jesus, and our life with him, everyday, is the life that heals our mortal wound. In Jesus I don't have a mortal wound, I have a life to live. In Jesus, these young men don't have a mortal wound, they have a life to live and discover with Jesus.