

# THE LIFE LINE

## This Issue

The Stones Will Cry Out!	P. 1
This Month in the Life	P. 2
From the Bookshelf	P. 2
The Church Around the World	P. 3
Sanctuary Sidebar	P. 3
Prayer and Praise	P. 4
The Culture Corner	P. 4

Monthly Newsletter of Lifeway Baptist Church

April 2021

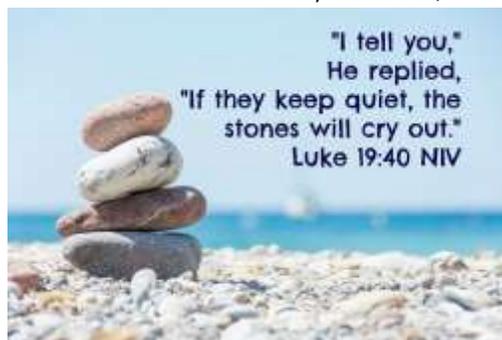
## THE STONES WILL CRY OUT!

By Frank Keeler

Luke 19:37-40 says, “When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: “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, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.’

If your mind works the way my mind works when you read the above verses you kind of wish that at least just for a moment the people would have stopped and gone silent just to see if the stones would have cried out. Wouldn't that have been something to hear? On the first Palm Sunday, the crowds rejoiced and praised God. Jesus said if they were silent, the stones would cry out. In your day-to-day life experiences, do you spend time rejoicing and praising God? If even stones would cry out in praise to God, then what should worship look like for those of us who understand the significance of Palm Sunday and the events of the week that follows.

Though the Pharisees in our life may sometimes say that now is not the time to praise Jesus, the Bible disagrees. Psalm 113:3 says, ‘From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.’ Should we praise God in the morning? Yes! Should we praise God in the afternoon? Absolutely! Should we praise God at night? Definitely! Should we praise God in good times? Of course! Should we praise Him during a pandemic? Yes – even in a pandemic. Really, the hard times are a great time to Praise Jesus because they keep our hearts focused on the goodness of God and praising God in the hard times also gives us the opportunity to see God work.



In a Biblical passage which I refer to as “the original jailhouse rock,” Paul and Silas had been arrested for being a witness for Jesus. The account in Acts 16:37-40 says, “About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

Even in the dead of night with their feet in chains, Paul and Silas chose to worship God with prayer and singing. Their praise led to a demonstration of God’s power which led to an incredible evangelistic opportunity. In your life do words of praise come boldly from your mouth or would the stones have to cry out in your presence for God to be worshipped?

*God bless,  
Pastor Frank*



*O grasp the strong life line for Jesus can save.*

from "Throw Out the Life Line" words & music by  
Edwin S. Ufford, 1888 & George S. Stebbins, 1890

# This Month in the Life

## MEDIA MINUTE

Submitted by Pastor Frank

### JESUS REVOLUTION

Li-  
ionsgate and Kingdom Story Company are teaming up to make a film about a spiritual awakening in Southern California in the early 1970s known as the Jesus movement. According to reports, actors Jim Gaffigan and Joel Courtney have been selected to play the lead roles in the faith-based film, which will be titled "Jesus Revolution." The Christian company Kingdom Story was founded alongside Kevin Downes and The Erwin Brothers are in partnership with media giant Lionsgate. The team recently released Jeremy Camp's biopic "I Still Believe," which was the No. 1 film in theaters on its opening night. "Jesus Revolution" was written by Jon Erwin and Jon Gunn. Courtney ("Super 8") will play Greg Laurie, senior pastor of Harvest Christian Fellowship, who was a counterculture teenager in the late 1960s. At the time, Laurie was seeking meaning and purpose, and it led him to join the Jesus movement in Southern California where the spiritual awakening was commonly known for being spearheaded by a community of teenaged hippies. Gaffigan will portray Pastor Chuck Smith of Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa, Laurie's mentor. The minister famously opened his church to all who were seeking and was instrumental in launching the most recent spiritual revival in the United States. "This is a distinctly Ameri-

can story of rebirth," Emmy winner Gaffigan told Deadline. "The late 1960s and early 1970s were a time when spirituality was on the wane, leaving a lot of people searching for answers in other places. I'm excited to play a pastor who helped make a home for the people most desperate for those answers and built a congregation — a coming together of people — to make something greater than themselves. When I read the script, I was very drawn to the idea of portraying a man who is completely lost within himself and seeks to find a path and purpose during a time of national turmoil," Courtney said. "I love this era," said Gunn. "The defiant search for truth, the fight against oppression, the hope for a better future in the midst of social turmoil. In that way, it's not unlike our world today. And I couldn't be more excited to work with Jim and Joel to tell this honest, captivating story that will serve as a powerful reminder that radical love really can change the world." Andrew and Jon Erwin, the Erwin Brothers, said the film's content is very timely today. "This is a fascinating true story about how young people gravitated toward a spiritual movement that erupted during a time that our country was being torn apart and couldn't be more divided," added the Erwin Brothers. "Its themes are just as timely and topical today as they were in the late '60s."

Source: The Christian Post

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

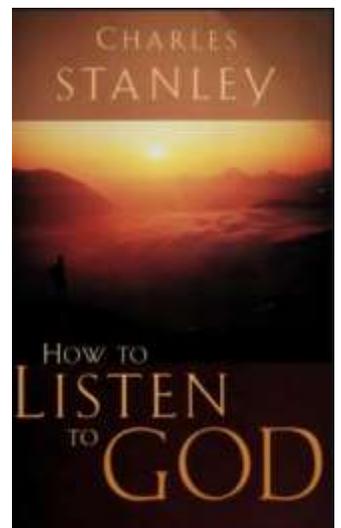
By Dagna D. Stencel

I took a small book from the library shelf, "How to Listen to God" by Charles Stanley.

