# "This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD." -- Psalm 102:18



Kevin and Kathy Simpson of Billings, MT encouraging the young people at Bible Bowl 2024 at Christ's Church building Bozeman, MT

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

Galatians 2:20

Win one more in 2024 - "...he who is wise wins souls" - Proverbs 11:30

## **April 21, 2024**

## Christ's Church

Meeting at 30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman 2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls Holiday Inn Express — Butte

**BOZEMAN -** 8:45 - Joe Shanahan

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

Prayer med - Jason Shanahan

L.S. - Phil Sutton

Preaching - Luke Wilson

L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -

\* Groups study - Philippians

L.S. - Jeff Landsgaard

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Jared DuPaul

3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - Steve McDunn

L.S. - Jared DuPaul

Preaching - Jay Wilson

**Butte** - 7:30 pm - Classes

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jay Wilson

Preaching - Jay Wilson

### **Bozeman**

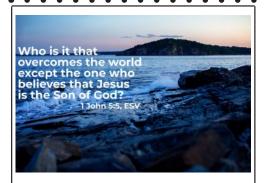
April prayer/potluck: April 27-28.

Theme: Brunch

#### Butte

**April 21 -** Fellowship dinner - 6:30

pm



Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Mentally Tough series Luke Wilson

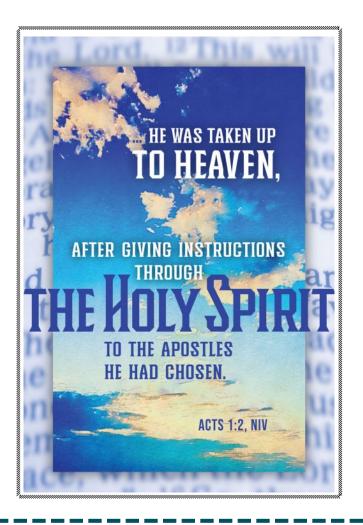
Great Falls - Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Jay Wilson

#### Great Falls

**April 21 -** Prayer and fasting for evangelism

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lancaster Family Camp - Memorial Day Weekend Badlands Family Camp - Memorial Day Weekend Montana Youth Camp - June 9-14 (Fishtail, MT) Men's "Peaks" - July 25-27, 2024 Family Camp - Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 2024



### Question of the week:

What city was located within the borders of Benjamin bounded on the southwest by the valley of Hinnom as the territory was allotted in the days of Joshua?

Last week's question: In Luke 12, what did Jesus say He wished He could do to the earth? Answer: He said that He came to cast fire on the earth, and He wished it were already kindled" (Luke 12:49).

## ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 75 Morning Assembly – 115 Evening Assembly – 45 Wednesday Night (4/17) – 67 Butte Lord's Day – 16 GF Lord's Day – 67,84 *Wed.* - 59



Jewels from Jude

## **Opening Encouragement**

The epistle of Jude is short, but it is punchy! In this letter, which is sometimes called a catholic epistle (meaning to the universal church at large), Jude takes aim at the lawless movement taking place within the church, and he, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, hits his mark. His enemies should wilt under his withering fire, and the saints should be greatly encouraged.

● Who writes? – The general letter opens: "Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James ..." (Jude 1:1). The word "bond-servant" is translated from the Greek doulos, which literally means "slave." The NASB uses "bond-servant" to indicate that Jude, for example, was a slave or servant by choice rather than by force. Jude

indicates that he is the brother of James. It is unlikely that he would bring the relationship up in that fashion unless he was referring to the well-known James, elder of the church at Jerusalem and "brother" (half-brother) of Jesus. In Matthew's account, the locals from Nazareth are wondering about Jesus: "Is not this the carpenter's son?" they asked. "Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?" (Matthew 13:55). It is very likely that "Judas" is the "Jude" who wrote this punchy epistle to the late first century church at large.

- "The called" Jude is writing to those whom he designates as "those who are the called." Jesus Himself was the first to introduce the concept of "the called." In His parable wherein He predicted the coming of the Roman army to destroy Jerusalem, He also pointed to judgment day. The "dinner guest" who had entered without "wedding clothes" was cast into the outer darkness. "Many are called," said the Lord, "but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14). The concept is that
  - answer "the call" by their belief and immersion into Christ. "The called" is another name for Christians, who together constitute the church (the *ekklesia* "those *called* out").
- "The beloved" Jude extends his greeting with theswords: "beloved in God the Father." While God loves all of mankind, His special children — His children of "favor," or His "favorite children" — are those who are of the faith of Christ. Each

The Holy Spirit's desire is for the spiritual success of each saint.

- saint is to process continually that God loves him, has rescued him from the clutches of the domain of darkness, and delivered him into the kingdom of Christ. Properly understood, that is astounding and infinite love!
- "The kept" The greeting superadds: "and kept for Jesus Christ." Jesus, as He described His role as the Great Shepherd of the sheep, gave His divine analysis. "My sheep hear My voice," He stated, "and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:27,28). A saint can choose to walk away from Jesus' tender care, but there is no spiritual or earthly force that can remove the beloved saint from the spiritual care and protection of the Savior and King. "Kept for Jesus Christ"!

Instead of a more common type of greeting, "Grace and peace be multiplied to you," Jude opens with, "May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you" (Jude 1:2). "Mercy" has to do with God's clemency or compassion in being willing to overlook or forgive our transgressions. His "peace" that surpasses all comprehension comes as a result of being reconciled to the Creator and Judge of all. His "love," of course, was demonstrated in the brutal death of the sinless Christ on behalf of sinful and alienated men, in order that they may, on God's terms, be reconciled to the Father.

Mercy, peace, and love by themselves would be awesome. But Jude adds his prayer that these three "be multiplied to you." It is clear that the Holy Spirit's desire is for the spiritual success of each saint, willing to "multiply" the already tremendous mercy, unlimited peace, and boundless love that each child of faith be an overcomer of obstacles and victorious in his faith.