

Special tribute to our brother John Gorman

John went home this last week, directly after his beautiful testimony glorifying our Lord, during our Men's Bible Study.

John was speaking to the men's group and testifying that he suffered a heart attack on the golf course, a week prior, and was taken to the hospital where they put in two stents. And yet here he was speaking to us a week later at our Men's Bible study telling us that we never know when God will call us home. At that moment he said he was a little dizzy and started to sit down. Praise the LORD, there were several knowledgeable people that helped John to the floor and started CPR. But the LORD had a different plan. Praise for John's life and testimony directed by the Holy Spirit. A few key points from John's testimony:

"You know everyone has to make decisions in life. One of the greatest decisions in life to make is to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. You only have this day to do that, and to do that now, because you are not guaranteed tomorrow. Nobody is guaranteed tomorrow, there are no age limits, young or old....So, tomorrow is not guaranteed."

John lived by our Lord's commandments and upheld the scriptures. Scriptures which he embraced of our Lord's love for us as well accepting Christ as his Lord and Savior. Most importantly, he stressed the critical importance of not missing out on our Lord's invitation for salvation and eternal life. As a sovereign God, we never know when the Lord will call us home... old or young! We must be ready at any time, accepting Christ as our lord and savior, recognizing that tomorrow may never come.... emphasizing BE READY.

We do know that everyone has a day appointed unto death and that judgment will follow (Heb 9:27), so this side of the grave we must be sure we're in a right relationship with God. We can boast about our eternity because of the Savior's work at Calvary. Without boasting in Christ, we have no guarantee about our eternity. Proverbs 27:1 tells us that there is no guarantee the new day will bring opportunities to correct mistakes.

John also understood that God has given us today. With His amazing grace, He has given us this beautiful day today. I have no idea what tomorrow will bring. So, in the midst of our culture where our Lord's light is dimming and people insist on living in darkness, we need to reflect on Isaiah 5:20, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."

John's choice was being grateful for the day that God has graced him each day and embracing Matthew 6:34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

May John's message inspire us to continue to unite and encourage each other each and every day.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25

May we, like John, not lose sight of our divine prize, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14 NIV

John was responsible for introducing the Global Media Outreach ministry to Desert Springs, and loved to witness to seekers around the world. He lived by Jesus' last words to his Apostles just before He ascended to Heaven; "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20;

We can be assured that as John entered the presence of the Lord, he heard the words we all hope to hear; " Well done, good and faithful servant."

Prayers: Father, we are so blessed to have known John and heard his testimony. Please bless Carol and comfort her during this time of stress. You are our Rock and we glorify Your Name. I know You are welcoming John to Your Heaven. In Your Name we pray!