

# GREETINGS FROM GREENVINE



Memorial Day weekend was quite the weekend for us. We had the wonderful slide presentation of both the Military Salute to our veterans, but also our Remembrance of those who lost their lives in war.

Although Memorial Day was stated to honor those who lost their lives in war, it has been extended to remembering all those who have died, even remembering our loved ones who have gone on before. Our little Greenville Cemetery had some new flower arrangements and 17 flags to commemorate loved ones as well as veterans who had passed.

You recall that we took an offering for Faith Comes By Hearing ministry of Military Sticks, MP3 players with the Bible recorded on them. We collected more than \$800 in that offering on Sunday. We also put aside every quarter a percentage of our tithes and offerings in a fund that we forward to them as well. We have a little over \$3000 in that fund, which means that we will be sending right around \$4000 to that ministry. Those monies will supply two entire companies of military personnel a free-to-them recorded Bible Stick. Your generosity will supply over 400 men and women a copy of the Bible.

That's not all. Faith Comes By Hearing has a "Matching Gift Fund" going on right now that will match our gift to them. You got it! 800 men and women will receive Bibles on the Military Sticks. Thank you so much for your giving to this vital source ministry. You can go on line to [www.faithcomesbyhearing.com](http://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com) to see what all ministries they have and can click on the military tab to find out more. Again. Thanks for giving.

On Monday, Memorial Day, a group of veterans and veteran advocates took a 22 mile hike in and around Brenham. The walk represented a concern that 22 veterans and/or military personnel commit suicide each and every day. That is a remarkable number to me. There is so much depression and a no-hope thought in those lives that they think even dying is better than continuing in this state of being. Raymond Bennett told me today that the number one reason for death among the Police force is suicide. Statistics about the Viet Nam war is that there are more than triple the number of suicides since the war than there are names on the Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

As I think through this dilemma, I am so concerned that we have the answer. I am reminded from our study in the book of Revelation that we are going through on Sunday mornings, the Church in Philadelphia was told that God has opened the door of opportunity of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and even the powers of Satan could not shut it. We have such an opportunity, even around our lives here in Texas to explain the truth of Jesus Christ to neighbors, relatives and friends. Not just an opportunity, but a responsibility. Who will tell those folks that you know that do not know Jesus as their personal Savior this great news?

Many of you know that I have a couple of horses that I use for getting Veterans to come out and learn about Equine Therapy as well as Jesus Christ. I have had many veterans and their families out there with the intention of helping therapeutically as well as sharing my story with them about my relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ. I keep my horses out at Bob and Sadie Easley's ranch. They have been so kind and supportive in allowing me to do this ministry. They even allow us to fish on their land. We have caught some really nice Bass there.

Bob and Sadie also invite veteran groups out there for a day of fishing and life lessons. They utilize a friend who is a professional fisherman to come and explain tying knots, fishing lures and the art of getting the lure where it needs to go. A great ministry that they have allowed me to be a part of many times.

These two types of ministry remind me of a couple of verses that are so appropriate.

1) **Matthew 4: 18 -21 reads, "As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come follow me," and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. There were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called to them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed Him."**

Fishing has always been on Jesus' heart in winning souls and lives to Himself.

2) Military personnel and their characteristics are all through the New Testament as a metaphor for following Christ. Paul says in **1 Timothy 6: 12, "Fight the good fight of Faith."** He uses a military uniform to explain the "Armor of God" in Ephesians 6. He writes in **2 Timothy 2: 3 & 4, "Join me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one**

**serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.”**

David, a great military man says in **Psalms 32: 8 - 9**, **“the Lord says, I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye on you. Do not be like the horse or the mule which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.”**

Horses, fishermen and military personnel all have the same use in Scripture: use those stories to tell others about who God is and who His Son Jesus is. **John 17: 3 says, “Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom You have sent.”**

What life lesson has the Lord given to you to use in your sharing Him with others? Use it for His glory. Have a wonderful week. Our love to you. Jack & Karen

## **Announcements**

- Please remember to complete your information card for the directory.
- Wednesday Night Bible Study -Wednesday nights @ 6pm
- Women’s Ministry - 2nd Tuesday of each month @6pm - Next meeting June 8@6pm
- Woman’s Bible Study -Saturday Morning 10am - Next meeting to be announced
- Men’s Prayer Breakfast - Wednesday June 29, @ 7am
  - Camp Hope meals - June 8 and 15. If you can be here to help serve please contact Charlotte
- \_ Remember to fill your baby bottles and return on Father’s day.
- \_ Tickets on sale for Bush’s chicken dinner. Tickets are \$10 and will benefit the Burton Bridge Ministry
  - Dates are June 24-26 - Brenham location only - tickets are in the office
- Southern Association annual meeting - Saturday June 26
  - Congregation will supply sides and desserts for lunch - see Charlotte to sign up to cook
- 4th of July Barbecue- Sunday July 4th - 5pm - dark - Stay tuned for more details

## Prayer Requests

Becky's granddaughter Taylor who has Cystic Fibrosis and is having health issues

Colin Smith - 18 yr old with a Traumatic Brain Injury. (Patient of Karens)

Patty's Brother Scott - Recovering from surgery

Gerri Smart's daughter Terri has been diagnosed with cancer. She will be starting chemo prior to surgery then more chemo and possibly radiation. Please pray for strength as she walks through this and prayers for Gerri as well as she she helps Terri through this process.

Gerri Smart has seen another eye doctor and he wants to hold off on another eye surgery for now. Please pray for healing in Gerri's eye.

Cliff Reed's dad is recovering from a UTI (He was hospitalized earlier this week)

Juliette - recovering from gun shot wound - she has been able to go home.

Joe Durrett - Stomach cancer and heart attack - home on hospice care

Ray and Bev Morris - Bev and been diagnosed with Alzheimers

Cliff's dad has dementia and is not doing well.

Bobbie Schulte - Doing better

Mandy Forester - Upcoming Brain surgery

Sandra Carson's daughter Candace is having some mental health issues

Charlotte's grandson Brayden - He is struggling with this next phase of his life and what he is going to do.

Bob & Sadie Easley - Health issues

Ed Ehring's sister Julie Robison is suffering from Alzheimer's.

Vicky Hoffman - legally blind but her eyes are getting worse

Chain of Love - Pray for the children, the house parents, the teachers and pastors that work with them

Sandra - housemother who passed away from Covid

Valdir - COL Maintenance - has been released from hospital and is continuing to recover at home

Prayers for those working in health related jobs, for protection. Especially those from our own families:

Karen at St Joseph - Susan - State School - Zella Johnson