

We've a Story To Tell To The Nations

We've a story to tell to the nations,
That shall turn their hearts to the right,
A story of truth and mercy,
A story of peace and light,
A story of peace and light.

Refrain

*For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
And the dawning to noonday bright;
And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,
The kingdom of love and light.*

We've a song to be sung to the nations,
That shall lift their hearts to the Lord,
A song that shall conquer evil
And shatter the spear and sword,
And shatter the spear and sword.

Refrain

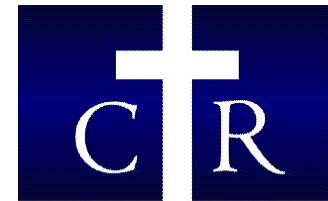
We've a message to give to the nations,
That the Lord who reigns up above
Has sent us His Son to save us,
And show us that God is love,
And show us that God is love.

Refrain

We've a Savior to show to the nations,
Who the path of sorrow has trod,
That all of the world's great peoples
Might come to the truth of God,
Might come to the truth of God.

Taking Gathered Worship

Home



CHRIST *the*
REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
■ ■ ■ ■

Family and Individual Devotions

Meditations in Acts

Week of March 4, 2007

The Essence of the Church

Daily Devotionals

The opening verses of **Acts 8** give an account of the persecution of the church and the scattering of Christ's followers. **Acts 11:19** reveals that some of those scattered followers arrived in Antioch, resulting in the spreading of the gospel to that city. As Matthew Henry notes, "the persecution caused the early Christians to flee, but it did not cause them to flee their Christian work". Those in Antioch remained "true to the Lord" (**Acts 11:23**), and were blessed with the opportunity to take the gospel message to those who had not yet heard the good news, and participate in the planting and watering of an emerging church.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Please pray that we as a community of faith will learn His ways and walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Throughout the week we encourage you to use the hymn, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" found on the back page as your song, your prayer, and your reminder this week about what the church is all about.

Sunday, 3/4 **Read:** God has brought you and many others to plant and water a church in Portland. In what way are you participating at Christ the Redeemer? Are you excited about the opportunities God has given you to be involved in the building of this congregation? Read **Romans 12:11**.

Pray For a heart that appreciates serving the Lord.

Monday, 3/5 **Read:** It is unlikely you arrived in Portland as a result of persecution. Stop and consider the circumstances that brought you here. Read **Romans 10:15**. Now that you have been sent here, are you ready to zealously bring the good news?

Pray For a God given fervency to teach the good news of Jesus Christ to Portland and the surrounding towns.

Tuesday, 3/6 **Read:** There are many uncertainties that accompany the planting and watering of a church. Sometimes these uncertainties introduce fear, diminish our excitement or detract from our ability to serve in the church. Read **Deuteronomy 31:6**. Study closely the promises found in **Romans 8:31-39**.

Pray That a comprehension of the victory you have in Christ will spur you on into the work God has given you.

Wednesday, 3/7

Read: In previous lessons we have looked at the need to be concerned with the interests of others. This is essential in a healthy church. The church is not any one individual but consists of many people using their specific spiritual gifts. Look at **Hebrews 10:24**. Are you proactive in the way you spur others "on toward love and good deeds".

Pray For an attitude that encourages and edifies others in the church.

Thursday, 3/8

Read: By definition, encouragement is positive, designed to give confidence, hearten, and provide support. Do you think there are times when encouragement might mean correcting or rebuking someone. Read **II Timothy 4:2**.

Pray That you would encourage in all situations whether it be teaching, rebuking, correcting or training in righteousness.

Friday, 3/9

Read: Carefully read **Acts 11:19-26**. By being faithful, the church at Antioch affected those in other churches. It brought Barnabus from Jerusalem, who sought out Saul and brought him to Antioch. The spirit of encouragement was spreading to other churches.

Pray For encouragement that would reach beyond the walls of Christ the Redeemer.

Saturday, 3/10

Read: We are instructed to be strong and courageous, for God Himself "goes before us and will not leave us nor forsake us". The impact of these truths on our attitude towards serving Him should be amazing. Look at **II Timothy 1:7**.

Pray For a spirit of power as you minister for Jesus.