KENAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH Deuts

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When We Need Comfort

PAIN

Our community has been flooded with much hurt and pain lately. There have been people who have passed away, some in the prime of their ministry and some way too young. I have spoken with people who have received unfavorable diagnosis or who have family members experiencing similar health issues. Then there are marriages that are surviving by a thread with families on the brink of breakdown. Honestly, it seems that just as the initial shock of one terrible situation begins to subside another one blind-sides us. In fact, there's been so much pain lately that it seems the only solution is to become numb to it all. Maybe you have even asked the question, "Where's God at in all of this?"

BE COMFORTED

Thankfully we can turn to God's Word and the example of Jesus to know that God has not abandoned us. Nor is God unaware of the pain in our community because He has been in the presence of all of the hurt we have been experiencing. One way that I know without a doubt that God cares is by looking as Jesus' response when Lazarus died. In John chapter 11 we learn that the brother of Martha and Mary has been dead for four days when Jesus shows up to comfort them. There's a group of people mourning about the loss of Lazarus when Jesus speaks to Martha about her brother. What Jesus said to Martha is so monumental to our faith that we should pay careful attention to it, and even more so, trust in it. John 11:25-26 Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" Jesus then cries a deep-seed cry for the loss of Lazarus. BUT after He wipes away His tear, Jesus speaks Lazarus back to life (yes you read that right, He spoke, and a dead man was fully alive again).

COMFORT ONE ANOTHER

Can you imagine how quickly that funeral turned into a party?! For four days Mary, Martha, their family and friends were saying their last goodbyes to Lazarus and grieving from the pits of their stomachs. Then there was Lazarus again, fully alive and embracing them. It isn't recorded what kind of party broke out that day, but I imagine it being one of the best parties any of them had ever attended. We will all experience a similar comfort one day as we reunite with the loved ones who have left the earth. Until then, we need to be there and comfort one another as we struggle through the pains of this life together. Hopefully the comfort we give one another will be a shadow of the comfort we will experience at the resurrection. If you see someone hurting, don't be afraid to comfort them, pray for them, and show them a small act of kindness that will point them to Jesus.





- We have around 10 students pre-registered to go to camp this summer!
- It has been real powerful to see the students supporting one another through tough times. Students have been doing a great job at encouraging, loving, supporting, and rallying behind each other in the past couple weeks in spite of recent tragedies.
- As many of you may know, the Encore Dance Studio just held a recital this past month. Many of our students, and younger kids, are a part of this studio. Not only was it amazing to see the many talents the youth here have; but it was also encouraging to see the many people from KCC who came by to support the students and younglings that are a part of this studio.

Coming Up

SUMMER CAMP IS ALMOST HERE! This year, camp for middle school and high schoolers, is happening from July 8^{th} - July 12th. The cost for camp is \$195. You can grab a sign-up sheet in the high school room or talk to Caleb. But! We also have exciting news! You can also sign up for camp online at greatlandchristiancamp.org! You don't want to miss out on this year as we'll have one of our supported missionaries, Expressions of Emmanuel, coming to speak at camp. So be sure to start marking those calendars and filling out forms to send your kids to camp this year!



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Expressions of Emmanuel is a Christian Deaf ministry organization that strives to bring the Word of God to the Deaf community. There are

approximately 250 million Deaf people in the world. Only two percent of the world's Deaf population are Christians. Our mission is to take action to reach the Deaf population with the Word of God. We do this in three ways:

Video projects – Praise and worship songs, Bible lessons and devotionals in sign language.

Dutreach – Visiting individuals or groups of Deaf people in Deaf/hearing camps, churches and Vacation Bible Schools.



Writing Projects – Writing and targeting Christian lessons, stories and movies towards the Deaf community.

To continue our missionary work, we need your help. It is our goal to bring the Word of God to the Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing alike through our expressive videos and educational materials, translated into



sign language and uniquely expressive in order to better reach the Deaf community.





Regular Services

Wednesday

5:45pm 6:30pm Soul Café Bible Study

Sunday

9:45am Bible Study
11:00am Worship Service
(Evening Services dismissed for summer.
Look for a Small Group to be a part of)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION CAMPERG

- Please be at the church by 10:30am! We will depart at 11am <u>GHARP</u>!
- . You will need a packed lunch for the ride up.
- . You can also bring some money for snacks at camp.

Contact Us:

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