

# Crestview Baptist Church

peoplesharing**jesus**

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“For all things work together for good for those who love God and are the called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

No matter what English translation you use, the message of this passage does not change. It applies at all times, and it applies in this very time at which we are living. Here are the great truths of the passage.



God is always at work in all things that happen. This does not mean that everything is good. It means God's purposes are unstoppable. When Christ was crucified, it must have looked like the end of the world to the disciples. From God's point of view it was the beginning of the New Creation. God has not changed no matter what changes around us.

Our responsibility in light of this is to trust God, love Him, and listen to His call. We will readily see elements of His purpose in the discoveries of the great value of our faith and the challenges to our human pride. We will likely see people who have been living from a worldly point of view seeking answers and hope. We must be ready to testify of the hope we have in Christ. The opportunity to meet the needs of frightened and hurting people is great right now. Doors are open that were once closed.

We also need to realize that our health care professionals who are valiantly seeking to meet needs are the product of a Christian world view. This is true even for those of them that do not know the Lord. A completely secular point of view would assert “survival of the fittest” and self-preservation at all costs. The behavior of those who are courageously meeting needs is a behavior that arose from God's Word and not from the worldly secular thinking that is promoted by those who reject faith.

A Russian philosopher, Vladimir Solovyov, mocked the idea that men would be kind to one another even in a world without God with the quote, “Man has descended from the apes, therefore love one another.” The absurdity of that phrase summarizes the foolishness of thinking that the great virtues we admire would arise naturally without reference to God. So now is a good time to point out the source of the valiant efforts to stem this tide of death and destruction as evidence that God is the source of every good and perfect gift. (James 1:17)

Your Servant for His Sake,

Pastor Dan

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Hello, all!

When I talk with people about the times we're in, I hear words like unprecedented, unbelievable, amazing, scary, and crazy, among others. It is true. All of these words can definitely be descriptors of the times. But, the great news for believers in the



Lord Jesus Christ is that our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever! He is our Rock and our Fortress, and our Deliverer, a very present help in trouble. He is our Stronghold, our Salvation, our Mighty Deliverer, and the Chief Cornerstone! He is the Lord, mighty in battle, and the Victor over sin and death!! Somebody say, "Amen"!! Our God is good! And, He is worthy of our praise!!

These facts do not change when the times change or when the circumstances change!

He IS GOOD, and his mercy endures forever!

When I remember these things and so many more that the Word of God makes plain and sure, I am compelled to sing a song of praise!! The Bible says hundreds of times to "Praise the Lord!". Psalm 107 says the following phrase four separate times:

**"Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the Lord *for* His goodness,**

## And for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

Certainly the term "men" here is describing mankind. Oh, that we would ALL give thanks to the Lord! It's something we are called, yes, even commanded to do. May all of us be found to be thankful and sing praise to the Living God!

As always, I would like to invite anyone who has a voice of praise to come and join us in our worship choir opportunities!

