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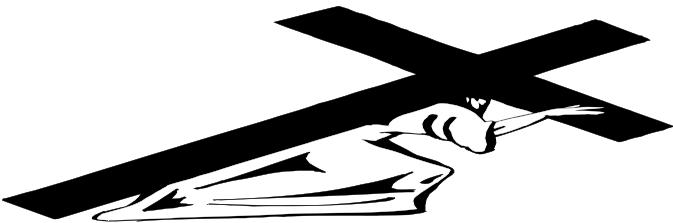


# The Water Valley Witness

"Speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15 NIV)  
March, 2012

David Freeman, Minister

Kevin Herrera, Youth Minister



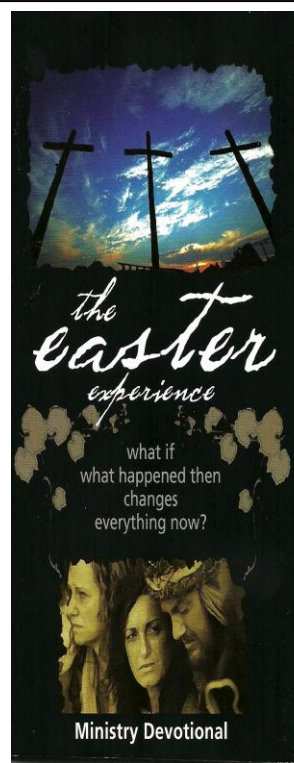
**Still He Walked...**

He could hear the crowds screaming "crucify" "crucify" ...  
He could hear the hatred in their voices,  
These were His chosen people.  
He loved them,  
And they were going to crucify Him.  
He was beaten, bleeding and weakened...  
His heart was broken,  
But still He walked.  
He could see the crowd as he came from the palace.  
He knew each of the faces so well.  
He had created them.  
He knew every smile, every laugh, and every shed tear,  
But now they were contorted with rage and anger;  
His heart broke,  
But still He walked.  
Was he scared? You and I would have been.  
So his humanness would have mandated that He was.  
He felt alone.  
His disciples had left, denied, and even betrayed him.  
He searched the crowd for a loving face and He saw very few.  
Then he turned His eyes to the only one that mattered  
And He knew that He would never be alone.  
He looked back at the crowd...  
At the people who were spitting at Him,  
Throwing rocks at him and mocking Him,  
And He knew that because of Him,  
They would never be alone.  
So for them, He walked.  
The sounds of the hammer striking the spikes echoed  
through the crowd.  
The sounds of His cries echoed even louder,  
The cheers of the crowd, as his hands and feet were  
nailed to the cross,  
Intensified with each blow.  
Loudest of all was the still small voice  
Inside His Heart that whispered "I am with you, my son",  
And God's heart broke.  
He had let His son walk.  
Jesus could have asked God to end his suffering,  
But instead He asked God to forgive.  
Not to forgive Him, but to forgive the ones who were  
persecuting Him.

As He hung on that cross, dying an unimaginable death,  
He looked out and saw, not only the faces in the crowd,  
But also, the face of every person yet to be,  
And His heart filled with love.  
As His body was dying, His heart was alive.  
Alive with the limitless, unconditional love He feels for  
each of us.  
That is why He walked.  
When I forget how much My God loves me,  
...I remember his walk.  
When I wonder if I can be forgiven,  
...I remember his walk.  
When I need to be reminded of how to live like Christ,  
...I think of his walk.  
And to show him how much I love him,  
...I wake up each morning, turn my eyes to him,  
.....And I walk.

David Langerfeld

You are invited to join us here at First Christian Church from March 4 – April 8 as we not only Celebrate Easter, but EXPERIENCE EASTER! By use of cinematic messages featuring Kyle Idleman on Sunday nights, to Bible discussions on Wednesday nights, and messages by Bro... relive some of the of Jesus Christ. everything now! FCC for this inspi







**Hymns of the Laodicean Church**

The Laodicean Church announces publication of *Church Songs*, whose title, according to the editor, was chosen because "We didn't want to turn anybody off with threatening words that no one understands anymore like 'worship' or 'hymn.' People in today's society get kind of uncomfortable with too much talk about things like commitment and dedication. They'd much rather have a religion that they can turn on or off at will. Our book seeks to meet that need."

