**Sunday, June 3, 2012**

**Welcome** – Greg Snow

**Song of Praise** – *And Can It Be*

**Give thanks and Praise His Name** - *Psalm 36:5-9; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13*

 *O God, your constant love reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness extends to the skies. Your righteousness towers like the mountains, your justice is deeper than the sea. All ﬁnd protection under the shadow of your wings. We feast on the abundance you provide. You are the source of all life, and in your light, we see light.*

 *Praise be to you, O LORD, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.*

 *Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.*

 *Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.*

**Song of Worship** – *Come thou Fount*

**Conform Me to the Character of Christ**

Holy and Righteous God, thank you for sending Jesus. While I can read and understand your demands for character, holiness, and righteousness in your Law, in Jesus I see more fully your call to me to be righteous. Please, dear Lord, work your work of salvation, and conform me to the character of Christ. In the name of my Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen

 **Song of Worship** – *Take My Life*

**Draw Near To God –** *James 4:8-10*

Hear the word of the Lord…

 James 4:8-10

 *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*

**Song of Worship** – *I Am Thine, O Lord*

**Offering**

 **(Quote: *“Since men will be sure to see our excellences, if we possess any, be it ours to see that all the glory is given to our Lord, to whom it is entirely due. Not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name, O Lord, be praise!”* Charles H. Spurgeon)**

**Forever Safe In Christ Jesus, Our Lord *–****Romans 8:38-39; Psalm 37:28*

Nothing could keep Jesus from coming to save you and me -- not the distance between heaven and earth, not the difficulty of an unexpected pregnancy for his unmarried mother, not a city full of travelers and parents tired from a long journey, certainly not a maniacal king who sought to snuff out his life, not jeering mobs crying crucify him, not disciples that abandoned him, not soldiers that mocked him, not a scourge that raked his flesh, and not a cross that claimed his physical life. So what makes you think he would let you go or give up on you after his love has captured your heart?

 *For I am sure that neither death nor life,* *nor angels nor rulers, nor things present* *nor things to come, nor powers, nor height* *nor depth, nor anything else in all* *creation, will be able to separate us from* *the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* *For the Lord loves justice and will not* *abandon His faithful ones. They are kept safe forever.*

Abba Father, help me understand your love more fully. Give me strength to overcome the doubts Satan has tried to plant in my heart. Bless me with your gracious power and transform me out of my own weakness into a useful tool for your service. Keep my eyes fixed on the Lord whose hand will not let the waves claim me or let my own doubts destroy me. In Jesus' mighty name I pray.

**Songs of Worship –** *How Deep the Father’s Love/You Are My King*

**Message** – *“The Law of God”*
 *Scripture Reference: Matthew 5:17-20*

1. **The Place of the Law – It is Unchanging & Supreme (vs 17)**
	* The Law is the expression of God’s attitudes & character.
	* The Law is the foundation of the beatitudes.
	* Jesus teaches us that the Law is perfect & absolute.
	* Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law…He spoke it, He fulfilled it.

2. **The Permanence of the Law - It is Everlasting (vs 18)**

* God’s word is perfect, unchanging, & timeless!
* The Ten Commandments still stand & speak to us. We are accountable for them.

3. **The Purpose of the Law (vs 19-20)**

* The purpose of the Law is to bring us to Christ and to continue following Him. The Law saves, strengthens, & stabilizes.
* Jesus teaches us that God desires a heart change. He set the standard high! We must be born again!

**Takeaways**

* God’s word is timeless, absolute, & perfect!
* God’s word is the plumb line for our lives, not men’s opinion!
* We are always learning & growing…God’s word never changes! In Deuteronomy 22:13-30 we see God’s view of purity, marriage, family, church (God’s people) & holding each other accountable.

**Time of Prayer**