



Pastor Tim's Message

March 2018

As you sit down to read this article, Easter is right around the corner. This joyful day where we come together to celebrate and journey once again to the empty tomb and beyond.

This journey where we are touched and transformed through the joy of being known. So, I invite you to think about a tough time in your life and what got you through? What made all the difference? For many of us, it is having people around us who know us. Not just on the surface, but deep down, they know us, care about us, and love us. Even when we might not feel it or we might take it for granted, the fact that someone cares can make all the difference.

The following is a story someone shared with me recently.

It was a normal busy morning, about 8:30 a.m. when George, an elderly gentleman, well into his 80's, arrived at the hospital to have some stitches removed from his thumb. George told me he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:15. Since I had some time and he was so anxious to not miss his appointment I told him I would take care of his wound.

While removing sutures, I asked him if he had another doctor's appointment since he was in such a hurry. George told me no, but that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife.

As we talked, I asked if she would be upset if he was a little late. He told me she suffered from Alzheimer's disease and that she hadn't recognized him for quite some time now. I was surprised, and asked him, "And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?"

He smiled and patted my hand and said, "She doesn't know me, but I still know who she is."

I had to hold back tears as George left, I had goose bumps on my arm, and thought, "That is the kind of love I want in my life."

It is this love of our risen Savior, who knows us deeply and intimately, that we have in our lives as people of faith and why we come to celebrate on Easter morning. No matter where we are in life. No matter if we feel it or think it is there, we are known by a love greater than us that will never let us go. And that is what give us hope and sees us through.

As we approach this Easter season, let us with joy proclaim:

Because he lives, we are known and forever loved with an endless hope
Because he lives, we can face tomorrow
Because he lives, our faith has meaning and our service power
Because he lives, we are forgiven and freed
Because he lives, all fear is gone.
Because he lives, the worst thing is never the last thing
Because he lives, we know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives

In God's Love,

Pastor Tim