



The Buzz

November 3, 2022

Living for Jesus Means Standing Up for Our Beliefs

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

-Matthew 5:10,11

How much mockery do Christians today have to put up with because they let their lights shine for Jesus? If we were to ask that question of people throughout history, we'd get many different answers. No doubt the Egyptians mocked the Israelites as they were making mud bricks. Daniel and his friends were mocked because of their faith. Jesus was mocked by the Roman soldiers and one of the thieves on the cross. Since Bible times God's people have had to endure insults and ridicule.

Times aren't much different today. Just ask a young Christian man or woman attending a state university. Ask a Little Leaguer who refuses to listen to dirty jokes. Ask a businessman who won't lie in order to close a big deal. Ask a teen who gets laughed at for wearing a Christian T-shirt or listening to Christian music. Mocking of God's people will never go away. Jesus told us it would happen when he said, *"Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man"* (Luke 6:22).

In the Bible, God gives us an excellent example of someone who was constantly mocked because of something he was working on. Do you know who that might be? It is Noah, the man who stood alone in a wicked world.

Noah was five hundred years old when his wife had their first son. Then God gave him the order to build a boat, but not just any boat. This boat would have to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 3 stories high, something that had never been done before. Just getting all that lumber was an unbelievable task in itself. Who of us could ever have engineered what Noah did? Was it any wonder that Noah was the target of constant ridicule from those who passed by? "Noah! Where are you going to float that thing . . . there's no water here?" "Hey, you up there, gonna clear another forest today?" "Hey, Noah, it's gonna sink!" And so the laughing continued year after year. Yet faithful Noah, the man who was asked to do the impossible, kept working. Noah just kept measuring, sawing, and hammering late into the nights. Perhaps he felt like the psalm writer did in Psalm 102:7 where the Bible says, *"I have become like a bird alone on a roof"* (Psalm 102:7).

What do you think went through Noah's mind as he listened to the mocking and scoffing? Do you think he ever wanted to give up? Did he ever wonder if it was all worth it?

Maybe we can find those answers when we read the Genesis story of the flood. Three times we find it says about Noah, *"Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD"* (6:8). *"Noah was a righteous man . . . and he walked with God"* (6:9). *"I have found you righteous in this generation"* (7:1). And we find a similar comment in the New Testament when the writer of the book of Hebrews says: *"By his faith [Noah] condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith"* (Hebrews 11:7).

Noah kept going because he had faith. God saw the righteousness of Noah in his belief of the gospel promise that his Savior would one day forgive his sins and take him to heaven. All the while Noah was being mocked he was actually preaching little sermons to the people. Second Peter says, *"[God] protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness"* (2 Peter 2:5). Like Noah, we also know that living for Jesus means there will be times when we must stand up and let our lights shine, even though some people may ridicule us for it. There is a brighter hope in store for us beyond our suffering. Peter said it well, *"If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name"* (1 Peter 4:16).

In Christ, Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's, Neillsville

Busing Nov 4: There is no public school tomorrow. We will have school as normal and will once again have our alternate bus routes that day. Call the office with any questions on bus time.

End of 1st Quarter: First quarter report cards will be sent home tomorrow. Please look for those.

Farewell: You are all invited to join us for a farewell party for our two student teachers, Miss Hoffer and Miss Stobb (their last day with us is Friday, November 11).

The farewell will take place this Sunday, November 6th, starting at 10:15 a.m. in the school gym. There will be no adult Bible Class and no Sunday School that day. Light refreshments will be available. *If you would like to give Miss Hoffer or Miss Stobb cards or monetary gifts, that would be great, but if you'd just like to come and say goodbye and wish them God's blessings, that would be great as well!*

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Parent-teacher conferences will be held Monday through Thursday, November 7-10. We will be notifying parents of their conference day and time via text or email. **Parents, if you do not receive that notification, please contact the office.**

Veteran's Day Program: Grades 2-8 will be attending a special Veteran's Day program at the Public School on Friday, November 11th at 10:30.

Trunk or Treat: We thank everyone who participated in Trunk or Treat this past Sunday. We had 15 vehicles and lots of kids who came and had fun. Thanks for your participation and support!

Picture Retakes: Picture retake day has been set for Thursday, November 17th, for those who were not satisfied with the first picture and would like to get a retake. We will also be taking candid and sports photos that day for the yearbook.

Upcoming School Schedule: There will be NO SCHOOL for 3K-8th Grade Wednesday through Friday (11/23-11/25). The ELC will be open for childcare on Wednesday (11/23), but WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (11/24-11/25) for Thanksgiving.

2023 Calendars for Sale: Living Stones Youth Group is selling beautiful 2023 calendars with inspirational Scripture verses and plenty of room for writing birthdays, appointments, etc. in the date squares. Get one for \$8 or two for only \$15. Get yours today before they're gone! Calendars are available in the school office. Make checks payable to Living Stones.

12/18-K-8 Christmas Service &

12/20-3K/4K Christmas Service: All students are expected to participate in our children's Christmas services. We wanted to give parents a heads-up so that you can plan accordingly. This is part of our religion curriculum.

The service on Dec 18 will be at 9:00 a.m.

The service on Dec 20 will be at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Fri, Nov 4

No Public School-Alternate
Bus Routes

Sun, Nov 6

Worship 9:00 am

Farewell to Student
Teachers 10:15 am

No Sunday School or Bible
Class

Mon-Thurs, Nov 7-10

Parent-Teacher
Conferences

Mon, Nov 7

Dartball vs Greenwood
7:30 pm

Tues, Nov 8

Worship 6:00 pm

Wed, Nov 9

Chapel 8:20 am

Sun, Nov 13

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Mon, Nov 14

School Board Meeting
5:30 pm

Tues, Nov 15

Worship 6:00 pm

Wed, Nov 16

Chapel 8:20 am

Pioneers 6:00 pm

Thurs, Nov 17

Picture Retake Day

Sun, Nov 20

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Tues, Nov 22

Worship 6:00 pm

Wed-Fri, Nov 23-25

No School-Thanksgiving
Break



Claire Hannasch

The student of the week is Claire Hannasch. Claire is in 7th Grade. She is always polite and respectful, works hard, and is a wonderful helper inside and outside the classroom.



Congratulations Claire!