

Sermon Title: **"DEBORAH – A GREAT MOTHER OF ISRAEL!"**

Sermon Text: **Judges 4 & 5**

Introduction:

GOOD MORNING TO ALL! THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY! AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL YOU WHO ARE JOINING US FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY IN OUR SUNDAY SERVICE CELEBRATION.

ILLUSTRATION: WHO AM I?

**A TEACHER GAVE HER CLASS OF SECOND GRADERS A LESSON ON THE MAGNET AND WHAT IT DOES. THE NEXT DAY IN A WRITTEN TEST, SHE INCLUDED THIS QUESTION: "MY FULL NAME HAS SIX LETTERS. THE FIRST ONE IS M. I PICK UP THINGS. WHAT AM I?" WHEN THE TEST PAPERS WERE TURNED IN, THE TEACHER WAS ASTONISHED TO FIND THAT ALMOST 50 PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS ANSWERED THE QUESTION WITH THE WORD MOTHER.
(TRADITIONAL)**

INDEED, MOTHERS CAN BE SO GREAT & POWERFUL THAT SHE DON'T JUST PICKS UP THINGS BUT THROUGH HER CHILDREN RULES THE WORLD! I THINK THE WORDS OF WILLIAM ROSS WALLACE EXPRESSES THIS TRUTH.

**"The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world."
(William Ross Wallace)**

BUT THERE IS ONE MOTHER THAT REALLY RULED A NATION DURING HER TIME LONG BEFORE MARY TUDOR (BLOODY MARY) WHO IS THE FIRST MONARCH/QUEEN TO RULE ENGLAND OR VIGDIS FINNBOGADOTTIR, THE FIRST WOMAN TO BE PRESIDENT (ICDELAND). SHE WAS DEBORAH, A GREAT MOTHER OF ISRAEL. SHE WILL BE THE FOCUS OF OUR STUDY TODAY IN THE WORD.

LET US PRAY!!!

THE STORIES IN THE BOOK OF JUDGES TOOK PLACE WHE ISRAEL WAS TRANSITIONING BETWEEN THE TIME THEY SETTLED IN CANAAN AFTER A VICTORIOUS CONQUEST OF THE LAND LED BY JOSHUA AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MONARCHY OR KINGS

IN ISRAEL. IT OTHER WORDS, IT WAS A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE WAS LED BY VARIOUS JUDGES OR LEADERS WHOM THE LORD RAISED TO DELIVERER THEM FROM THEIR ENEMIES. BECAUSDE THEY DID NOT TOTALLY ERADICATE THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND AS COMMANDED BY THE LORD THRU JOSHUA, THEY BECAME A SNARE TO THEM & THE LORD USED THESE REMNANTS TO TEST ISAREL & TO DISCIPLINE THEM FOR THEIR SINS. DURING THIS PERIOD, THEY WENT INTO THE CYCLE OF DISOBEDIENCE TO THE LORD, OPPRESSION BY THEIR ENEMIES & THEN DELIVERANCE BY THE LORD. ONE OF THE GREAT JUDGES THAT THE LORD RAISED UP AT THAT TIME WAS DEBORAH FROM THE TRIBE OF EPHRAIM. AND WE CAN READ HER STORY IN JUDGES 4 & 5.

A. DEBORAH **RECEIVES** A WORD FROM THE LORD!

1) SHE WAS A **PROPHETESS** OF THE LORD & A **JUDGE** TO ISRAEL!

DEBORAH'S STORY OPENS UP WHEN THE LORD GAVE DEBORAH A WORD CONCERNING THE CANAANITES UNDER KING JABIN, WHO HAVE BEEN OPPRESSING THEM AT THAT TIME FOR 20 YEARS. THE LORD HEARD THEIR CRY FOR HELP & RAISED UP DEBORAH TO SET THEM FREE FROM THEIR CANAANITE OPPRESSOR.

