



# MOUNTAINSTREAMNEWS

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## NOTHING BUT JESUS

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*1 Corinthians 1:22-24  
For Jews demand signs and  
Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but  
we preach Christ crucified, a  
stumbling block to Jews and  
folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those  
who are called, both Jews and  
Greeks, Christ the power of  
God and the wisdom of God.*

As the world struggles to understand itself and make sense of its existence it demands wisdom and signs.

The scientific demand wisdom. This “wisdom” usually ends up constructing complicated, contradictory thought systems. For example, we claim the intricately designed world originated from an uncontrolled spontaneous explosion. We insist human beings evolved from lower animals although we have not one shred of evidence to support such an idea. We argue that reality is created by our minds, insisting that others must relate to us as we define ourselves – whether as a cat, a dog, or a preferred

gender. It is no surprise then that human wisdom often results in confusion rather than clarity.

The religious (or superstitious), on the other hand, demand signs. We insist that truth must be supported by extraordinary displays of power. Miraculous phenomena must accompany any truth claim for it to be acceptable. We want miracles all day, every day. Unless God is constantly intervening to do one “trick” after another we cannot be sure of His existence. The result is that we become insatiable “sign junkies;” never able to live with any assurance or certainty.

What Spirit-led witnesses have realized is that despite its demands, what the world really needs is an unadulterated dose of Jesus and His crucifixion. Humanity’s issue is not a lack of wisdom or the absence of signs. It is the presence of sin. Sin corrupts us and confuses us. Sin blinds us to obvious truths. Sin entices us to live wickedly. And no amount of wisdom or signs will cure sin. There is only one cure for sin: the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Until someone receives Jesus as Savior, they will never be able to understand the deep, eternal, spiritual truths that underlie human existence. That is why

God places such a premium on evangelism.

Christians need steadfastly commit to proclaiming Jesus Christ. After all, Jesus is the wisdom and power of God (1 Corinthians 1:24). When people establish genuine relationships with Him, they suddenly discover that the world makes better sense. Even though we do not understand everything, we recognize that an infinitely wise and loving God created and controls everything. We discover that God is acting in our lives every day in quiet, consistent ways. The “signs” we were demanding are woven into the very fabric of our being.

Dear Christian, do not be misled. Although the world demands “wisdom” and “signs,” what it really needs is Jesus. Jesus who died on the cross and rose victorious from the dead to deliver us from sin in all its malignant ways.

Don’t listen to what the world demands. Give them what they need.

Give them Jesus.

God bless you,

Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**CORPORATE PRAYER**  
TUE @ 7 PM

**AUG 22**

Join us via Zoom video  
Please contact Pastor James  
for log on information at  
rcantio@gmail.com

**YOUTH GROUP**  
FRI @ 6:45 PM

**AUG 25**

In-person at church.  
For teens  
ages 13 and over

**EVENING SERVICE**  
1st & 3rd  
SUN @ 6 PM

**SEP 3 & SEP 17**

Join us in-person  
at church

**KIDZONE & NURSERY**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**AUG 27**

These ministries are  
available every Sunday  
during the morning service  
Kidzone for ages  
6-12 yrs. old.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**AUG 27**

In-person service and  
Livestreaming on Facebook,  
Youtube and our webpage.

- Missionaries Jonatan & Shantal Odicio and family will be ministering at Church Sunday Morning August 27<sup>th</sup>. The church will receive a love offering on their behalf that day.
- Ladies’ Meeting Saturday, Aug 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am at church.
- Men’s Retreat at New Life Island October 13-14<sup>th</sup>. See Ted for details.
- Help Needed: If you’d be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Our church’s 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Friend Day is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Invite a Friend!
- Join us on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie’s daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

### QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit “SAVE” after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!