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**Trinity Tidings**

**JUNE & JULY 2018**

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not let them be afraid.”*

*John 14:27b*

On my way to work today I listened to a song by Zach Williams entitled, *Fear is a Liar*. I have to admit when I first heard the lyrics I had to look at the title, on my screen, because it is not very often you hear the word “liar” when listening to Christian radio. Intrigued, I focused on his message.

When he told you you're not good enough. When he told you you're not strong enough. When he told you you're not worthy. That you’ll never be enough...Fear, he is a liar. He will take your breath. Stop you in your steps. Fear, he is a liar. He will rob your rest. Steal your happiness.

Fear. Fear has many disguises and enters all of our lives at some point. The word family, alone, conjures up an array of emotions, from love and joy to frustration and sorrow. The stronger the love, the greater the impact. The greater our fear is that things will go wrong or won’t right itself. Friends are a close second when it comes to our concerns and worries. Then there is secular expectation which often burdens us and weighs heavy on our hearts as we strive to overcome earthly obstacles to reach ultimate happiness.

As we stretch out our hands to whatever we can grab on to, in effort to succeed, or just simple to survive, our self-esteem can weaken to the point where hope becomes a distant memory. We allow others to tell us our place in society, set the bar so to speak, and then continue to raise it. It might feel as if we are in a marathon that never ends. So ask yourself, “What am I striving for? Do I set goals worthy of my time?” “Who am I and what am I here on this earth for?” “What is my purpose in life?”

There is only one objective that should overpower all the rest, and that is finding a secure place in the hands of God. When we allow God to take the lead we will most certainly reach our potential. Potential we may not even realize we have. God has plans that sometimes do not coincide with ours but which should relieve us. With God at the helm we don’t have to be. With God in control we can trust everything will turn out alright and we will grow through those circumstances of life. We will learn that we do not have to be in control, but then we seldom are anyway. When we realize true power lies in a more heavenly realm, we can relax. We can enjoy this beautiful world God has created just for us. Try not to let the headlines instill fear; don’t let your personal life overwhelm you. Rather look above the troubles of this world and allow the Spirit of God to descend upon you and bring you the peace you were meant to have. And remember,

Fear, he is a liar. He will take your breath. Stop you in your steps. Fear he is a liar. He will rob your rest. Steal your happiness. Cast your fear in the fire. 'Cause fear he is a liar.

Then remember the more important message from Christ Himself;

*Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you, I do not give to you as the world gives.” John 14:27a*

I pray you all will have a safe and beautiful summer,

Pastor Cheri