*“Deborah, a **prophetess** and the wife of Lappidoth, was **judging** Israel at that time. She would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to settle disputes.” (vv. 4-5)*

TAKE NOTE THAT SHE WAS NOT ONLY A PROPHETESS BUT ALSO A JUDGE TO THE LORD'S PEOPLE. THIS MEANS THAT SHE WAS IN THE LEAGUE OF ONTNIEL, GIDEON, SAMSON, & THE OTHERS. IN FACT, SHE WAS THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE -SHE WAS THE ONLY WOMAN IN THAT GROUP.

B. DEBORAH **RELAYS** THE LORD'S WORD TO BARAK!

BUT THE NEXT THING WE SEE IN THE STORY IS DEBORAH PASSING THE LORD'S MESSAGE TO BARAK, A LEADER FROM THE TRIBE OF NAPHTALI.

1) THE LORD'S MESSAGE IS A **CALL TO TRUST** THE LORD & AN **ASSURANCE** OF VICTORY!

*She summoned **Barak son of Abinoam** from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, “**Hasn’t the Lord, the God of Israel, commanded you, ‘Go, deploy the troops on Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men from the Naphtalites and Zebulunites? Then I will lure Sisera commander of Jabin’s army, his chariots, and his infantry at the Wadi Kishon to fight against you, and I will hand him over to you.’”***
(vv. 6-7)

TAKE NOTE THAT THE MESSAGE IS FOR INTENDED FOR BARAK TO TRUST THE LORD & TO LEAD HIS ARMY TO FIGHT THE CANAANITES LED BY THEIR COMMANDER SISERA & TO BE ASSURED OF VICTORY! BUT BARAK TOLD HER THAT HE WILL ONLY GO IF SHE WOULD COME WITH THEM IN BATTLE. DEBORAH AGREED BUT TOLD HIM THAT SINCE HE WANTED IT THAT WAY, THE HONOR OF KILLING SISERA, THE CANAANITE COMMANDER WILL NOT GO TO HIM BUT TO A WOMAN (WHO LATER WILL IDENTIFIED AS Jael, the wife of Heber, the Kenite, see vv. 17-23).

C. DEBORAH **RAISES** A SONG OF PRAISE TO THE LORD!

FINALLY, THE ISRAELITES LED BY DEBORAH & BARAK DEFEATED THE CANAANITES ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF THE LORD & HERE IN CHAPTER 5, DEBORAH COMPOSED A SONG OF PRAISE & LED THE PEOPLE IN PRAISING THE LORD THEIR GOD! THERE ARE TWO SPECIFIC THINGS THAT DEBORAH THANK THE LORD FOR & THEY ARE:

1) SHE PRAISES THE LORD FOR THE LEADERS & PEOPLE'S **WILLING PARTICIPATION & OBEDIENCE!** (vv. 1-2)

On that day Deborah and Barak son of Abinoam sang: **When the leaders lead in Israel, when the people volunteer,** blessed be the Lord.” (vv. 1-2)

2) SHE PRAISES THE LORD FOR **Jael’s Great Deed** – HER KILLING SISERA, THEIR ENEMY! (vv. 24-31)

“Most blessed of women is Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite; she is most blessed among tent-dwelling women. He asked for water; she gave him milk. She brought him cream in a majestic bowl. She reached for a tent peg, her right hand, for a workman’s hammer. **Then she hammered Sisera—she crushed his head; she shattered and pierced his temple. He collapsed, he fell, he lay down between her feet; he collapsed, he fell between her feet; where he collapsed, there he fell—dead.**” (vv. 24-27)

D. **APPLICATIONS:**

WHAT ARE THE **GODLY QUALITIES & ATTITUDINAL BEHAVIORS** THAT DEBORAH DEMONSTRATED WHICH ARE WORTHY OF OUR EMULATION & IMITATION AS MOTHERS IN PARTICULAR & AS BELIEVERS IN GENERAL? HOW DID SHE ACHIEVED **GREATNESS** IN THE LORD’S EYES & THE PEOPLE’S EYES? HOW CAN WE TOO BE **GREAT SERVANT-LEADERS** OF THE LORD & BE **GREATLY USED** BY HIM LIKE DEBORAH?

