

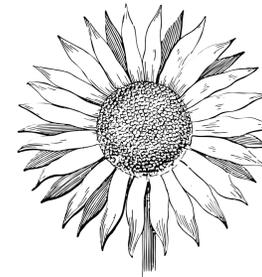
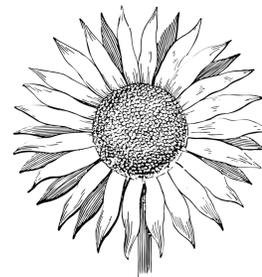
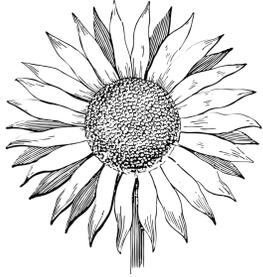
A Message from God's Messenger

“We have heard good news today,
Christian, oh, who has told you?
God's messenger, God's messenger.
Jesus is the friend of all,
Christian, oh, who has told you?
God's messenger.

Pastor Bill Daywalt

Sunday, May 17, 2020





Learning to Share Your Faith

1 Peter 3:13-17

1Pe 3:13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?

1Pe 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear ; do not be frightened.”

1Pe 3:15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

1Pe 3:16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1Pe 3:17 It is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

“Learning to Share Your Faith”

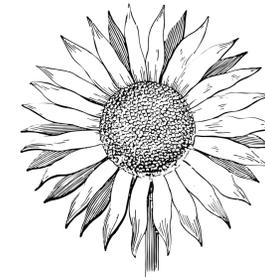
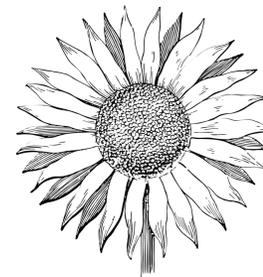
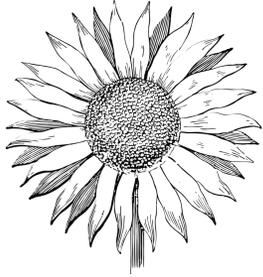
Many Christians believe that preaching, teaching, and Church are the most important part of our faith. If that were the case than the world would be changed.

Many feel that Christianity has never had a true impact on the world because we are too busy attacking, condemning, and judging people. Religion is trying to help people in the wrong ways.

We need to approach people with our heart. Because then what ever you’re doing– you’re doing in the name of the Lord.

I don’t care what you look like on the outside–I wanna see your heart.

Are we sharing the – HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE & LIFE–
IN JESUS



The church needs to care less about what people look like— we need to care about the heart.

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.”

Matthew 23:25-26

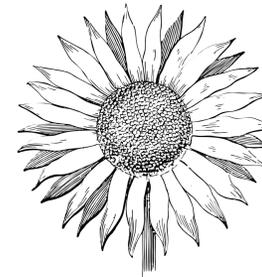
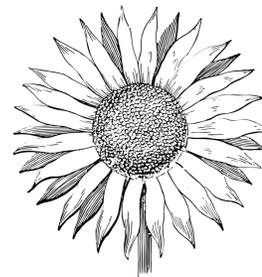
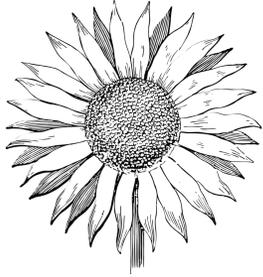
Sharing our faith means knowing what you believe & why. Honor your parents-- Listen to preachers. But say, "I believe what I believe— Not because— of some Preacher but because “I am going to trust the word”.

