

## REFLECTIONS ON THE LORD'S DAY

PART TWO · TIM CHALLIES · CHALLIES.COM · APRIL 2019

### THE LORD'S DAY IS A REUNION TO THE LONELY.

Jesus warned that many who follow him would do so at the expense of family relationships and at the cost of friendships. Yet he also offered the assurance that the bond we share in the Holy Spirit is stronger than any other, for it makes us sons and daughters of God himself. On the Lord's Day we enjoy a weekly reunion in which this diverse family comes together to worship, to encourage, to ensure each one is provided for, and simply to enjoy one another's company.

### THE LORD'S DAY IS AN EDUCATION FOR THE IGNORANT.

We enter the Christian life ignorant—we have little knowledge of God and little true knowledge of self. On the Lord's Day we open God's Word together and are taught from it. The Word teaches us, reproves us, corrects us, and trains us in righteousness so we are knowledgeable and equipped to live well in this world (2 Timothy 3:16).

### THE LORD'S DAY IS THE TRAINING GROUND FOR THE SPIRITUALLY GIFTED.

God dispenses gifts to each of his people, and the Lord's Day provides the most natural training ground to learn how to use them as well as the most natural context to actually exercise them. It is as we gather together that we have special opportunity to use those gifts for the good of others and the glory of God—the one with the gift of encouragement encourages, the one with the gift of teaching teaches, the one with then gift of generosity gives, and so on.

### THE LORD'S DAY IS ASSURANCE FOR THE GUILTY SINNER.

Though we are justified by God and are continually being sanctified, we remain sinners who transgress his law each and every day. We continue to feel the shame and guilt of our many sins. The Lord's Day offers us the opportunity to confess these sins and to be assured of God's kind and complete forgiveness. Though no man has the right or responsibility to forgive sins, it is the joy of the pastor to lead the church in confessing sins and in assuring those who have repented that they are forgiven.

### THE LORD'S DAY IS A RESCUE TO THE UNFORGIVEN.

While worship services are primarily a gathering by and for Christians, unbelievers are also invited and warmly encouraged to attend. Every sermon ought to include some explanation of the good news of the gospel so those who have never heard or embraced it can repent and be saved. In this way the Lord's Day acts as a time of rescue in which the lost can be saved.

As life progresses, I more and more find the Lord's Day not just as the starting point of a new week, but the centre point of my existence. I cannot, will not, could not make it through life without it. I'm eternally thankful to God for so kindly providing and prescribing it.

Because worship is something we do *in all of life*, and not just for an hour and a half on Sunday, our gathering together on Sunday should be a joyous overflow of the private worship we have prized all week.

So, let your joy be full and overflowing as you meet once again with others who treasure Jesus Christ more than his blessings—more than health, more than wealth, and more than life itself!

Let's greet one another heartily as we gather as a family in His presence.

The time for preparation for our worship service is not five minutes before 3:30 on Sunday, but in all of life, Monday through Sunday.

# Restoration

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

FOR YOU SAY, I AM RICH, I HAVE PROSPERED, AND I NEED NOTHING,  
NOT KNOWING THAT YOU ARE WRETCHED, PITIABLE, POOR, BLIND, AND NAKED.

I COUNSEL YOU TO BUY FROM ME

GOLD REFINED BY FIRE, SO THAT YOU MAY BE RICH, AND  
WHITE GARMENTS SO THAT YOU MAY CLOTHE YOURSELF AND  
THE SHAME OF YOUR NAKEDNESS MAY NOT BE SEEN, AND  
SALVE TO ANOINT YOUR EYES, SO THAT YOU MAY SEE.

THOSE WHOM I LOVE, I REPROVE AND DISCIPLINE,  
SO BE ZEALOUS AND REPENT.

BEHOLD, I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK.

IF ANYONE HEARS MY VOICE AND OPENS THE DOOR,  
I WILL COME IN TO HIM AND EAT WITH HIM, AND HE WITH ME.

REVELATION 3:17-20 (ESV)

## CALL TO WORSHIP 🌿 STEVE HENDERSON

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY  
HE IS EXALTED

## WELCOME TO VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WORSHIP IN PRAYER

### WORSHIP IN GIVING ACCORDING TO GRACE

(PLEASE PLACE CONNECT CARD IN OFFERING BASKET)

### WORSHIP IN HEARING GOD'S WORD

"DISTANCE AND RESTORATION"

SONG OF SONGS 5:2-6:3 · STEVE HENDERSON

### WORSHIP AT THE LORD'S TABLE

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS  
WHEN WE SEE YOUR FACE

### BENEDICTION



Sunday Worship 3:30 pm • Mozartstrasse 12

May 5, 2019

www.munichurch.de • Steve Henderson, Pastor

## SMALL GROUPS AND BIBLE STUDIES

## INFORMATION USEFUL TO OUR VISITORS

## AND ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWS THAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW

### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who fail and desire strength;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and  
to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors  
with a welcome from Jesus Christ.