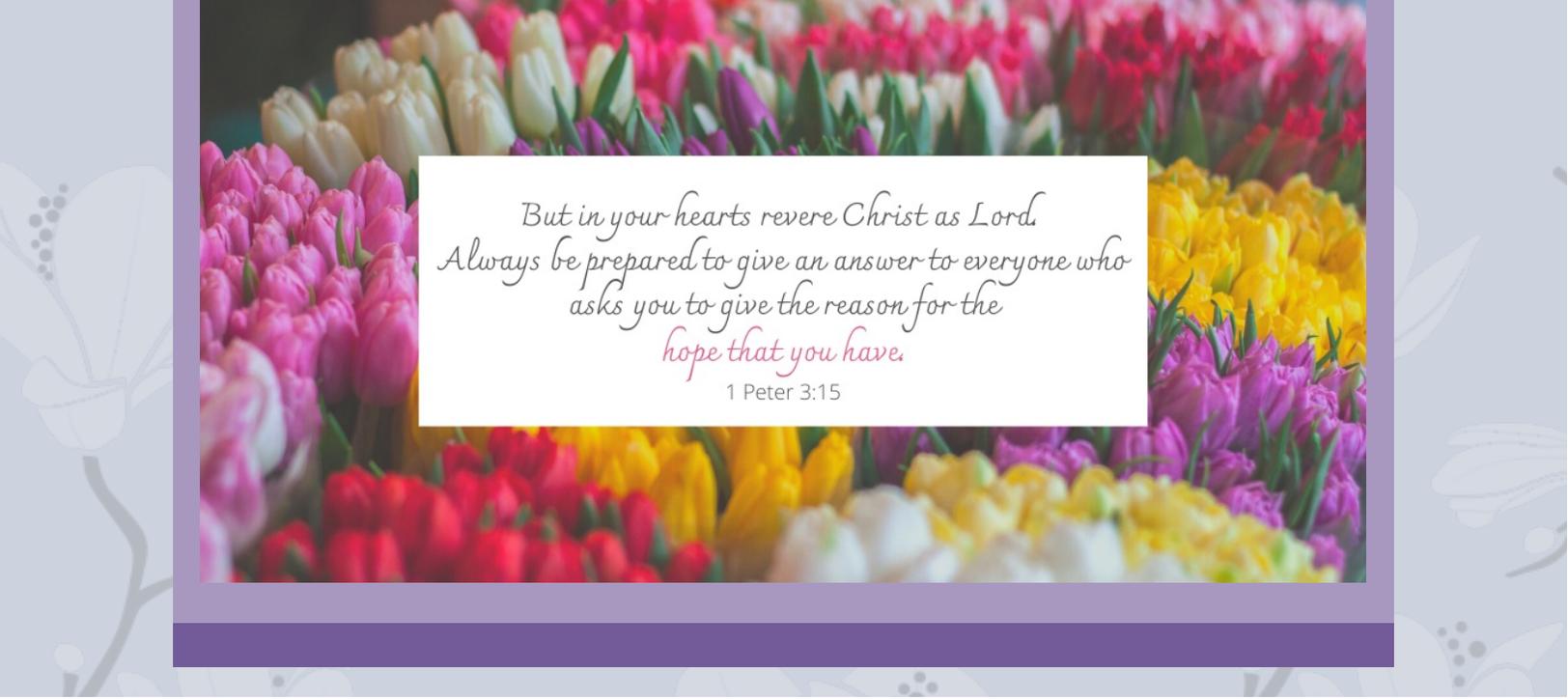
I hope that everyone who is able will join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. as we join in worship together via our live stream. There are several ways to join. Simply go to [peoplesharingjesus.com](http://peoplesharingjesus.com) and click the red banner to join us. You can also go to our church Facebook page or find us on YouTube as well. I was so encouraged by the many texts and emails I received from those saying that they were joining in worship together with us. Here is a little piece of an email that I received and was so very encouraged by. I didn't get permission to publish it, so I removed anything that might be a clue as to who sent it. But, I thought it might encourage you also...

*"With the current situation I felt terribly alone...I didn't think there could be a connection thru cyberspace....a church member called me yesterday afternoon to talk and to remind me that you and Pastor Dan would be on line this morning...I told him I didn't think I could "feel" a connection in that manner but thanked him.... I did turn on the service this morning and, as always, I felt the connection. God was with you and you were able to convey his presence "over the air"....  
...I thank my friend, I thank you...I thank Pastor Dan and I thank God that He had me turn on my computer and be connected...  
What you are doing is Real and Moving....and, again, Victory in Jesus brought tears to my eyes. It means more to me than you will ever realize!"*

We ARE the Body of Christ! Music is truly a gift from God to us. Each time that we praise Him we find that our spirit is lifted and encouraged in the process. It absolutely never fails! And, when we sing with other believers it just seems that the blessing is multiplied! Even when it's done when we're miles a part! I thank my God on every remembrance of all of you!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Corey



*But in your hearts revere 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.*

1 Peter 3:15