There are 2 Categories to Christian Beliefs

1. Essential Beliefs
2. Non-essential Beliefs

Some teach that they're all essential— NOT TRUE

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel. Matthew 23:23-24



Some matters are weightier (essentials)— Justice,
Mercy, Faith

Here's the weightier matters---- THE ESSENTIALS

Born of a Virgin

Lived a sinless life—

He died for the sins of the world

He rose again victorious over death & sin

He ascended to the right hand of the father

He is The WAY, the TRUTH, the LIFE

He said the true way to show who we are is to LOVE

He did all of this— So you would have life & SO YOU

COULD BE FREE

Non Essentials— These matter to people but not to
God---Hair Do's, music, instruments, eating meat,
Bible translations, eating pork, earrings, getting
married, divorces, Color of carpet, sprinkled or
dunked, ties, tattoos

My goal for the church is to know—Christ has come
to SET YOU FREE

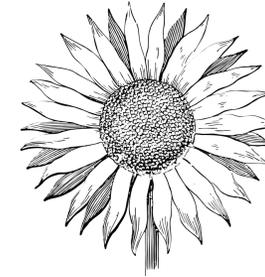
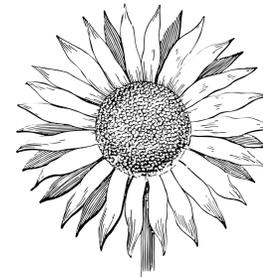
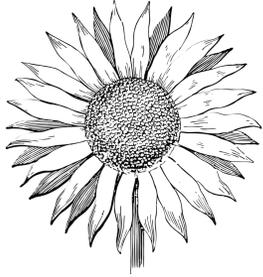
If you're in bondage know—Christ has come to SET
YOU FREE

If you're showing the Love of Christ— People will
ask you

What do you have— Why are you so nice— Where do
you worship

We must love people that don't think like us, look like
us, talk like us.

When you're asked— Be respectful, be loving, caring.



When they ask you, don't jump all over them quoting scripture. You're different, you're going to die and go to hell.

Talk to them like a Friend— Like a brother, like a sister.

Jesus came and declared war on hypocrites, not based on race, age, color, gender, national origin, disabilities (either physical or mental), or sexual orientation

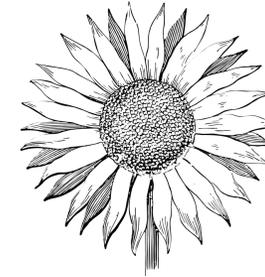
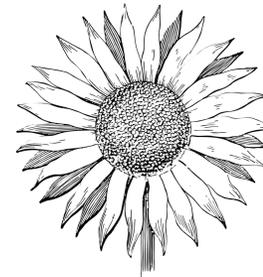
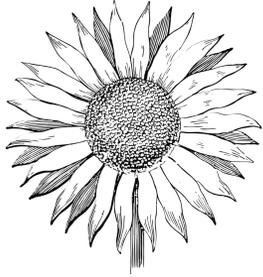
Christ came so that we could all be free, free from condemnation, free from our past.

So, to share your message is to do it with your heart, done with respect and love.

If the Apostles were living today I believe they would see all the advancement in technology as more ways to get the good news of the gospel out to the world. Researchers tell us that over 50% of Americans own cell phones, 70% own personal computers and 45% watch TV and computers simultaneously. 168 million people access the internet globally. Technology is having an impact on every family around the world.

Our world is not only changing in technology it is changing in the religious climate. The fastest growing religion in the world is Islam.

How can we have an “Unchanging Faith in a Changing World?”



John Lennon wrote a classic song, “Imagine,” that voices the views of many people who seem to have no need for God. Lennon envisions a world where happy people live free of the tyranny of belief in God. He would have us imagine there is no heaven or hell and all the people living today are living in peace. In his world without God there is nothing to kill for or die for. Such a world would be one, he promised.

I Peter 3:15 says: “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

To set apart Christ as Lord means to put Christ first in your life. Jesus is supreme Lord of your life. In all things Jesus is to have preeminence.

The Apostle Paul warned about following religions developed by manmade philosophies and teachings.