(1) SHE **RECOGNIZED** THAT THE LORD HAS GIVEN HER **GIFTS & ABILITIES** & **DETERMINED** TO USE OR PRACTICE THEM FOR THE HIS GLORY!

“Deborah, a **prophetess** and the wife of Lappidoth, was **judging** Israel at that time. She would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to settle disputes.” (vv. 4-5)

“Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are different activities, but the same God works all of them in each person. 7 **A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common**

good: 8 to one is given a message of wisdom through the Spirit, to another, a message of knowledge by the same Spirit, 9 to another, faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another, the performing of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, distinguishing between spirits, to another, different kinds of tongues,[b] to another, interpretation of tongues. 11 One and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as he wills.”
(1 Cor. 12: 4-11)

- **DEBORAH DISCOVERED HER SPIRITUAL SPIRITUAL GIFTS & PUT IT TO USE!** NOT MUCH DETAILS WERE GIVEN TO US ABOUT DEBORAH’S LIFE BUT OUR TEXT IS SUFFICIENT TO KNOW THAT DEBORAH LOVED THE WORD OF GOD & WAS CLOSED TO THE LORD. SHE DISCOVERED HER **GIFT OF PROPHESYING & LEADERSHIP** & DID NOT HESITATE TO USE THEM FOR THE LORD!
- **DEBORAH DARED TO BREAK FREE FROM TRADITIONAL NORM & OBEYED THE LORD’S CALLING ON HER LIFE TO LEAD ISRAEL AT THAT TIME!** NOW, WE KNOW BY JUST OBSERVING THE BOOK OF JUDGES THAT LEADERSHIP WAS TRADITIONALLY ASSIGNED TO THE MEN. TAKE NOTE AN IMPORTANT LESSON HERE. **IF THERE IS NO MEN TO DO THE JOB, THE LORD WILL RAISE A WOMAN TO DO IT. HER LIFE IS A SILENT REBUKE TO MEN AT THAT TIME & TODAY WHO REFUSE TO LEAD OUR FAMILIES & THE LORD’S CHURCH!**

CHURCH, FRIENDS, I THINK THAT THAT THE CHURCHES TODAY HAS TWO SLEEPING GIANTS – THE YOUTH & THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH. I PRAY FOR THAT DAY THAT THE LORD WILL RAISE UP DEBORAH’S IN OUR MIDST WHO WILL NOT USURP THE MEN’S ROLE TO LEAD BUT WILL COME ALONG TO LEAD & BUILD THE CHURCH OF THE LORD. WE NEED WOMEN OF WHO WILL DARE TO BELIEVE THAT THE LORD HAS GIFTED THEM WITH GIFTS TO EDIFY & BUILD THE CHURCH. THAT THEY CAN BE GREATLY USE BY THE LORD IN THE MINISTRY.

(2) SHE MADE HERSELF & HER GIFTS AVAILABLE FOR THE LORD & HIS SERVICE!

She summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, “Hasn’t the Lord, the God of Israel, commanded you, ‘Go, deploy the troops on Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men from the Naphtalites and Zebulunites? Then I will lure Sisera commander of Jabin’s army, his chariots, and his infantry at the Wadi Kishon to fight against you, and I will hand him over to you.’”
(vv. 6-7)

Barak said to her, “If you will go with me, I will go. But if you will not go with me, I will not go.” “I will gladly go with you,” she said, “but you will receive no honor on the road you are about to take, because the Lord will sell Sisera to a woman.” So Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. (vv. 8-9)

- ***SHE DELIBERATELY INVOLVED HER LIFE INTO THE WORK OR MINISTRY OF THE LORD!*** RELATED TO NUMBER (1), DEBORAH DELIBERATELY INVOLVED HERSELF IN THE LORD’S SERVICE. IS THAT TRUE OF WOMEN. BELIEVERS TODAY? WE ARE LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE LORD OR ARE WE HIDING & ESCAPING BY MAKING EXCUSES WHY WE CANNOT SERVE THE LORD?
- ***SHE WILLINGLY INVESTED HER GIFTS, TIME & ENERGY TO THE LORD’S SERVICE!***

