



What and How are we Hunting?

Each year around this time it is popular for different social groups to host egg hunts. Someone takes the eggs and hides them in various "secret" places in a designated area and then children go out and look for the eggs. There are, among the children, various different kinds of hunters. There are those who do not know they are hunting at all; most of these are the little children who need to be taught what to do. There are those who are hunting the egg itself for the sheer joy of hunting the egg. Then there are those who hunt the egg for the prize that they will find inside the egg. Different children have different motives for participating in the hunt. Life is kind of like an egg hunt.

There are those who have no idea that for which they are hunting. They hurry about their daily lives doing the things that those around them seem to do simply because it appears that everyone else is doing it not knowing why they do it. Jesus described these in Matthew 9:36, "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." These are like sheep having no shepherd. They wander around following the other sheep; they don't know why they go where they go or do the things they do. These are often led down the wrong path and end up being

devoured by wolves (Matthew 7:15, Acts 20:29). These need Jesus to be their shepherd and so Jesus invites them to come to him for the leadership that they need (Matthew 11:28-30).

On the other hand, there are those who know what to hunt for but don't believe you can find that for which you are hunting. These say they are concerned about truth. They say that we must look for truth. Yet in some way or another they say you really can't know and



find the truth. The agnostic says that you can't know the truth regarding God's existence. The skeptic says you can't know the truth regarding the origin of the Bible. The modernist says that you can't know that Jesus is the Son of God. The denominational person says that you cannot know the true church of Christ. Each seemingly takes one step closer to the truth, but never seems to arrive at the truth. It reminds us of Paul's statement to Timothy regarding similar men, "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge

of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). They are hunting something, but they stop before they find what they truly need to find. They hunt merely for the thrill of the hunt, but for nothing more; so they walk away empty handed.

Finally, there are those who hunt with the knowledge that something wonderful is going to be revealed that they can call their own. These hunt based upon faith—a faith that rewards those who diligently seek God (Hebrews 11:6). These understand that they need a Good Shepherd to guide them and so they follow (John 10:14). These understand that they can know and obey ALL of God's truth and be free (John 8:32). These, like Abraham, set their spiritual eyes upon that which is unseen to let it motivate them to live in a way that is pleasing to God. It is said regarding Abraham, "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10). And regarding all who would live their lives by faith, we read, "For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be

(Continued on page 2)

House Rules! — Carl Hanson



“Abiding by HIS RULES is the only means to true and lasting joy and peace because it is under HIS SOVEREIGN RULE that we can have eternal confidence and hope.”

My wife and I were talking the other day and reminiscing about some of our experiences growing up. One of the things she recalled was that when it came to playing games with relatives or friends, whoever’s house they were at was the one who made the rules. While in that house those “house rules” were what everyone was expected to follow. When everyone followed the “house rules” everything went well and there was joy in the time spent together.

Observing this world it is easy to see that not everyone is playing (or living) by the same rules. It shouldn’t be any surprise that there are so many arguments and conflicts going on around us. Since some seem to be making up their own rules as they go along it makes it difficult to know what to expect.

The Hebrew writer noted, “Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but CHRIST IS FAITHFUL OVER GOD’S HOUSE AS A

SON. And WE ARE HIS HOUSE if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.” (Hebrews 3:5-6)

GOD’S RULE is ultimately what all must finally come to grips with following. As Christians we are in His household and we must be mindful of following HIS RULES. Since He is the builder of His house, He is to continue to receive greater honor than the house itself. Is there any greater honor we can give Him than to faithfully submit to HIS RULES? Abiding by HIS RULES is the only means to true and lasting joy and peace because it is under HIS SOVEREIGN RULE that we can have eternal confidence and hope.

Life is more than a game and it goes best when the RULE OF THE CREATOR of it is observed. May we rejoice in the privilege that is ours to be in His house living under the wisdom of HIS RULE.

Have a great day FOLLOWING GOD’S HOUSE RULES!

Carl Hanson
Port Townsend, WA

(Continued from page 1)

called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city” (Hebrews 11:14-16).

How are we hunting? Do we simply follow the crowd content to let come whatever may? Do we seek for something yet declare that there is no way we can obtain it? Or do we hunt with the goal in mind of something better than what we have in the here and now? Placing our complete trust in God and His word for eternity? Do we let this motivate us to live faithful to the Lord each day? Yes, there is a great prize that is laid up for those who are faithful to God (2 Timothy 4:8). Let us lay hold on eternal life (1 Timothy 6:12) by seeking the Lord each day and finding Him!