*Table of Contents:*

- A Comfy Mattress Is Our God
- Above Average is Thy Faithfulness
- All Hail the Influence of Jesus' Name
- Amazing Grace, How Interesting the Sound
- Blest Be the Tie That Doesn't Cramp My Style
- I Surrender Some
- I'm Fairly Certain That My Redeemer Lives
- Joyful, Joyful, We Kinda Like Thee
- My Faith Looks Around for Thee
- My Hope is Built on Nothing Much
- O God, Our Enabler in Ages Past
- Oh, for a Couple of Tongues to Sing
- Oh, How I Like Jesus
- Pillow of Ages, Fluffed for Me
- Praise God from Whom All Affirmations Flow
- Self-Esteem to the World! The Lord is Come
- Sit Up, Sit Up for Jesus
- Spirit of the Living God, Fall Somewhere Near Me
- Take My Life and Let Me Be
- There Shall be Sprinkles of Blessings
- What an Acquaintance We Have in Jesus
- When the Saints Go Sneaking In
- Where He Leads Me, I Will Consider Following

Travis Moore

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Don't be caught sleeping! Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday morning, March 11 at 2:00 a.m.! Remember to turn your clock ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night! You won't want to miss Sunday School and Morning Worship!

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**FYI**

Donny and Starr Guest have moved! Their new address is 21019 Wills Trace, Oxford, MS 38655. And, in case you missed it, their new phone number is 638-3151. Make a note of this new information!

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**Mikey's Thoughts...**

- ~ A friend walks in when everyone else walks out.
- ~ A good example is the best sermon.
- ~ Give God what is right, not what is left.
- ~ One who lacks courage to start has already finished.
- ~ You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving.
- ~ Change is good as long as I don't have to do anything differently.
- ~ Families are like fudge - mostly sweet with a few nuts.
- ~ Fences and arguments always have two sides.
- ~ I told my family I never want to depend on a machine and fluids to keep me alive...that's when they took away my computer and coffee maker!
- ~ If at first you DO succeed, try not to look astonished!

[www.mikeysFunnies.com](http://www.mikeysFunnies.com)



Thanks to Julie Seeto 11-14-2002

**WHY DON'T YOU STOP WONDERING WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD AND READ THE MANUAL**

Join us this Sunday, March 4 at 9:00 a.m. for the start of a new quarter of Bible School! We have classes for all ages and you would be welcomed! By the way, the Ladies' Class is starting a new type of Bible study, "Jesus: The One and Only." This DVD study is led by Beth Moore.

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*David's Dab...*

By the time you receive this newsletter our "Love Month" emphasis will have officially ended. However, I hope the love continues to flow from your heart to others, and especially to the heart of God. It has been good to put the spotlight on some groups that we often take for granted or ignore, such as our "inactive" members, our youth, our leaders, and our senior saints. Personally I am thankful for the e-mails and cards I received during the week we spotlighted our leaders. I am really looking forward to our "Easter Experience" emphasis during March and into April. In addition to the DVDs and Kyle Idleman teachings, the Sunday morning sermons, and the Wednesday night Bible studies, half of the congregation is taking part in reading the forty day daily devotionals around the Easter Experience theme. As we reflect on the price Jesus paid for our salvation it should cause us to reflect on how we respond to Him on a daily basis. I hope you will be with us this Sunday, March 4 as we turn our eyes and our hearts to Jesus.

Thanks for the many positive comments on the recent sermon series, "Greater Things." As I said numerous times, God does not want us to be a complacent church; rather a going, growing, and sending church! Complacency is not to be a part of our DNA here at First Christian Church! As I said last Sunday, it all comes down to commitment. As we grow in our commitment to Christ Jesus and His church He will open the eyes of our hearts to the vision He wants us to embrace and embark on in our service for Him. To step out in faith and sacrifice to accomplish that vision will certainly be challenging. But, by the power of God it will be possible. Will you join us in that mission? If God is laying a vision on your heart for First Christian Church I want to encourage you to share it with the leadership. Write it down and pass it on to myself or one of the Elders or Deacons. Together we can accomplish greater things to the glory of God.

I will close with a paragraph I found while working on the "Greater Things" sermon series. I don't know who wrote it but it is certainly worth sharing:

- To better love the broken, I must shift from "serve us" to service.
- To better love fellow believers, I must shift from impressing to impacting.
- To better love the generations, I must shift from suppressing to supporting.
- To better love the Lord, I must shift from watching to worshipping.
- To better love the lost, I must shift from comfort to combat.

Because I care, I will be looking for you this Sunday in Bible School and Worship!