IS THAT TRUE OF YOU MOTHERS, CHURCH, FRIENDS? WE ARE LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE LORD OR ARE WE HIDING & ESCAPING BY MAKING EXCUSES WHY WE CANNOT SERVE THE LORD? I PRAY THAT THE LIFE OF DEBORAH WILL INSPIRE YOU TO FIND WAYS TO SERVE THE LORD. TO SAY YOU HAVE NO TIME TO SERVE IS JUST NOT TRUE. WE JUST HAVE NOT EXERTED EFFORT IN IT. REMEMBER THAT OUR TIME HERE ON EARTH IS LIMITED & DON’T SAY I WILL HAVE TIME LATER TO SERVE THE LORD BECAUSE WE DON’T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT!

IF THERE IS ONE LESSON WE LEARN FROM THIS COVID CRISIS, THIS IS THE FACT THAT LIFE IS BRIEF & TEMPORARY. I PRAY THAT WE WILL TAKE HEED OF THE LORD JESUS WORDS IN MATT. 6:

“Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal.” (Matt. 6: 19-20)

I PRAY THAT WE WILL INVEST WISELY & ETERNALLY OUR TIME, ENERGY, & TALENTS NOT JUST IN THIS EARTH BUT MORE SO IN THE NEXT LIFE TO COME!

(3) HER FAITH INFLUENCED/INSPIRED OTHERS TO DO GREAT THINGS FOR THE LORD!

So Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; ten thousand men followed him, and Deborah also went with him. (vv. 8-10)

That day God subdued King Jabin of Canaan before the Israelites. The power of the Israelites continued to increase against King Jabin of Canaan until they destroyed him.
(vv. 22-24)

a. She inspired Barak & his army to trust the Lord & fight His battles!

Barak said to her, “If you will go with me, I will go. But if you will not go with me, I will not go.” “I will gladly go with you,” she said, “but you will receive no honor on the road you are about to take, because the Lord will sell Sisera to a woman.” Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; ten thousand men followed him, and Deborah also went with him. (vv. 8-10)

b. She inspired Jael to help Israel kill Sisera!

When Barak arrived in pursuit of Sisera, Jael went out to greet him and said to him, “Come and I will show you the man you are looking for.” So he went in with her, and there was Sisera lying dead with a tent peg through his temple! (vv. 22-23)

c. She inspired the people to live grateful lives through her song!

On that day Deborah and Barak son of Abinoam sang: When the leaders lead in Israel, when the people volunteer, blessed be the Lord.” (vv. 1-2)

MOTHERS, YOU HAVE THE POWER TO INFLUENCE & INSPIRE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE AROUND YOU. YOU DEFINITELY INFLUENCE YOUR HUSBAND TO BE STRONG IN LEADING YOUR FAMILY THRUUGH YOU CONSTANT & CONSISTENT ENCOURAGEMENT, SUPPORT, & PRAYERS. REMEMBER THE SAYING, “FOR EVER SUCCESSFUL MAN, THERE IS A WOMAN BEHIND. YOU CAN INFLUENCE YOUR CHILDREN TO BE GREAT MEN. REMEMBER THE WORDS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, “ALL THAT I AM OR EVER HOPE TO BE, I OWE TO MY MOTHER.” THE FAMOUS PICASSO REVEALED THAT HER TOLD HIM; “IF YOU BECOME A SOLDIER YOU WILL BE A GENERAL. IF YOU BECOME A MONK YOU WILL BE THE POPE. INSTEAD, I BECAME A PAINTER & I BECAME PICASSO!”