Kevin Cauley



Bible Studies for the week of March 27th, 2005

- AM Sermon..... Why Remember Jesus?
- Scripture Reading..... Luke 22:14-20
- PM Sermon..... The Joy of Worship
- Scripture Reading..... Psalm 100
- Sunday Class The Book of Hebrews
- Wednesday Class..... The Book of Job

Kevin's Korner

Spring break came and spring break went. We enjoyed having the kids out of school for a week, but return they must tomorrow. We had hoped to get down to the Buffalo River for some hiking this past week, but the rain simply didn't allow for it. We are grateful to God, however, for the rain! It was getting a little dry and the ground needs the moisture to receive Spring's sown seeds. So all in all, it was a great Spring break week.

Flyers for this year's friends and family day are in the foyer. We have some work to do in order to make this year a success! We've had a tremendous response in the past two years and we can have the same response this year as well. Let's pick up some flyers and start handing them out to our friends, neighbors and family encouraging them to attend this special day we have to honor them this year!

Today is what the religious world marks as "Easter Sunday." Historically, this was the "day" upon which Jesus was resurrected from the dead. However, while many mark today as that day, they stop at the end of the day. While Jesus resurrection is certainly a joyous occasion we must not fail to understand its significance. Like Jesus, the Christian has a resurrected life having been buried with Him in baptism (Romans 6:1-11). We live this new life free from sin with the hope that one day Jesus will return to transform our earthly bodies into spiritual ones and bring us to heaven. Jesus' resurrection is simply the "first-fruits" of that which is to come (1 Corinthians 15:20). We honor Jesus' resurrection every day of our life by living a life transformed by the Spirit in service to God and one another (Romans 12:1,2).

Jesus' resurrection isn't merely about "Easter

Sunday," its about every day of the year! If you are pondering your life and considering the need for Jesus to be in it, there's no better day than today to make the changes that you need to make, not because it's "Easter," but because "Today is the day of salvation." There is no promise that we will live to see tomorrow. There is, however, the promise that if we are faithful children of God that God will give us eternal life in the world to come (Revelation 2:10).

So, what will it be, dear friend? Will you be transformed by the life giving power of the gospel? Or will you pass another day by without considering your relationship with God? I hope that you will remember Jesus' resurrection and be transformed by God's power, not only today, but for the rest of your days.



"We honor Jesus' resurrection every day of our life by living a life transformed by the Spirit in service to God and one another."

Records for the week of March 20th, 2005

Sunday Bible Class	50
Sunday AM Worship.....	60
Sunday PM Worship.....	48
Wednesday Night Study.....	48
Contribution.....	\$1741.92
Budget.....	\$1662.00



Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- We express our sympathies to the Atchley family in the loss of Hugh's brother Daryl. Services were this past Tuesday afternoon.
- We also express sympathy to the Morrell family in the loss of Okemah. Services were this past Thursday morning.
- Please remember the following in prayer: Jessica Anderson, Kathryn Davis, Donna Henderson, Pat Quigley, Frank Smith.
- Remember our shutins: Curtis and Opal Hull and Edith Mischler.
- The elders and deacons meeting is scheduled for next Sunday night, not tonight.
- Tonight immediately after services we will put together our mailing of House to House and Heart to Heart. We need all the help we can get so please stay for this.
- Singing at the nursing home.
- We will have our weekly Bible study at the nursing home this coming Thursday afternoon at 2:00. All are invited to study Matthew 27.
- Friends and Family day is coming! Get your flyers in the foyer now! Invite others today!
- Our pantry item is: Clothes Softener.



Welcome!

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:	7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	March 27th, 2005	April 3rd, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dan Hand	Leon Duncan
Scripture Reading:	Ray Duncan	Ray Duncan
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Bruce Foster
	John Gass	Dan Hand
(assist)	Ervin Hand	Brandon Foster
	Perry Foster	Jerry Roller
Closing Prayer	Rusty Windle	John Gass
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Ken Smith	Bruce Foster
Scripture Reading:	Bruce Foster	Dale Pinkley
Lord's Table	Dale Pinkley	John Gass
	Brandon Foster	Jack Gentry
Closing Prayer	Ervin Hand	Rusty Windle
Wednesday		
Songs:	Kevin Cauley	Rusty Windle
Opening Prayer:	Glenn Williams	Ken Smith
Invitation:	Dan Hand	Rusty Windle
Closing Prayer:	Bob Moore	George Eddings

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