



## Will He be there?

Going to church (or any involvement with a faith community) can become routine, and in many instances for most all of us this has been the case from time to time. So it is tempting to wonder, why bother. Isn't it enough that I believe in Jesus, that his sacrifice covers me? Why bother? A verse leapt off the page recently for me:

John 11:56

So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?"  
NASB

After all Jesus was under threat. We know the story, we have heard the brutal details of the crucifixion and the fear and bewilderment turned to excitement and joy over the empty tomb. But we assume and therefore presume a lot about God and Jesus. He will be there whenever I elect to turn to Him. It's my choice and he will be happy to receive whatever I offer. He's always there, at church, hosting the Lord's supper, and even in the woods and on the golf course etc. He's pleasantly in the background.

The verse above paints a different picture: one of people in need, people with desires, aspirations and longings that they hoped Jesus could fulfill. And they honestly wondered "Maybe He's not the real deal." Just suppose, "What if He didn't show up?" How would we feel? Would we notice? It depends on what we seek. Yet the truth is that He IS there and ever will be. It is His promise and He is faithful. The question now is: Will we be there?

It is our hope and prayer that in this season through seeking you have found and cultivated greater desire to be with Him.

He showed up  
He suffered  
He is Risen  
He will come again  
Happy Easter!

--David



"Jesus is Risen" by Philippa King

## PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Our brothers/sisters in Africa: Jac Agak, Charles Ngoje, Jacob Randiek, and your orphan(s)
- Lisa Grimenstein in her time of Pregnancy and the health of the baby
- Mike Choley in loss of his mother
- Cheyenne's father for healing from newfound cancer
- Lord's grace on several in job transition
- May the Lord grant His Spirit for ministry & mission
- Bless Lord and Thank You Lord for many in hands-on ministry:
  1. Tommy's Next Right Step; Gil & Liz administering orphan work;
  2. Jim's writing; Frank's Prison Outreach; Azad to Muslims;
  3. Karen and Ann in counseling; Graceworks Administration;
  4. Elders in Shepherding and Prayer; Teachers & Worship Team;
  5. Jim in maintenance; cooks on Wednesday night
- Lord bring healing for those in the body suffering
- Thank You for drawing near us by Your suffering
- Lord's wisdom for the elders at FH
- Lord mercy & help on a nation suffering for lack of knowledge
- Thank You Lord for Spring rains & birds' return
- Thanksgiving for loved ones returning home from afar
- Lord teach us gratitude
- Living God, Keep our hearts from false gods
- Teach us to live in the Light of your Resurrection



Who is the first person to witness the Risen Jesus?