E. CLOSING CHALLENGE:

NOW, WHAT IS THE RELEVANCE OF DEBORAH’S LIFE TO OUR PRESENT SITUATION TODAY? WHAT IS THE MESSAGE OF THE LORD FOR US HIS PEOPLE WHO TRUSTED IN HIM & CALLS IN HIS NAME? WHAT IS HIS MESSAGE FOR YOU MOTHERS HERE IN FBC & THOSE WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY? AS I REFLECT ON THIS QUESTION, THE LORD IMPRESSED TO ME THESE CHALLENGES FOR US.

*****FOR OUR ALL WOMEN & MOTHERS TODAY, DEBORAH’S LIFE IS CALL & A CHALLENGE TO YOU TO GET OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONES & BE THE SERVANT-LEADERS THAT THE LORD CALLED YOU TO BE! IT IS A CALL TO YOU TO DISCOVER YOUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS & ABILITIES AND USE THEM FOR THE LORD & HIS SERVICE!**

*****IT IS A CHALLENGE FOR YOU TO DARE TO AIM FOR SPIRIUTUAL GREATNESS BEFORE THE LORD & NOT TO BE CONTENT WERE YOU ARE RIGHT. HE DOES NOT LIKE BENCH WARMERS OR FENCH SITTERS! HE WANTS YOU TO BE INVOLVED & BE AVAILABLE IN HIS WORK! IF THERE IS ONE SURE THING THAT WE SAW IN DEBORAH’S LIFE, THIS IS THE FSACT THAT WOMEN**

CAN DO & ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS FOR THE LORD & BE GREATLY USED BY HIM! THEREFORE, HE WANTS YOU NOT TO BE GOOD LEADERS BUT TO BE GREAT LEADERS FOR THE LORD & HIS SERVICE!

*****FOR ALL MEN & FATHERS TODAY, DEBORAH'S LIFE IS A CALL & CHALLENGE OF THE LORD FOR US TO BE THE SPIRITUAL LEADERS THAT HE DESIGNED US TO BE FOR OUR FAMILIES. DEBORAH'S LIFE IS A REMINDING & WARNING US THAT IF THERE IS NO MEN AVAILABLE THE LORD CAN USE WOMEN TO BE HIS LEADERS. IF THERE IS NO MEN WHO ARE WILLING, THE LORD WILL CALL & EQUIP & USE WOMEN WHO ARE WILLING TO OBEY & DO HIS WILL!**

THE LORD IS CALLING MANY OF US TO RETURN TO OUR CALLING AS LEADERS. THIS IS A REMINDER TO US THAT OUR CALLING AS FATHERS IS NOT TO PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR FAMILIES BUT TO BE THE SPIRITUAL LEADERS OF OUR HOMES! YOU ARE TO BE LEADING YOUR FAMILIES IN PURSUING THE THINGS OF GOD & NOT THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD. YOUR GOAL AS PARENTS ARE IS NOT HOW TO GET YOUR CHILDREN TO HARVARD OR GOOD SCHOOL BUT TO HEAVEN!

*****FATHERS/MOTHERS, CHURCH/FRIENDS, IF THERE IS ONE IMPORTANT LESSON THIS COVID-19 CRISIS HAS TAUGHT US, THIS IS THAT OUR FAMILIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN MONEY OR MATERIAL POSSESSIONS OR ACHIEVEMENTS. JUST PROVIDING FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR FAMILIES IS NOT ENOUGH. THEY NEED SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE THEM OVERCOMERS & VICTORIOUS OVER LIVES'S CRISIS & STORMS LIKE THIS COVID CRISIS. WE ARE TO EQUIP THEM TO BE STRONG INSIDE IN THE HEART. THEY NEED A SOLID SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION. WHY? BECAUSE COVID IS JUST A START OF MANY MORE CRISIS OR TRIALS THAT WILL COME THEIR LIFE. WHAT THEY NEED IS JESUS OUR SAVIOR & LORD.**

THE LORD THROUGH THIS COVID CRISIS REMINDED US THAT ETERNAL VALUES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN WORLDLY VALUES. OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD & OUR FAMILIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN OUR WORK & MONEY. SERVING OUR GOD IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN SERVING OUR COMPANY. WHY? WHEN

THERE IS A CRISIS, THEY WILL LAY YOU OFF BUT THE LORD PROMISED NEVER TO LEAVE NOR FORSAKE YOU!