He is: The Ally of his enemies,  
The Defender of the guilty,  
The Justifier of the inexcusable,  
The Friend of sinners. Welcome!

### NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

We offer ministries for children usually according to the following schedule and ages. Our schedule is below:

Nursery (Ages 0-2)	Behind auditorium	4:00-5:00
Bubbles (Ages 3-4)	In classes	4:00-5:00
Splash (Age 5-Gr. 2)	In classes	4:00-5:00
XStream (Grades 3-6)	In classes	4:00-5:00

Nathan Nagan is directing our Sunday School ministry.  
Class for youth: Zachary Arden (z.arden@gmail.com).

**PLEASE** register your child(ren) if this is your first Sunday with us. Thanks!

### PRAYER ON SUNDAYS

Thank you also to all who do regularly pray for MICC either on Sundays or in small groups or at home. There will no longer be an *organized* prayer meeting on Sunday, but anyone is welcome to come and pray. Thank you to those who do regularly pray for MICC.

### SERMONS AVAILABLE IN .MP3

Recent sermons in .mp3 format are now available at our website: [www.munichurch.de](http://www.munichurch.de).

### THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

### TO CONTACT THE PASTOR

Steve Henderson is usually available for prayer, questions, discussion, fellowship or counseling Monday to Thursday. Friday is his day off. Please e-mail [steve@munichurch.de](mailto:steve@munichurch.de) or call him at 0179 - 696 4295. Other elders are also available; send email to all: [elders@munichurch.de](mailto:elders@munichurch.de).

**MICC Office email address: [office@munichurch.de](mailto:office@munichurch.de)**

### OUR ELDERS IN MICC

Marek Fojtík Steve Henderson  
David Stobbe

### COMMUNION TODAY

We'll be gathering at the Lord's Table today. In MICC we have open communion—all who are trusting in Christ alone for eternal life and forgiveness of sins may eat at the table. We celebrate our union in Christ by communion at the Lord's Table on the first Sunday of each month. Afterward we will have a time to visit and enjoy sweet foods. Thanks for bringing some to share! We partake of communion on the first Sunday of each month. **Next week: our second Sunday offering for retreat scholarships.**

### FINDING A PLACE TO SERVE IN MICC

**There is a place for you! Current needs:** technical areas, music, coffee service, door duty, nursery and Sunday School. Contact the office: [office@munichurch.de](mailto:office@munichurch.de), or fill in a CONNECT card.

### CONNECT CARD: REPLACES THE INFO SLIP

If you're visiting with us today, there are "connect cards" available on the back table and in the lobby to help you get connected with others in MICC so that you find a place to grow and to serve in the body of Christ as you are able and interested. We're glad you're here and want to help you as we can. One of our ministry leaders may invite you to fill one in today!

### REGISTER NOW: RETREAT AT TEISENDORF: JUNE 7-10

Bill White from Grace Church in South Carolina will be our speaker and will lead us through reflections on following Christ as a disciple. Baptisms available in the Höglwörther See that Sunday, June 9. Many opportunities to enjoy, relax and serve one another. Registration is open now at [event.munichurch.de](http://event.munichurch.de). Full information available in the lobby and on the website.

**Early Bird Discount: 25€ for adult registrations. Deadline for early birds: This Thursday, May 11.**

### OFFERINGS TO MICC

If you haven't yet made the decision to joyfully worship God with your financial resources, this would be a great day to begin. It is never too late to begin trusting God.

*Remember: our worship in giving should be regular, prayerful, proportional, generous and cheerful.*  
Tax deductible € contributions can be made by bank transfer (Überweisung) to MICC  
IBAN: DE4570 2501 5000 1006 9003 • BIC: BYLADEM1KMS • Kreissparkasse München Starnberg

Tax deductible gifts in US Dollars can also be placed in the offering basket.

**USD checks payable to Foothills Community Church: MICC**

Online giving in USD is possible through Foothills as well. Contact the office for details

But if you feel that you are unfit, weak, and lacking in faith, where will you obtain strength but here?

