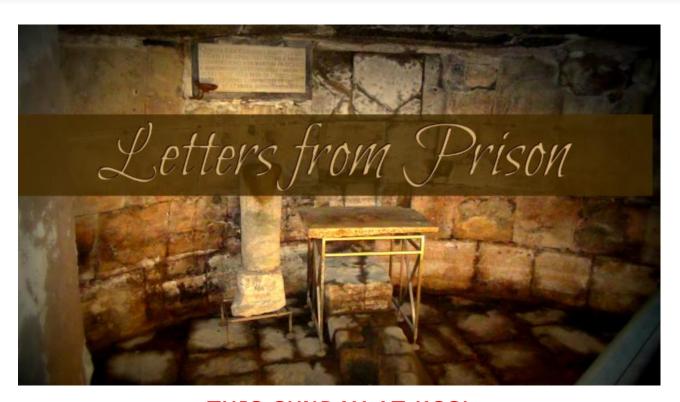


### News from KCC

January 25, 2017



#### THIS SUNDAY AT KCC!

"To live is Christ and to die is gain." Inspiring words from a man sitting in prison continuing to preach the Gospel. "He is no fool who will give up what he cannot keep for that which he cannot lose." Those inspiring words were from the missionary Jim Elliot, who would be murdered by the people he was trying to share the Gospel with. "I'll not offer anything to the Lord my God that cost me nothing." Those words from the greatest king (except for Jesus) to ever live, as he approached the Creator with a sacrifice for his sin of pride.

How does our life reflect true and full surrender to Jesus as Lord? This week we look at one of my least favorite words in the English language. Bring a friend and come join us at 8:30 or 11, as well as 10 am for Faith Training hour.  $\sim$  Andy B.

### Higher but Level Ground

By Andy Bratton, Senior Minister

I read a quote the other day that I thought was pretty awesome. I don't remember who said it, but the quote says, "the ground at the cross is level." One of the things I love about our church is how different everyone are. We have what the world would call "successful" business people. We have teachers. We have custodians. We have stay at home moms. We have retirees. We have former military. We also have people who have struggled with all sorts of sin. And, quite frankly, some who are still struggling with all sorts of sin. But, God doesn't care about the what or the how bad. God loves us all. And when it comes to his sending Jesus to die on the cross for us, the ground is level. Those who are deemed as having lived a "righteous and holy" life don't get more of the saving power of Jesus. And in the same way, those who struggled longer or with more "glaring" sins than others, don't have to stand in the back and hope Jesus has enough power left for them. The ground is level.

I watched one of the football games on Sunday and kept an eye on the other as we did some work around the church. Two really good quarterbacks lost. Two quarterbacks that brought their teams back this season from what seemed early on to be a lost season. But on this particular Sunday, those two guys that had battled well and seemed to be unstoppable, got stopped. Two better teams on that particular day, crushed them. The ground wasn't level. Something about those games, those teams, those coaches, those players, those fans, wasn't level that day. And the result was that two teams won and two teams



lost. Two teams live on to play in the Super Bowl and two teams were packing up their lockers the next day talking about next season.

Not so with the cross. The ground is level. You may struggle on one particular day, but Jesus' blood still covers you. You may be flying high one day, but Jesus' blood is covering you as much as the person standing next to you struggling. The ground is level at the cross. An even playing field in which regardless of your life circumstances, Jesus' blood still cleanses your sin and makes you whole again. 1 Timothy 2:3-4 says, "This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." That level ground at the cross is for you and for me and for everyone around us. God's desire is that we ALL would come to know Him.

We end our month on knowledge in <u>Matthew 11</u> where we find John the Baptist in prison. John wondered if Jesus was truly the Savior that God had promised and goes right to the Source to find out. Jesus responded with love and reassured John that all of God's promises are coming true.

### The Bottom Line this week

## When you don't know what God says, ask.



Even when you know God's word, you may have questions about what God is doing in your life. We want kids to know that no question is too big for God. We pray that churches are creating environments where kids feel safe to ask hard questions about their faith. Let kids know that God will respond to their questions with love.