CHURCH/FRIENDS, LET US SEEK FIRST THE LORD'S KINGDOM & RIGHTEOUSNESS AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE ADDED/PROVIDED TO US BY OUR HEAVENLY FATHER! GBU!

CLOSING PRAYER:

“OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, INDEED, THANK YOU FOR THE LIFE OF DEBORAH WHO BECAME A GREAT SERVANT-LEADER & WHOM YOU HAVE USED GREATLY IN HER LIFETIME. THROUGH HER LIFE WE HAVE SEEN & LEARNED VALUABLE QUALITIES & ATTITUDES THAT MADE ALL THIS POSSIBLE. I PRAY FATHER FOR ALL YOUR CHILDREN TODAY, ESPECIALLY FOR ALL OUR MOTHERS JOINING US TODAY THAT YOU TEACH US & MOLD TO PUT IN PLACE THESE QUALITIES & ATTITUDES IN OUR LIFE IF WE HAVE NOT DONE IT YET – TO HAVE A STRONG DETERMINATION TO PUT TO USE THE GOD-GIVEN GIFTS & ABILITIES! TO MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE FOR YOU & YOUR SERVICE REALIZING THAT MY GOD-GIVEN ABILITIES ARE NOT USELESS USE & MADE AVAILABLE FOR YOU & YOUR SERVICE. AND TO BECOME A POSITIVE INFLUENCER & INSPIRATION TO OTHERS ESPECIALLY OUR SPOUSE & CHILDREN TO TRUST YOU & OBEY YOU, AND IN DOING SO THEY TOO WILL BE ABLE TO DO GREAT & MIGHTY THINGS FOR YOU & YOUR KINGDOM.

FATHER GOD, I PRAY A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR ALL OUR MOTHERS & WOMEN TODAY. I PRAY & SPEAK TO THEIR LIVES THE ANOINTING OF DEBORAH, AN ANOINTING OF LEADERSHIP & TEACHING & SPEAKING FORTH YOUR WORD. I PRAY THAT YOU WILL GRANT THEM A WILLING & DARING SPIRIT TO TRUST YOU & BE THE GREAT MOTHERS & LEADERS THAT YOU CALLED THEM IN OUR HOMES & IN OUR CHURCHES.

FATHER GOD, I PRAY FOR FBC THAT YOU WILL US A VISION OF WHAT YOU WANT US TO DO & ACCOMPLISH IN THIS CHURCH WHERE YOU PLACE US TO SERVE. STIR OUR SPIRITS & MAKE US RESTLESS UNTIL WE SURRENDER TO THE BURDEN THAT YOU

PLACED IN OUR HEARTS & ASK YOU TO USE US IN WHATEVER WAY THAT WILL BE PLEASING IN YOUR EYES. FATHER GOD, I ALSO PRAY THAT AS WE OBEY YOUR CALLING UPON OUR LIVES THAT WE WILL BEGIN TO REALIZE & SEE THE ANSWERS TO OUR LONG STANDING UNANSWERED PRAYERS & LONGINGS OF OUR HEARTS BELIEVING THAT OUR OBEDIENCE ALWAYS LEADS TO BLESSINGS & YOUR OPENING OF HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS TO OUR LIVES.

FATHER GOD, AS WE CLOSE THIS SERVICE & AS GO TO SERVE YOU & OTHERS, WE PRAY FOR YOUR HOLY SPIRIT TO CONTINUE TO REMIND US OF THE TRUTH WE HEARD & LEARNED TODAY. THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO IMPRESS THESE THINGS IN OUR HEARTS & MINDS AND THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO MOLD US & CONFORM US TO YOUR SON JESUS OUR LORD.

AND NOW, MAY THE AWESOME LOVE OF OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, THE AMAZING GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST & THE ETERNAL FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH US ALL. IN JESUS' NAME I PRAY ALL THIS. AMEN! AMEN! AMEN!