Do you mean to wait until you have grown pure and strong, then indeed you will never come and you will never obtain any benefit from the Holy Communion. This is the right use of the Lord's Supper—not to torture, but to comfort and gladden the conscience. God did not intend it to be poison and torture to frighten us... it is poison and death to those who approach it with disrespectful contempt, who feel no weakness, frailty, or distress to impel them, who act as if they were pure and pious from the start.

The Lord's Supper welcomes those who perceive their frailties and sense that they are not pious, yet would like to be.  
Martin Luther

### THIS WEEK'S MISSIONS FOCUS • ANATOL ANDRIUTA

Anatol Andriuta serves as the pastor of Golgotha Baptist Church in Petrovca, Moldova. He and his wife Violeta are our main contacts in the village. They have three children; Sammy, Alina, and Emanuel, and live in Moldova's capital, Chisinau. During the week Anatol is busy with different evangelistic programs, and on the weekend he pastors the church in the village where he grew up. Anatol also serves the Moldovan police force in the capital, he is bringing the gospel to orphans throughout the area, reaching out to the teachers at schools in the orphanages and the directors. Pray for the ongoing community ministry through the playground project. And do pray for enduring fruit from our recent mission trip and camp. You may send Anatol a note at [moldovayouth@yahoo.com](mailto:moldovayouth@yahoo.com)

### COMING IN MICC:

**MAY 12**  
Song 6:4-12 • Love Renewed

**MAY 18-23**  
European Leadership Forum

**MAY 19**  
Jonathan de Oliveira • Discipleship

# DISTANCE AND RESTORATION

SONG OF SONGS 5:2-6:3 · STEVE HENDERSON

## INTRODUCTION

### I. THE NIGHTMARE OF DISTANCE (5:2-8)

### II. THE POWER OF REMEMBRANCE (5:9-16)

#### SONG OF SONGS 5

HSV

She, about her Lover

<sup>2</sup> I slept, but my mind was racing.  
The voice of my lover! He is knocking!

The Lover to his Beloved

“Open to me,  
*my sister, my love,*  
my dove, my perfect one,  
for my head is wet with dew,  
my locks with  
the drops of the night.”

The Beloved to herself

<sup>3</sup> I had put off my garment;  
how could I put it on?  
I had bathed my feet;  
how could I soil them?  
<sup>4</sup> My lover put his hand to the latch, and  
my heart was thrilled within me.  
<sup>5</sup> I arose to open to my lover, and  
my hands dripped with myrrh,  
my fingers with liquid myrrh,  
on the handles of the bolt.  
<sup>6</sup> I opened to my lover,  
but my lover had turned and gone.  
My heart sank at his flight.  
I sought him,  
but found him not;  
I called him,  
but he gave no answer.

<sup>7</sup> The watchmen found me  
as they went about in the city;  
they beat me,  
they bruised me,  
they took away my veil,  
those watchmen of the walls.

She, to the Maidens

<sup>8</sup> Swear to me,  
O daughters of Jerusalem,  
if you find my lover,  
that you tell him  
I am sick with love.

### III. THE JOY OF RESTORATION (6:1-3)

### IV. OUR RESPONSE TO THE KING'S VOICE

The Maidens to the Beloved, about her Lover

<sup>9</sup> What makes your lover  
better than any other lover,  
O most beautiful among women?  
What makes your lover  
better than any other lover,  
that you command us in this way?

She, to the Maidens, about her Lover

<sup>10</sup> My lover is  
radiant and ruddy,  
distinguished among ten thousand.  
<sup>11</sup> His head is pure gold;  
his locks are wavy,  
black as a raven.  
<sup>12</sup> His eyes are like doves  
beside streams of water,  
bathed in milk,  
sitting beside a full pool.  
<sup>13</sup> His cheeks are like beds of spices,  
mounds of sweet-smelling herbs.  
His lips are lilies,  
dripping liquid myrrh.  
<sup>14</sup> His arms are rods of gold,  
set with jewels.  
His body is polished ivory,  
bedecked with sapphires.  
<sup>15</sup> His legs are alabaster columns,  
set on bases of gold.  
His appearance is like Lebanon,  
choice as the cedars.  
<sup>16</sup> His mouth is most sweet, and  
he is altogether desirable.  
This is my lover and  
this is my friend,  
O daughters of Jerusalem.

The Maidens to the Beloved

<sup>6:1</sup> Where has your lover gone,  
O most beautiful among women?  
Where has your lover turned,  
that we may seek him with you?

The Beloved to the Maidens

<sup>2</sup> My lover has gone down  
to his garden  
to the beds of spices,  
to graze in the gardens and  
to gather lilies.

The Beloved about her Lover

<sup>3</sup> I am my lover's and  
my lover is mine;  
he grazes among the lilies.