The daily routine of life often clouds the small still voice that is God speaking. This book discusses why God wants to talk to us and how He does it. It speaks of God getting our attention. When God really wants you to listen He'll cause things to happen that makes it impossible not to pay attention.

When you pay attention to God talking you experience great joy and fruits that are not attainable any way else. If we study the word of God it gives Him a fertile field in which to work and speak to our hearts. The best thing about hearing from God is He fulfills His promises and guarantees His Word.

Please stay safe until we can gather again.



## MISSIONARY HIGHLIGHT

*Ryan & Tricia McCammack—Atlanta, Georgia*

D  
eKalb County, Georgia is a picture of diversity—and vast need. There's a beautiful array of cultures, but also brokenness and division.

When Ryan and Tricia moved their family to Atlanta to plant Gospel Hope Church, they wanted the congregation to reflect the multicultural community. To do that, Ryan worked with a diverse team of people who shared this vision. But diversity isn't the ultimate goal—disciple-making is. "The mission is to help those we come in contact with to take their next spiritual step and be a church that loves all kinds of people, and let God bring all kinds of people. We believe the Gospel brings hope to be reconciled to each other and to God," Ryan said.

**THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM (CP)** is the financial fuel for reaching every person for Jesus Christ in every town, every city, every state, and every nation. Your support of both CP and [THE ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING](#) assists the McCammacks as they work with local believers to reach their neighbors with the Gospel of Jesus.

PRAY for the McCammacks as they reach the diverse communities in their area and that their church would strive to display Christ's reconciling love.

Source: Southern Baptist Convention

# The Church Around the World

Source: The Christian Post, submitted by Pastor Frank

A Pakistani court has sentenced a Christian man to death for sending "blasphemous" text messages to Muslim clerics, according to a report. The Lahore High Court in Punjab province has revised the 2013 sentencing of the Christian man, Sajjad Masih, from life in prison to death, according to UCA News. Masih, a Seventh-day



Adventist, was accused of sending blasphemous text messages from a mobile phone to Muslim clerics and others in Gojra. The 2013 verdict included life imprisonment and a fine of 314,500 rupees, the equivalent of about \$2,000. Masih, a resident

of Punjab's Pakpattan district, was arrested in December 2011. Police said Masih was engaged to a woman, Ruma Masih of Gojra town. But

she contracted marriage with another Christian man in the United Kingdom. Masih is accused of using her SIM to send blasphemous messages to clerics as an act of revenge.

Gojra has been a religiously sensitive area since massive attacks on Christians were triggered by reports of Quran desecration. In 2009, there were a series of riots targeting Christians in Gojra that resulted in eight deaths, including four women and a child. Muslim radicals reportedly set fire to Christian homes in the area. Police initially refrained from charging Masih under the blasphemy law but added the blasphemy charge to the complaint after pressure from Muslim clerics.

For more information on the persecuted church visit:

[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

## SANCTUARY SIDEBAR

### Announcements and Upcoming Events

#### Wednesday Night Bible Study

Our Bible study groups will resume on April 7 on Zoom only until further notice.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25  
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

CHURCH  
BUSINESS  
MEETING  
Make Plans To Attend

MONDAYS AT 7:00 PM

ONLINE  
prayer  
MEETING



### Easter Services

Good Friday, April 2 at 6:00 pm  
"Roadblocks on the way to the Cross"

Resurrection Sunday, April 4 at 9:30 am  
"The Status of Hope, The View from an Empty Tomb"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Email submissions to  
[newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com](mailto:newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com)

Newsletter  
Articles  
Due



## CHURCH STAFF

**Frank Keeler**  
*Pastor*

**Becky Kline**  
*Church Clerk*

**David Kline**  
*Deacon*

**Danny Zenner**  
*Music Coordinator,  
Youth Ministry*

**Barbara Jarvis**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Christine Kline**  
*Treasurer*

**Cheryl-Ann Calica**  
*Kitchen Manager,  
Correspondence,  
VBS Director,  
Operation Christmas  
Child Coordinator*

**Donna Keeler**  
*Women's Ministry,  
Special Events*

**Dagna Stencel**  
*Librarian,  
Media Worship*

**Cathy Oquendo**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Lina Cardenas**  
*Newsletter Editor,  
Digital Marketing &  
Webmaster*

Please direct any suggestions, corrections and/or articles for consideration to: [newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com](mailto:newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com)

## Prayer and Praise

- Continued prayers for Lina's friend, Christina McNabb, and her children, Jaeden and Nyah. She is waiting on her late son's life insurance to pay out but was recently informed that it will be another 60-90 days.
- Dennis Maze was hospitalized due to high blood pressure and elevated enzyme levels. If his blood pressure stays down, he will be released. Please pray for his body systems to stay regulated.
- Continued prayers for Danny Zenner who is limited physically due to his back. He had back surgery about 20 years ago and the disc where he had the surgery is almost bone on bone now. He will have an MRI to determine options for treatment.

**“For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers...”**

## Verse of the Month

He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

*Philippians 2:7-8 (NIV)*

## The Culture Corner

Submitted by Frank Keeler

### NO MORE CHRISTIAN COPS IN CALIFORNIA?

A Bay Area assemblyman wants to ban from service police officers and police officer candidates who are members of hate groups or have used hate speech in the past, even in “a private discussion forum” online. Yet the definition of a “hate group” and “hate speech” used by Assemblyman Ash Kalra's (D – San Jose) new bill, [AB 655](#), is incredibly broad. Not only does it include armed militia groups and white supremacists promoting “domestic terrorism,” but it also includes police officers expressing conservative religious or political views on abortion, marriage, and gender or with membership in a political party or church that does.

Source: California Family Council