# breathe 2017 Hearts at Home 2017 CONFERENCES

### We're so excited to invite YOU to join us at the 2017 Hearts at Home Conference!

Join thousands of women just like you at this fabulous weekend getaway! Spend time with your friends, hear AMAZING music, hand pick workshops on topics YOU want to hear about, and come away encouraged and equipped to be the best YOU that you can be! There's even a fun Mom's Night Out on Friday filled with laughter & music! April 20th - 23rd in Peoria, IL. Please visit the Hearts at Home table in the Lobby for more information or to sign up. Check out the <u>Hearts at Home website here</u>. See Emily Paulus for details!



### **Upcoming Events**

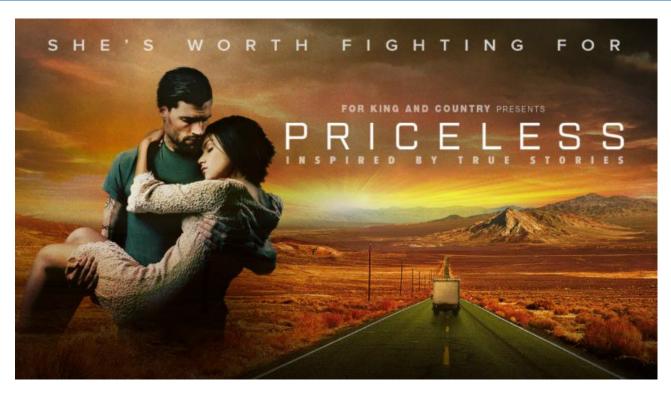


The next Preacher's Prayer Partners Breakfast is **Sunday, January 29th at 7:15am** in the Lower Level. All men in the church are invited!



### New Faith Training Class for Men!

Join us Sundays at 10:00am in the Conference Room off the Lobby for a new Bible study based on 1 & 2 Samuel. This class is led by Dean Farrier & <u>starts Sunday</u>, Jan. 29th.



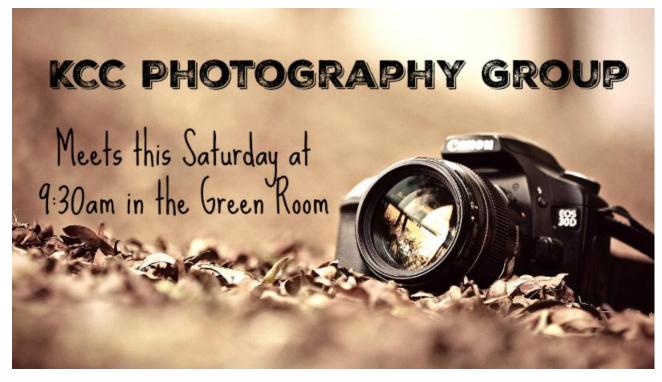
Join the Young adults class for a new Bible Study!

For King and Country's Luke & his brother Joel present "PRICELESS! Respect & Honor". This is a 7 week study for all High School graduates - 30 year olds & teaches Godly relationships, chivalry, respect and honor. PRICELESS **begins Sunday, January 29th at 10:00am in Classroom #4** (by the elevator) & is led by Tony & Kellie Makinson.



### New Sunday Morning Faith Training Class!

The ABC's of Financial Freedom has been instrumental in helping thousands of people & churches all across america turn their financial situations around. Now it's your turn! In this class you will discover the biblical principles that will teach you how to get out from under the burden & bondage of debt and enable you to declare your own financial independence. ABC's of Financial Freedom meets Sundays at 10:00am in the Green Room starting <u>Sunday</u>, <u>January 29th</u> & is led by Andy & Lisa Bratton.



Learn camera basics and take mini field trips together to improve your photography skills. Bring you camera to the Green Room <u>this Saturday</u>, <u>January 28th</u> from 9:30am -

12:00pm For more information, call Alison Neihardt at 231-590-2320.

#### TODAY - Wednesday, January 25, 2017

- 3:00 PM WASP After school program for kids Kindergarten 5th grade
- 6:00 PM FUEL Middle School Youth Group

#### This Sunday - January 29, 2017

- 8:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Faith Training classes for all ages
- 11:00 AM Worship
- 11:00 AM KidStuf in the Lower Level for kids Kindergarten 5th grade
- 6:30 PM FUEL High School Youth Group



**Check out kccwired.com for a full list of upcoming events!** 



**Click Here!** 

Kalkaska Church of Christ, 1725 W. Kalkaska Rd. NW, PO Box 757, Kalkaska, MI 49646, 231-258-9441