

Greetings from the "New" Galveston!

Welcome to "Pastor Kelley's Korner"!

Know of something exciting that's happened to someone? Email me and let's get the word out! krvaughan@yahoo.com

And check out my daily blog at www.kelleykorner.blogspot.com

SEASIDE COMMUNITY NEWS...

**LOVE GOD
LOVE THE FAMILY
LOVE THE WORLD**

John 6:35 says, "Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'"

EASTER EVENTS AT SEASIDE ...

Pray, Pray, Pray for the Easter sunrise service. We will begin at 6:30 a.m. on the beach at Jamaica Beach, just down from Seaside. We have had lots of people in the past (like 700+!), so come early. We have plenty for you to do - pass out song books and gifts to the people, and invite everyone to breakfast!

That's right! We will be serving breakfast for whoever wants to join us after the service. That means we need a LOT of food. 400+ people is a lot of breakfast! Bring whatever your favorite breakfast food is, from fruit to breakfast burritos. Of course any help in the kitchen is always appreciated.

The kids' Easter egg hunt will begin around 8:30. You can help Chris and the others hide the eggs and assist the youngsters and their parents,

Ready to be baptized? Talk to me right away and we will get you on the list for baptism in the Gulf at the sunrise service.

CHILDREN'S CAMP ...

June 23-28. For completed 3rd grade-6th grade. In GlenRose, Texas. In conjunction with Columbus Avenue Baptist Church of Waco. Possibly limited to

first five to sign up. Cost is \$275. \$50 non-refundable deposit due ASAP, but no later than April 15th. There may be some scholarship money available. And we will be doing another fund-raiser on the Saturday of Memorial weekend. It'll be a P, B & J Breakfast. That's Pancakes, Bacon, and Jesus! More details on that to come soon. See Lauren to sign up to help with the fund raiser. See me or Mama Chris right away to let us know if you are interested or to sign up for camp!

MISSIONS MINUTES ...

It is exciting to see Seaside getting excited about missions of all kinds. We already are connected with the Humphries family in Alaska. And we give a percentage of what people give to the church to the local Baptist association (*That means county-wide stuff like the block party trailer we always use and other assistance programs for local churches*). Plus we try to get involved in local mission needs as they come to our attention.

We also have another way we cooperate to do missions. The Baptist General Convention of Texas was among those who helped us out a lot after Hurricane Ike, and they were also active after Hurricane Harvey. In the last few years we have hosted the Texas Baptist Men in our retreat center for some of the training they do for feeding people in crisis areas. The BGCT also does such things as train chaplains, provide help for churches who are building, support colleges and seminaries and hospitals, pay salaries of missionaries overseas and in North America, provide retirement, disability, and survivor benefits for church staff members, and do specific missions projects in Texas and all over the world. Sounds pretty exciting, doesn't it?

BAPTISM IN THE GULF ...

Baptism opportunities are available to you year-round at Seaside! That's one of the benefits of living on a tropical Island Paradise, right? And our first baptisms of the year will be taking place at our Easter Sunrise Service on the beach.

If you are a believer and want to take your relationship with Jesus to the next level, you are invited to join in this amazing experience in the Gulf of Mexico any time! Please let me know as soon as you can either at church or by email (pastor@seasidefamily.org) so we can get you on the docket.

A WORD FROM THE HUMPHRIES' ...

Kenny and Lauren and the kids will be at the sunrise service on Easter! Come on out and meet these folks we have been praying for.

TEACHING ...

SEASIDE CHURCH
Palm Sunday Morning 14 April 2019
"What Time Is It?" Luke 19:40

As part of encouragement time, everyone pick up a palm cross, then go across the room and trade it with someone else. Or two someone elses! Or three!

Show clip from Beauty and the Beast of the "Praise song" for Gaston. (scene 8). How's that for praise? Do you think they really meant it?

Today is Palm Sunday - one of the most praise-filled days in the Christian experience. We're going to talk about it, but first, I want to share a few other stories with you. They are all about miracles Jesus performed.

