**Sunday, October 7, 2012**

**Welcome** – Greg Snow

**Call to Worship –** Psalms 18:46; 21:13; 34:3; 35:18; 57:11; 97:9; 99:2; 138:6; 145:1

 *The LORD lives may my rock be praised! The God of my salvation is exalted.*

 *Be exalted, Lord, in Your strength; we will sing and praise Your might.*

 *Proclaim with me the LORD’s greatness; let us exalt His name together.*

 *I will praise You in the great congregation; I will exalt You among many people.*

 *God, be exalted above the heavens; let Your glory be over the whole earth. Though the LORD is exalted, He takes note of the humble; but He knows the haughty from afar.*

 *For You, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth; You are exalted above all the gods.*

 *The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted above all the peoples.*

 *I exalt You, my God the King, and praise Your name forever and ever.*

**Songs of Praise –** *See What A Morning/Lord, I Lift Your Name On High*

**Wonderful New Relationship –** *Romans 5:6. 9-11*

Christ endured the most painful and shameful death so that you and I could have the hope of true rest with God. Hear what our Lord has done for us:

 *When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.* So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

**Song of Worship –** *How Deep the Father’s Love For Us*

**Bought With A Price** *– J.C. Ryle/Ron Moore* The price paid for our redemption was nothing less than the death of Jesus Christ on Calvary. We "are bought with a price." "Christ gave Himself a ransom for all"

 That’s what it took to pay the penalty of sin. Nothing less would do. I was the one who went astray. I was the one who turned to my own way. God laid my sin on Jesus. There is only one way to respond to such love—fall down and worship Him! Every day! With your whole life!

**Song of Worship –** *We Fall Down*

**Offering *(“At any rate, cost what it may, to separate ourselves from those who separate themselves from the truth of God is not alone our liberty, but our duty.” Charles H. Spurgeon*)**

**Holiness – *J.C. Ryle*** *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

We are living in unusual times. Events are hurrying on with singular rapidity. We never know "what a day may bring forth"; how much less do we know what may happen in a year! We live in a day of great religious profession. Scores of professing Christians in every part of the land are expressing a desire for *more holiness* and *a higher degree of spiritual life*. Yet nothing is more common than to see people receiving the Word with joy, and then after two or three years, falling away and going back to their sins. *They had not considered what it costs to be a really consistent believer and holy Christian.*

Surely these are times when we ought often to sit down and count the cost and to consider the state of our souls. We must mind what we are about. If we *desire* to be truly holy, it is a good sign. We may thank God for putting the desire into our hearts. But still the *cost* ought to be counted. No doubt Christ's way to eternal life is a way of pleasantness. But it is folly to shut our eyes to the fact that His way is *narrow* — and the *cross* comes before the crown. Let us take courage. *We are not far from home!* It may cost much to be a true Christian and a consistent holy man — but it pays!

**Songs of Worship –** *Take My Life/Show Us Christ*

**Message** – *“Guidelines for Eye Doctors”*
 *Scripture Reference: Matthew 7:1-5*

**Four reasons people are uncommitted to God’s church** *(Source: John MacArthur)*

* 1. Consumeristic view of the church: what’s in it for me?
	2. Privatization for spirituality: ability to gain information from the media.
	3. Disillusionment with church leadership: men building their own little kingdom at the people’ expense.
	4. False expectation of perfection: there are no perfect churches!

**1. Pronounce (vs 2)**

* Jesus simply goes to the heart…whatever standard we use in judgment of others that, along with more, will be used to judge us.

**2. Perception (vs 3-4)**

* These are the “See & Say” verses in the Bible.
* Jesus helps us see how blinding sin influences us in all of our lives. We can see the sins in others but not in our lives.
* Evil habit of being fixed on other’s speech.
* The degree’s of sin are seen here. (Matthew 11:23-24; John 19:11; Hebrews 10:29)

**3. Prescription (vs 5)**

* Jesus is not forbidding admonishing a brother for a sinful act or attitude but rather the manner in which it is done.
* First and Then: **First**, we are called to purity, holiness, and humility because of our sin; **Then**, and only then, can we help an erring brother.

**Take-away’s**

1. We must perceive (notice) our own sinfulness. We must walk daily in God’s word so that hypocrisy and pride can be dealt with in our own lives.

2. We must be close to the erring person. There must be a close relationship in order to rebuke a brother.

3. We must select the best time to rebuke a brother. Timing is everything!

4. It is the concern and responsibility of everyone in the church to lovingly restore a brother.

5. The erring brother or sister must be willing to be restored.

**Time of Prayer**