

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **John 3:16**.
- B. We are trying to be like God, therefore, understanding what God is like helps us to be mere like Him.
- B. Our topic is "Caring:" God has cared, is caring, and will care for our needs (spiritually and physically).
- C. People really don't care how much you know, until they know, how much you care.
- D. Tonight we shall see how God cares for us through:
  - 1. His Word.
  - 2. His creation.
  - 3. His greatest gift.
  - 4. His church.

## I. GOD CARES FOR US THROUGH HIS WORD.

- A. Scripture text: Matthew 24:35.
- B. We don't know:
  - 1. What clothes we shall wear tomorrow.
  - 2. If we will work tomorrow.
  - 3. If there will even be a tomorrow for us.
- C. But the Word of God abides forever and ever (Rom. 1:16; Heb. 4:12).
- D. The Word of God can withstand:
  - 1. The government can't take it away or tax it.
  - 2. Thieves can't steal it.
  - 3. Friends can't borrow it and not return it.
  - 4. Scholars can't change it.
  - 5. Athiests can't destroy or disprove it.
- E. Therefore "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Col. 3:16).

## II. GOD CARES FOR US THROUGH HIS CREATION.

- A. Read: Philippians 4:19 (all or our- needs are meet).
- B. Read: Ecclesiastes 1 :3-8a.
- C. Read: 2Peter 3:3-9. Peter is telling us that we have one more day to:
  - 1. Become a Christian.
  - 2. To be restored back to our Lord and His church.
  - 3. To improve my prayer life.
  - 4. To overcome sin.
  - 5. To teach someone about Jesus.
  - 6. To be a better father, husband, wife, mother, teen, or- child.
  - 7. To study God's Word.
  - 8. To fellowship with the saints.
- E. Read: Matthew 6 :25-34.

## III. GOD CARES FOR US THROUGH HIS GREATEST GIFT.

- A. Look at the power that is contained in Gal. 4:4.
- B. The fullness of time was not:
  - 1. During the fall of man in the garden.
  - 2. Before the flood when wickedness was at an all-time high.
  - 3. During the reigns of the patriarchs.
  - 4. During the time of the judges.

- 5. During the time of the kings (most were wicked).
- C. But when the time was right (the fullness of time) God sent Jesus to redeem us.
- D. Jesus came to save us from our sins. We were enemies, but now have been justified, saved from wrath, and given reconciliation (Rom. 5:9-11).
- E. Jesus came into the world to save sinners. There are only two kinds of people in the world: sinners and saved sinners (1Tim. 1:1.5).
- F. Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost (Lk. 19:10).
- G. Now we can better appreciate John 3:16 all the more.

#### IV. GOD CARED FOR YOU AND ME EVEN BEFORE WE WERE BORN.

- A. Scripture text: Ephesians 1:1-5.
- B. The church is so important:
  - 1. Jesus built it.
  - 2. The apostles established it.
  - 3. God blesses it.
  - 4. The saved are in it.
- C. God showed how much He cares for us through the church because the price was His Son's blood (Ac. 20:28).

#### V. OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S CARING FOR US.

- A. Now that we see that God cares for us:
  - 1. Through His Word.
  - 2. Through His creation.
  - 3. Through His Son.
  - 4. Through His church.
- B. I can appreciate and agree with Paul when he said, "For the love of Christ compels us" (2Cor. 5:14).
- C. Other translations read, constrains, lay hold of us, and brings us, controls, overmasters, leaves us no choice.
- E. Since we just have one way to go: care for others, because God cares for us; if we do not do it then we come up with excuses. Let me list a few.

In the Summer it's too hot; And in the wintertime it's too cold.  
 And in the springtime when the weather is just right we find someplace else to go.  
 Well, it's up to the mountains; or down to the beach; or to visit some old friend.  
 Or just stay home and relax and hope some of the kinfolk start dropping in.  
 The church benches are too hard; And the song leader sings way too loud.  
 And you know how nervous you get sitting in a great big crowd.  
 A headache Sunday morning; And a backache Sunday night.  
 But come Monday morning you're feeling quite all right.  
 The kid has a cold, pneumonia do you suppose;  
     why the whole family had had to stay home, just to blow that poor kid's nose.  
 The preacher, well he's too young; or maybe he's too old.  
 The sermons, they aren't hard enough; or maybe they're too bold.  
 His voice is much too quite like; Sometimes it get too loud.  
 The preacher needs more dignity; or else he's way too proud.  
 The sermons, they're too long; And maybe they're too short.  
 He ought to preach the word with dignity; Instead of stomp and snort.  
 Why that preacher, he must be the world's most stuck up man.  
 Why one of the ladies told me, "He didn't even shake my hand."

## **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Everything God has done has been for our good.
- B. God has always cared for us, cares for us now, and will continue to care for us forever.
- C. What then is our response to this caring?,
- D. Answer: WE CARE FOR OTHERS.
- E. Our theme for 1982 here at Sunnyside Road is that of caring. We know that God has cared for us: let us then care for one another and for those outside the body of Christ.
- F. It is like a game of tag; God has touched us, let us now touch someone and show that we care (the love of Christ compels us).
- G. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.