But before we get to those ... Let's pray:

Father, on this day when you finally permitted praise, we offer our own. We don't want to be out done by a bunch of rocks.

Praise you, Jesus.

Glory be to your name.

Hosannah to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosannah in the highest.

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Hallelujah.

Jesus.

Amen.

Read the stories.

1. Water made into wine - John 2:1-11

<John is the disciple who Jesus put in charge of taking care of his mother. I imagine John gets this story from her>

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

2. Démoniac in the synagogue healed - Mark 1:23-26

<Mark is a guy who is all about action. He writes his Jesus story to Romans, so he has to keep their attention>

Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!"

"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

3. Heals diseases in Galilee - Mark 1:34

<Remember, this is the all-about-action guy. And occasionally he gets sort of overwhelmed, so he kind of summarizes ...>

and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

4. Miracles at Jerusalem - John 2:23-25

<Back to John. He is also known as the Disciple Who Jesus Loved, so he has a lot of insight into those deep parts of Jesus>

Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.

5. Cleanses the leper - Matt 8:1-4

<Matthew tells his Jesus story to Jews, so he includes little details about going to the priest and getting declared ceremonially clean>

When he came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy. Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

6. *Opens the eyes of two blind men* - Matt 9:27-31

<Here's another one from Matthew>

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?"

"Yes, Lord," they replied.

Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.

7. *Deaf-mute cured* - Mark 7:31-37

<Mark again. Remember the action factor? He even makes a healing into an exciting drama>

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

What would you say is the common factor in all these stories? Let me give you a clue:

1. *Water made into wine* - John 2:4 - "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

2. Demoniac in the synagogue healed - Mark 1:25 - "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!"

3. Heals diseases in Galilee - Mark 1:34b - but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

4. Miracles at Jerusalem - John 2:25 - But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.

5. Cleanses the leper - Matt 8:4 - Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone."

6. Opens the eyes of two blind men - Matt 9:30 - Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this."

7. Deaf-mute cured - Mark 7:36 - Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone.

Did you figure it out?

Jesus tells them not to say anything - not to tell anyone except maybe a select few.

And then we come to the Palm Sunday story

(I've combined the four different accounts we have in the gospels):

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go.

When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. (Mark 11:1-7)

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

"Say to the Daughter of Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" (Matthew 21:4-5)

The great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. (John 12:12)

Many of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut palm branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him, and those that followed, shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest!" (Mark 11:8-9)

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

"I tell you," he replied ...

Now wait. Based on those other stories we just heard, what would you expect Jesus to say next?

"You know what? You're right. You guys do need to keep this quiet. We can't have the Romans hearing you say that I'm a king. That's against the law."

Sounds consistent, doesn't it?

Well ... let's see what Jesus *actually* says.

"I tell you," he replied ...

"if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:38-40

And he isn't talking about the Rolling Stones, either!

This Palm Sunday thing is unique in a lot of ways.

1. This was the only crowd that Jesus does not hide from.

It was the most public hour in Jesus' life.

2. All four gospels record this event. By comparison, the Christmas story is only in two of them.

3. He doesn't stop them! The donkey ride alone is enough to show that it is intended, and even planned by Jesus. After all, it is a fulfillment of a very specific prophecy made hundreds of years prior:

Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey."

And Jesus refuses to restrain anything that is spontaneous (the extravagant praise and gestures of reception).

He doesn't stop them! In fact, he says if the people didn't praise him, the rocks and stones would!

Jesus knows very well that the accolades of praise are directed at him. He knows the people recognize him as God's chosen Messiah. He knows the religious implications of the Jewish leaders seeing the crowds. He knows the political ramifications of the Romans hearing what is going on. He knows the personal consequences of the mob's accolades. And yet he does nothing to hinder that out-and-out worship that is directed at him.

This Palm Sunday actually extends for days. Jesus leads the entire procession into the Temple. The crowd keeps coming to meet him for days at the Temple. The praise continues for days. Jesus continues to do nothing to tone down the adoration.

