

Weekly Services Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM Sun. Day/Evening Groups Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

<u>ELDERS</u> Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS Education: Rick Richardson Finance: Tom Hill Outreach: Mark Whittaker

<u>AREAS OF SERVICE</u> Building: Ken Vogtman Custodian: Hannah McKee Fellowship: Joe/Carrie Bieren Grounds: Cody/Doyle Dawes Sing Ministry: Timauri Stearns Secretary: Renee Hill Technology: Eric Kjorness Technology: Cody Dawes

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Web Site: www.lewistonchurchofchrist.org

FB: Class & Sermons online Check email notification

Monthly Service Schedules: Posted in the foyer. Please find a replacement if you will be gone.

Lewiston Church of Christ December 4, 2022

MESSENGER Growing Friendships, Families & Faith.



Doubling Down

"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it." ~ Jesus (Mark 8:35)

Soon after Jesus suffered alone, died on the cross, rose from the dead, and ascended to heaven, the same disciples who fled during Jesus' trial, finally found their courage. Peter and the apostles went public with their gospel message and the Jerusalem church increased dramatically.

Jerusalem was still in turmoil and the same authorities who cared little for justice did care about keeping things calm. So, Peter and the apostles were placed in prison for teaching the truth in public. But when an angel intervened to release Peter and the apostles, they went right back to teaching the truth in public ignoring the danger.

When the Senate of the sons of Israel learned that their prisoners were back at the temple teaching again, they called Peter and the apostles on the Council's carpet and strongly reminded them, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." (Acts 5:28).

Forced to choose between obeying governing authorities or God, Peter said, "We must obey God rather than man" (Acts 5:29). That's called rebellion. Not finished, Peter boldly added, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross." (vs. 30) Ouch! Peter went on; "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins."

Today, injustice is as real as ever. God's truth remains unpopular. If you dare, consider the brave Christians in the first generation of Jesus' church who did not shrink back in the face of unjust repression. Knowing they were not called to stay safe, they could not be intimidated. They doubled down hard on speaking the truth before and after getting into trouble for it. They were even willing to gain their lives by losing them. _____Joel Solliday