

DINUBA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
355 E. SAGINAW AVE
P.O. BOX 726
DINUBA, CA 93618

JANUARY 2020

ON TRACK

The Conductor's Call: "Christianity = Living a life that radiates God's grace."

Have you ever been speechless? I don't mean laryngitis. AND, I don't mean being able to talk but having no desire to talk. I mean, wanting to convey a word or words that expresses what is in your mind and on your heart, and being unable to do so: When you receive the perfect gift. When a loved one surprises you with a visit. When you experience the happiest moment of your life. When you experience the saddest moment of your life. When you see something too beautiful for words. When you hear something that leaves you awestruck. Speechless.

A phrase that gets said quite often, "I can't tell you how wonderful that makes me feel." OR "Words fail me." OR "More than words can say." Which brings up an interesting reality. The Bible was given to us to convey God's word to us, but also to record the human response to His word throughout history. The Gospels, for instance, tell the story of Jesus from four similar yet different perspectives. The words are wonderful, yet so much is not fully described. Mainly, because so much of God is indescribable. **2 Cor. 9:15 "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"**

That verse is talking about God's grace. Of course, attempts can be made, and a certain level of description exists. But to fully describe God's Grace? Yeah, we understand Paul, giving thanks is describable. God's gifts? It is a daunting task to fully describe the human eye, let alone why God gave eyes. Think about it for a moment. It isn't only God's grace that is an indescribable gift. How about His love? How about the gift of Jesus? We just celebrated one aspect of that gift, His birth. Just that reality alone challenges the deepest vocabulary. Jesus, in heaven already, left heaven. Our Heavenly Father sent His Only Son to us, God became flesh. Talk about indescribable. John says this about attempting to describe and fully tell the story: **John 21:25 "There are many more things that Jesus did. If all of them were written down, I suppose that not even the world itself would have space for the books that would be written."**

Then there is the case of speaking words to others rather than speaking to yourself in your heart. Sometimes you very clearly understand a topic or reality in your own mind, but trying to convey it to someone else? Sometimes things get lost in translation. Quite often what doesn't confuse one person at all will deeply confuse another. That reality brings a new perspective to the word "indescribable". Sometimes something may be "indescribable" to those who are hearing, or seeing, when in reality, a better word would be, "unintelligible". Sometimes our lack of understanding is on our part, sometimes the lack is on the part of the person attempting to describe:

1 Cor. 14: 9 So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air. AND 19 But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.

But sometimes, there are no adjectives that clearly convey the physical, mental, and emotional realities. In that case, perhaps only the spirit can communicate clearly.

Romans 8: 26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. Luke 21:14-15 So make up your mind not to worry beforehand how to defend yourselves. For I will give you speech and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.

But maybe describing with words isn't all that God has for us. In fact, maybe actions speak louder, and clearer, than words. Maybe love in action is more effective than loving words? I think The Cross would be the answer to that question. Indescribable for sure. And yet, understood.

James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Matthew 7:24 Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Jesus, of course, communicated more clearly than any one ever has or ever will. However, many do not do what He says. No one has ever described God's gifts better than Jesus. Yet many fail to give Him glory for the gifts they enjoy daily. Even so, Jesus lived a life that radiated God's grace, in word and deed. So, maybe, "describing" is less about us trying to find the words, and more about us reflecting the light. (Continued)

Jesus never called us the dictionary of the world, but He did call us the light of the world. Maybe we should think of it this way, less talking, more shining!

Peace folks.

Pastor Jim

JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Men's Breakfast Sewing Class
5 Birthday Social Calendar Plan Lunch Kids' Klub & Youth Group	6 Elder's meeting	7	8 Praise Team	9	10	11 Sewing Class
12 Fellowship Meeting Kids' Klub & Youth Group	13	14	15 Praise Team	16	17	18 Sewing Class Ladies' Tea
19 Kids' Klub & Youth Group	20 4-H	21	22 Praise Team	23	24	25 Sewing Class
26 Kids' Klub & Youth Group	27	28	29 Praise Team	30	31	

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Cheryl Rubiaco
 3 Celia Larralde
 3 Mary Delgadillo
 12 Maggie Hanson
 13 Josiah Seitz
 13 John Lee

13 Israel Morales
 16 Malachi Cameron
 20 Daniel Quintana
 24 Lorene Burt
 28 Carla Garrett
 29 Bruce Tinker



JANUARY 2020

GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS

GREETERS

- 5 Kristi Carter & Sharon Reed
- 12 The Chang Family
- 19 The Larralde Family
- 26 The Gerbrandt Family

COMMUNION: Valerie Toews

BAPTISM: Julie Nichols

SOCIAL SUNDAY: Jane Chang & Nellie Rubiaco

DEACONS-BIRTHDAY SOCIAL

*JD Allen, Bruce Tinker, Noe Larralde

MEALS ON WHEELS COORDINATOR

FOR JANUARY: Toni Gerbrandt 591-7960 or 967-0740

DEACONS & USHER

- 5 John Lee
- 12 Hunter Garrett
- 19 Armando Pedroza
- 26 Jose Alvarez

ELDER MEDITATIONS:

COMMUNION

- 5 Rudy Gonzales
- 12 Corky Seitz
- 19 Jerry Chang
- 26 Chris Franks

OFFERING

- 5 Roger Starkey
- 12 Jason Nichols
- 19 Steve Worthley
- 26 Mario Delgadillo

HOMEBOUND VISITATION

- 5 Rudy Gonzales
- 12 Corky Seitz
- 19 Jerry Chang
- 26 Chris Franks

CHURCH LOCK UP

- 5 Roger Starkey
- 12 Jason Nichols
- 19 Steve Worthley
- 26 Mario Delgadillo

JANUARY CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Sandy Allen
for ages 4 - 3rd grade

Nursery is available for ages newborn to age 4



*1 Peter 5:2
Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve;*



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Jason's Email: nichols20@yahoo.com

January Sermons:

- Jan. 5th "Ministry of Presence VS Ministry of Absence"
- Jan. 12th Sandy Seitz, Personal Testimony
- Jan. 19th "Less Doing, More Being"
- Jan. 26th "The Things We Remember"



2020 theme: "The Ministry of Presence"