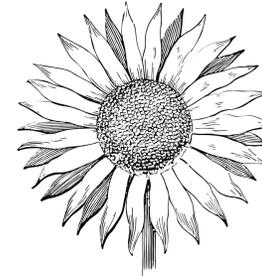
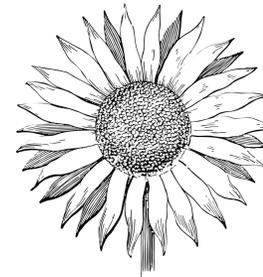
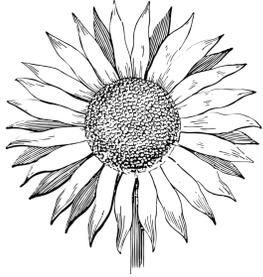
Colossians 2:8 “See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.”

Paul said that his primary message would be to lift up Jesus and the Cross.

I Corinthians 1:18 “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

Galatians 6:14, “God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I Peter 2:21, “Jesus suffered in our place leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps:”



You can combine all the brain power of top scientists, physicists, philosophers and their combined wisdom is like a speck of dust compared to the vast wisdom of God. Jesus is the constant factor in the universe, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.”

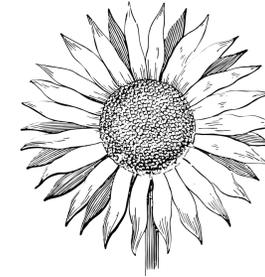
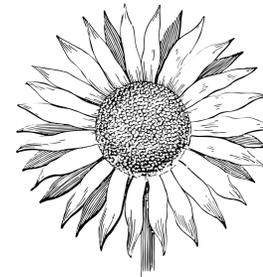
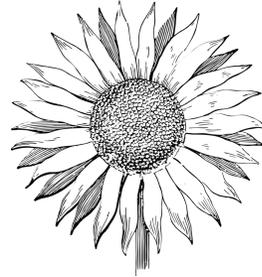
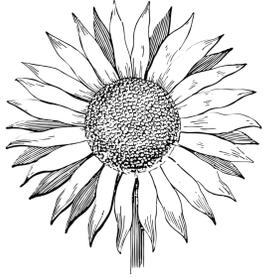
Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

“Why is Islam attractive to some? Because of geopolitical considerations. What is it about the Hindi faith that’s attractive? It is rich in philosophy, and its tenet of treating earth with reverence has some appeal today.”

When you are confronted by someone with questions about the Christian Faith do you have an answer? If you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior. you have a Faith story. Your story has three parts:

1. What your life was like before accepting Jesus.
2. How you came to know and accept Jesus.
3. What your life is like now.

If you don’t have a story you can have one by confessing your sins and inviting Jesus to be your personal Lord and Savior.



To have an unchanging faith in a changing world is to build your life on the solid foundation of Jesus and his Word.

Jesus told a parable about building on foundations. When it comes to building the foundation has paramount importance. You can build a first-class deluxe building but if the foundation is inferior the building will not last.

Matthew 5-7 “Jesus gives his teachings from the mountain. He taught them the beatitudes, about the law, anger, salt and light, marriage, and divorce, how to treat your enemies, stewardship, fasting, prayer, and true discipleship. He concludes his teachings with an illustration about building on a solid foundation.”

Matthew 7:24-27

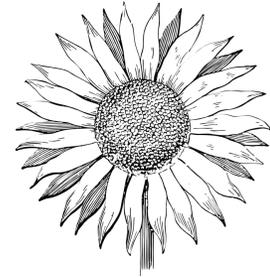
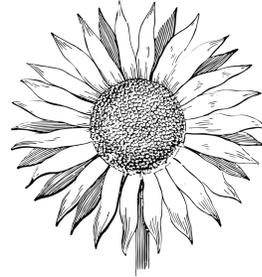
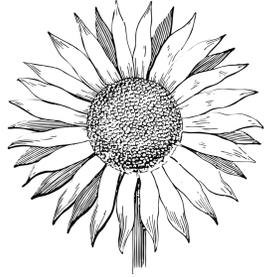
“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and

puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

What kind of foundation are you building your life on? The solid Rock Jesus and His Word or on a foundation of quicksand that ignores Jesus and his word?

As you build your life on Jesus and His Word you will have an answer for everyone that asks you to give a reason for the hope you have and the faith you have in the Lord.

Amen.



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