

This Week's Fighter Verse: Feed Your Soul by Memorizing

Scripture! Each week's '*Fighter Verse*' is meant to help you "fight the good fight" of faith. This year's fighter verses are drawn from our weekly catechism (See "The New City Catechism")

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

This week's Catechism # 50

What does Christ's resurrection mean for us?

Christ triumphed over sin and death by being physically resurrected, so that all who trust in him are raised to new life in this world and to everlasting life in the world to come. Just as we will one day be resurrected, so this world will one day be restored. But those who do not trust in Christ will be raised to everlasting death.

Next week's Catechism # 51

Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as he came down to earth physically on our account, and he is now advocating for us in the presence of his Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us his Spirit.

"Assurance of Eternal Life in the God-Sent Son"

(John 6:35-40)

- I. The Source of _____ is the God-Sent Son vv35-36
 - Jesus shifts their attention from all else to _____
 - "All who believe" - But they _____ to believeUnbelief is not an evidence problem, it is a _____ problem

- II. Our Security rests wholly on the _____ of Christ v37
 - (1) The _____ - side of Salvation v37a
 - They mystery of sovereign _____ Eph 1:3-5
 - God gave a people to the Son _____
Jn 6:37,39 , 10:27 , 17:1-9
 - The mystery of His Irresistible _____
How many of those given by the Father will come?
 - (2) The _____ - side response to God's grace in salvation v37b
 - You will _____!
 - Why are we told this? To drive _____ into your heart

- III Your Security is found by _____ to the Son in Faith vv38-40
 - (1) The reason Christ came in the incarnation v38
 - (2) The Father's Will: Not one soul given to Christ will _____
v39
 - (3) The Father's will: All those given to the Son will _____
v40Believe His Promises: _____ Life ; Resurrection by _____

THIS WEEK AT ROCKPORT

SUNDAY - December 13

Worship 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM
(Please enter/leave wearing a mask at both services)

WEDNESDAY- December 16 D-Group meetings

Prayerfully consider Rockport's Budget Needs

Rockport Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$4,284.00
November Weekly Average.....	\$4,784.56

Announcements

- **D-group Study of 2 Peter Schedule** for those meeting
Wednesdays - 12/16
- If you are interested in singing a song at this year's Christmas Celebration next Sunday at 6 PM, see Stuart McMillian today.
- Don't forget our annual Christmas Eve Service which starts at 5 PM on, you guessed it, Christmas Eve.
- For young adults, aged 18-25. You can register on line for "The Cross" happening December 29-30. You can watch online or join others who will be watching livestream at First Baptist Church of Arnold. See your bulletin for more information

A Word from Pastor Scott Sunday December 13, 2020

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."- Matthew 1:21

"He will save His People from their sins!" That's the good news of Christmas we're here to celebrate! We know that Jesus came to save us, but from what? *From our sins!* – from our God-denying, small-minded, earth-is-all-I-care-about meaningless, wasted lives where we flitter away 70 or 80 years for nothing more than money or sex or luxuries or houses and lands or vacations and entertainment and fame, or whatever else you might try to use to get some sense of satisfaction out of your temporary life! *"But what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his own soul?"* (Mark 8:36)

Or maybe we can say it this way: What good does it do to live your whole life and never come to know God! But you see, that's what Christ came to give. Not only did he come to save us from God's wrath against sin, he also came to bring us into living fellowship with God. *"Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God"* 1 Peter 3:18 says. You and I were made for God! We exist to know God (John 17:3) – to glorify and enjoy Him forever! So any life without God, is a life that is *wasted!* You can be a millionaire celebrity, but without God, it all ends in dust and ashes! But if you have Him, if you know Christ the way a man knows and trusts his dearest and most faithful friend, even an ash-heap becomes a castle filled with joy.

So do you know this Savior? Have you come to receive this greatest gift that is at the heart of Christmas? Not just the joy of having your sins forgiven, but the gain of having Christ as Lord and Master of your life! As we'll see in John 6:35-40 this morning, He is the Bread of Life who came down from heaven to give us an assurance of new life in Him and to satisfy our lives with His love!

There is no joy like the joy of Jesus!

Pastor Scott Lee

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent (Joy)

■ **Welcome / Mission Moment / Call to Worship**

■ **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**.....Hymn 133

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin’s womb: Veiled
in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th’incarnate Deity,

Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in
His wings. Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may
die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

■ **“Joy to the World!”**Hymn 125

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room, And heav’n and nature sing, And
heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; Let men their songs
employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the
sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding
joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the
ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is
found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the
nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His
love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

■ **Catechism**

■ **“Prepare Him Room”**

Words and Music by Rebecca Elliott and Dave Fournier © 2014 Sovereign Grace Praise CCLI #801260

O behold, the mystery now unfolds See the star shine on the
virgin foretold Angels sing and light up the sky Hope rings out in a
newborn’s cry Swing wide, you ancient gates
For Christ is born today!

**Prepare Him room Prepare Him room
Let the King of glory enter in**

God with us, the promise has come to be This, the one the
prophets were longing to see In the darkness a blazing light
To the hungry the words of life His kingdom now is near
For those with ears to hear

Oh, our hearts, as busy as Bethlehem Hear Him knock, don’t
say there’s no room in the inn Through the cradle, cross, and grave
See the love of God displayed Now He’s risen and He reigns Praise
the Name above all names!

■ **Confession / Pastoral Prayer**

■ **“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”**Hymn 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness Fill us with the light of day

All Thy works with joy surround Thee Earth and heaven
reflect Thy rays Stars and angels sing around Thee Center of
unbroken praise Field and forest, vale and mountain Flowery
meadow, flashing sea Chanting bird and flowing fountain Call us to
rejoice in Thee

Thou art giving and forgiving Ever blessing, ever blest
Well-spring of the joy of living Ocean-depth of happy rest
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each other Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars
began Father love is reigning o’er us Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life

Glory Glory in the highest "God-man" born in Bethlehem
Sing the song of Zachariah Oath sworn unto Abraham Rising Sun to
shine in darkness Horn of our salvation raise Peace with God calls
us to gladness Christ, Most High, it's Thee we praise

■ **“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”** by John Newton, Christ Tomlin, Louis Giglio
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Amazing grace! how sweet the sound That saved a wretch
like me! I once was lost but now I’m found, Was blind but now I see.

“Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears
relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first
believed.

**My chains are gone, I’ve been set free. My God, my
Savior, has ransomed me. And like a flood, His mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope
secures; He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below, **will be forever mine.**

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, **we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.**

■ **Message** - "Assurance: Whoever Comes to Me"

John 6:35-40 - Scott

■ **Closing Song**

■ **Benediction**

Kids' Listening Sheet (12/13/20)

Message Title: "Assurance of Eternal _____"

Bible Passages: John 6: _____

Key Words: Circle each word every time you hear it.

Joy	World	Hope	Son
Trust	Mystery	Earth	God
Heart	Christmas	Faith	Lose
Name	Jesus	Life	Sent



What are three important things you heard during the sermon?

1.

2.

3.

Draw two pictures that show what you heard today:

1.

2.