



First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden
From Generation to Generation for the Glory of God

God's precious and exceedingly great promises in hard times

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Here is guest devotional while I am playing nurse to Phama after knee surgery. This one was shared with me by David Watson.

Scripture

Genesis 11:1-9

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. ² And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." ⁵ And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶ And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Reflection

Mankind has always sought to establish communities for itself. This is because God made us to thrive on relationships. But when sin entered the world, communities ceased to bear God's image and instead were characterized by strife and oppression. Throughout the Old Testament, God thwarted these man-centered communities (think of the flood, Sodom, Egypt, Babylon) so that He might create a community of His own that would bear His image. No surprise, then, that the Tower of Babel story is followed in the next chapter by the call of Abram, through whom God promised to bring His true community. Through Abram came Christ, and by raising Jesus from the dead God established His King and His community. We, the Church, are the community that God longed for and Christ died for.

Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Pray: Genesis 12:1-3

"Thank you, God, for creating a community for your own, a community marked out by love. When I think of your vision for us I am excited. I want it to be fulfilled for me and my church. The world defines community in so many different ways. Help us to learn from you what it means to have true community. Help First CRC to be a community marked out by love and humility, that Lynden may be blessed through us."