

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Houston, TX 77007

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The Messiah Messenger



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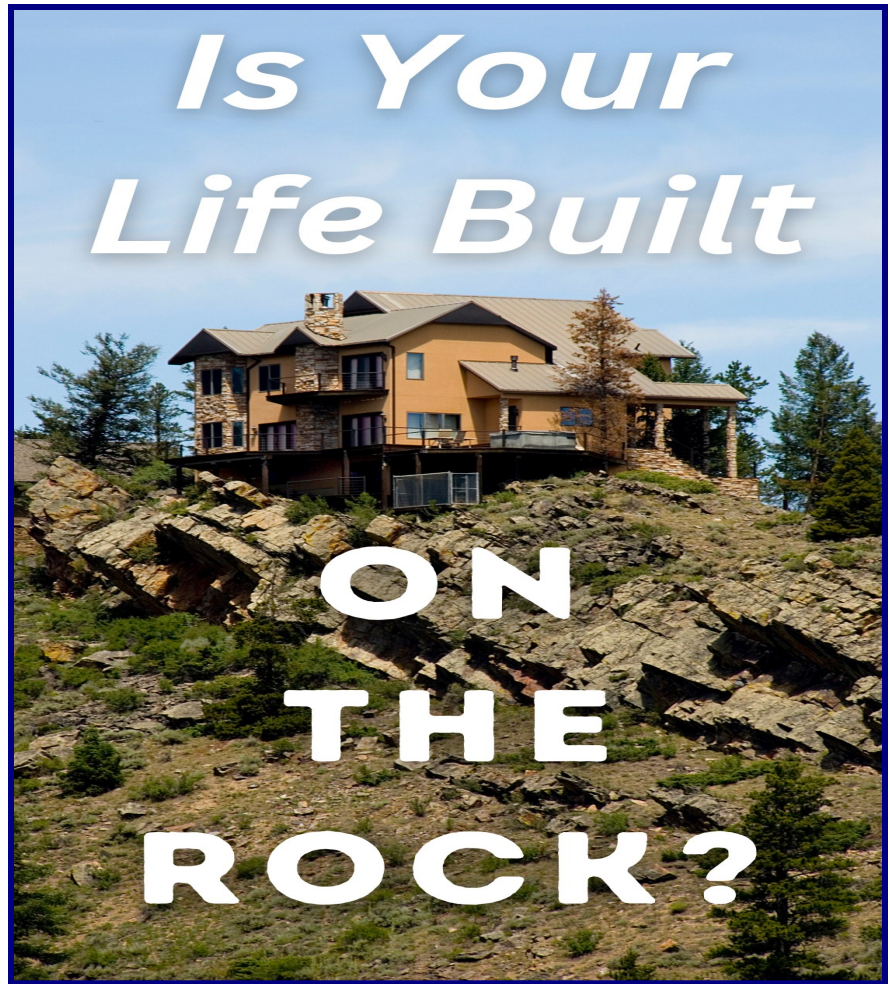
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Worship with Us
Sunday service @ 9am
In-Person and Facebook Live

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*"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock."
Matthew 7:24*

Daily – Doggedly – Daringly
Embracing Our Neighbors with Jesus' Unconditional Love



Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

Back when I was in training, I had to learn a lot of skills, like "sit" and "down" and "come". ("Go eat!" is still my favorite.)

Every skill came with a word that I needed to learn.

My trainers would work with me every day to help me connect a word with a skill.

My handlers still do that with me, even though I learned those words a long time ago.

They know that if I don't keep reviewing those words, I will forget my skills.

My Jesus tells us the same thing: **"Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night"** (Psalm 1:1-2).

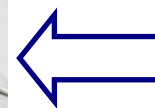
If you don't keep reading God's Word, you will forget it, just like I will forget my skills if I don't review them.

I know that Pastor wants all of you to delight in and meditate on God's Word as much as you can so it fills your hearts and minds.

God's Word is way more important than the words I learned as a pup. Those words help me do my job, but God's Word are the words of eternal life!

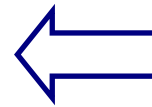
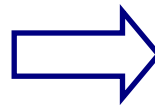
Isn't that PAWSOME?

Your friend Gabriel



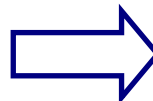
Rising to visit a friend at the hospital

"Down" when making a new friend



Sitting so I can get ear scratches

Waiting for "Go eat!" so I can have my banana bites



From the Pastor



My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;*

*I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*His oath, His covenant, and blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*When He shall come with trumpet
sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

Edward Mote

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

“Blessed is the man [whose] delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:1-2).

So begins the collection of prayers that we call the Psalms, with the pronouncement of blessing upon those who meditate on the Word of God.

Jesus reinforced that truth in the conclusion of His Sermon on the Mount when He taught that the wise person is the one who builds his life on Jesus’ teachings (Matthew 7:24-27).

The only way to meditate on God’s Word day and night and to build our lives upon Jesus’ teachings is to “read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,” as we pray in the Collect for the Word (Page 14 in *The Lutheran Hymnal*).

That being the case, I want to set before each of you a challenge, and the challenge is this: ***Up your Bible game!***

Start where you are at and go to the next level.

- If you never read your Bible, start using Portals of Prayer each day.
- If you read your Bible daily, start to attend Bible study.
- If you attend Bible study, read through the Psalms each month (five psalms per day).
- If you’re doing all that, adopt the Bible reading system that I have started to use and am happy to share with you.

I challenge you to increase your time in God’s Word and “let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God” (Colossians 3:16).

Remember that the blessing of God rests on the wise one who builds his or her life on the solid rock of Jesus’ Word.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Engel

*The wise man
built his house*