It is time – his time!

Today it's *your* time to come to him.

2 Corinthians 6:2 - For he says,

"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the
day of salvation.

CHECK OUT "A LOOK AT SALVATION" BELOW

Palm Sunday is one of the most symbolic days of the church year. It is the time to examine your relationship with God and make a choice:

*Recommit everything about you to him, or
Don't let anyone know you are a Christian.*

Jesus said in Luke 9:23 - *"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.*

Remember that you hold a symbol of your commitment that you "took up" today - your palm cross. Keep the cross in a prominent spot, especially for the next week – this before-Easter week. Look at it during the times of quiet. Every time you look at it remember the sacrifice Jesus made for you.

A LOOK AT SALVATION ...

You need to understand that God loves you more than you could ever know. He wants to be in a personal, love relationship with you. However, we most certainly have proven that we have a problem. The Bible calls it sin, and sin keeps us from having that relationship. Simply put, God will not tolerate sin. It has to do with his nature of perfect justice. And the problem worsens because there is nothing we can do to take care of it. Quite a dilemma.

But God is, after all, God. He knew we would have that problem, so because of his great love for us, he said, "I'll take care of it. I'll do what is necessary." And what was that? Somehow God became a man – Jesus. He lived a perfect life. He died. And he rose from the dead. And because of that perfect sacrifice he made, our problem with sin is taken care of. It is now possible once again for us to have a personal, love relationship with God, with Jesus.

But wait. Remember that he wants the relationship to be one of love. He proved his love for us when he took the biggest risk of all in creating us – he gave us the right to choose to love him back. It was the only way for love to have any real meaning. So now you must choose. Will you love God back?

The best way to understand it is to follow the relationship idea. How did you start every relationship you have ever had? By talking, right? It's the same with God. That's all prayer is, anyway – just talking to God. You can say something like this: *"Jesus, I know I sin and I'm sorry. I believe your life and death and resurrection takes care of that problem in me. Best I know how, I want to turn away from that and turn to you. Come into my life and take over. You be the Boss. I choose to love you back. Amen."*

So did you pray it? Have *you* believed and confessed Jesus?

Your next step is to tell someone about it. It is an important enough decision that you need to be held accountable for it. That's what baptism does, by the way. It's a way to tell everyone that you have a new relationship with Jesus. And because it is a relationship, you will need to work at it.

Here are the discipleship basics according to Jesus:

1) Love God:

Read the Bible – learn his story (**Discipleship**). Who is this guy you are committing yourself to follow?

Worship – appreciate God for who he is. Pray – talk to him. Listen to him.

2) Love people:

Church – hang out with others who already know him (**Fellowship**).

Learn from them. Receive encouragement from them. Learn to worship from them and do it with them.

Ministry – find a place of service so you can try out this new life you are beginning. Get outside of yourself and do things for other people.

Evangelism – learn how to point people to Jesus. Build relationships with

people who don't know Jesus.

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER? ...

Here's another opportunity for ministry ... If any of you Seasideers would be interested in doing some volunteer secretarial-type stuff (like making phone calls and entering new member information into our records and taking notes at discernment meetings), please let me know. Email me at pastor@seasidefamily.org or let me know on Sunday.

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCES ...

No better time than right now to get started in a regular *small group Bible study* experience. Here are the ones going right now at Seaside:

Men's Bible Study meets at the Matthews home on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Check with Bob Matthews for details.

Home Group happens on Thursday nights at my house, around 7 p.m. Right now we are doing an overview of the Bible. Email me for directions to the house at pastor@seasidefamily.org.

West End Community Bible Study (For ladies) meets on Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at the Lami home. See Dianne for details on that one.

Holy Yoga meets at 10:00 Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at the Jamaica Beach Gym. See Stephanie for details.

FAMILY MINISTRIES ...

God just keeps on bring kids our way, so we have a responsibility to touch them in ministry. Do you know of someone who is called to work with children and/or youth? Is it you?! Let me know where you have been called to serve and I'll help get you equipped to obey your Lord and follow your passion right here at Seaside!

RETREAT CENTER INFO ...

The Seaside Church Mission Outreach and Retreat Center at Jamaica Beach, on the West end of Galveston, has bunk/shower and kitchen facilities for groups of up to 60 available. This is a ministry of our church and operates on offerings only, in order to maintain the facility. Summers book up quickly, but we have the facility available all year. This is perfect for youth groups, camps, bible schools, special classes, and mission groups. This would also be a great place for a family reunion/retreat during Holidays and weekends throughout the year. Contact us now to reserve dates by email at babandamber@gmail.com or pastor@seasidefamily.org.

COMING "STUFF" ...

APRIL ...

- 1 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 3 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
Men's Bible study at Bob Matthews' house - 7 p.m.
- 4 - Home Group Bible Study at PK's house - 7 p.m.
- 5 - West End Community Ladies Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 6 - AA - 7 p.m.
- 7 - **WORSHIP** - 10 a.m.
IRON MAN TRIATHALON - get to church early to miss the bikers!
- 8 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 10 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
Men's Bible study at Bob Matthews' house - 7 p.m.
- 11 - Home Group Bible Study at PK's house - 7 p.m.
- 12 - West End Community Ladies Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 13 - AA - 7 p.m.
- 14 - **WORSHIP** - 10 a.m.
PALM SUNDAY
- 15 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 17 - Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
Men's Bible study at Bob Matthews' house - 7 p.m.
- 18 - Home Group Bible Study at PK's house - 7 p.m.
- 19 - West End Community Ladies Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
GOOD FRIDAY
Holy Yoga - 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 20 - AA - 7 p.m.
- 21 - **EASTER SUNDAY!**
Sunrise Service set-up - 5 a.m.
SUNRISE SERVICE - 6:30 a.m.

Breakfast for the masses! – 8 a.m.

Kids' Easter Egg Hunt – 8:30 a.m.

EASTER COMMUNION SERVICE – 10 a.m.

- 22 - Holy Yoga – 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 24 - Holy Yoga – 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
Men's Bible study at Bob Matthews' house - 7 p.m.
- 25 - Home Group Bible Study at PK's house – 7 p.m.
- 26 - West End Community Ladies Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.
Holy Yoga – 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym
- 27 - AA – 7 p.m.
- 28 - **WORSHIP** - 10 a.m.
- 29 - Holy Yoga – 10:00 a.m. at the JB gym

SEASIDE BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH ...

APRIL ...

- 1 – *Parker Floyd*
- 3 – *Kathy Hyatt*
 - Allie Morgan*
 - Helen Pardo*
- 7 – *Rita Boyer*
 - Dade Moseley*
 - Joshua Neubauer*
- 9 – *Jada Anderson*
- 11 – *Lauren Humphries*
- 12 – *Ron Vodehnal*
 - Madison Somero*
- 13 – *Nancy Roehrig*
- 15 – *Eric Geswender*
- 16 – *Suzanne Kaye*
- 17 – *April DiCecco*
- 18 – *Jacob Lopez*
- 20 – *Allie O'Conner*
 - Madison Ang*
 - Emily Aviles*
- 25 – *Any Trapman*
 - Emily Fox*
- 28 – *April Vaughan*
- 29 – *Noa Vaughan*
- 30 – *Paulette Shelton*

CHECK THIS OUT ...

When we tell our story without backing it up with authentic Christlike character, the story is diluted, washed out, and anemic. It has a fraction of the impact it should. But when we tell our story with a backdrop of authentic Christlike character, the story is augmented, strengthened, and powerful.

From: New Christian's Handbook by Max Anders

PASTORAL PRAYER: Father, on this day when you finally permitted praise, we offer our own. We don't want to be out done by a bunch of rocks.

Praise you, Jesus.

Glory be to your name.

Hosannah to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosannah in the highest.

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Hallelujah.

Jesus.

Amen.

I love you, Family!

Pastor Kelley