

Thursday, May 15

Read Luke 13:31-35. Jesus was soon to enter the City of Jerusalem and a little over a week from his lament over the city, Jesus would be crucified and risen again. A unique part of Jesus' prayer is the feminine presentation of himself as a hen sheltering and protecting her brood of chicks. These five verses are full of symbolism and deeper meaning. There is even a fun play on the words as Jesus calls Herod Antipas a fox. Perhaps this is where the phrase "fox in the henhouse" originated.

The word "house" alone is full of meaning and certainly the house of Herod was incredibly corrupt, incestuous and violent. Jesus lamented that his people, the Jews, collaborated with Herod and the greater Roman Empire. How about your house? Is it in order? Do you see the hypocrisy of people in leadership inhabiting a house that is in disarray? What other lessons can be extracted from this brief Gospel Passage? Mediate on these questions and write you thoughts here.

Friday, May 16

The message this past Sunday ended with, "May we seek out those who are living in desolate houses, living desolate lives and may we, strengthened by God's Spirit seek to make a difference in those lives." This is a call to get involved in missions and ministries that make a difference in the lives of others. As far as we have journeyed through this Message Series, are there some issues that tug at your heart strings? Where and how would you like to get involved in any of the issues presented so far? Think about these issues as opportunities to make a difference in our local church area and the world by seeking to change our world with the love of Jesus Christ. Share your ideas with others, our staff and Pastor Jack. Who knows what could come from your thoughts!

Message Notes May 11, 2025

Our UM Social Principles *– Social Holiness**

- I. In 1908, The Methodist Episcopal Church was the _____ denomination to adopt a Social _____.
 - A. In 1972, the United Methodist Church wrote a modern version of the Social Principles which contained _____ words about many _____ issues.
 - B. Today, we're considering the section titled The _____ Community.
 1. There are two subdivisions in this section: The _____ Community and _____ Social Issues.
 2. The Nurturing Community speaks of family, acknowledging its significant role in nurturing the _____, moral, and _____ development of children, youth and adults.
 3. The Nurturing Community lifts up the _____ of family recognizing the many family _____ that really have existed for thousands of years.
 - C. The other principles relating to the Social Community concern Substance _____, Alcohol and Tobacco.
 1. We have a stance on _____ and Other Forms of Violence.
 2. We recognize the "tangled and _____ legacies of _____ and neocolonialism" and their consequences."
 3. Death with _____ is covered in this section of our Social Principles.
 4. A perspective is put forth on the issues of _____, Gender Equality and Diversity, Media and Communication Technologies,

*Luke 13:31-35 and Philippians 2:1-8

Pornography, _____ Experimentation and Research, _____ Donation and Transplantation and Reproductive Health and Abortion.

- II. So much of the Social Principles is about _____ and ministering to the “_____ of these” as Jesus identifies those in need.
- A. Two things might occur to you when we read our _____ lesson for today.
1. First is _____! There are some Pharisees that look _____ upon Jesus.
 2. Secondly, Jesus sort of puffs up his chest and declares, "Go and tell that _____ for me ..."
 3. Jesus offers another prophetic proclamation against the leadership saying, “See, your _____ is left to you.”
- B. On this Mother’s Day when we celebrate _____ and _____, Jesus offers us the wonderful image of the hen that protects her brood.
1. Who needs _____ in our society?
 2. Who are the most _____?
 3. Who needs to experience the _____ of God?
- C. Other caring _____ images for God found in our scriptures.
1. In the book of the Prophet Isaiah: God is compared and thus portrayed as a woman in _____ (42:14), a _____ mother (49:15) and as a _____ mother (66:13).
 2. In Hosea, God is described as a mother teaching her toddler to _____ (11:3-4).
 3. May we seek out those who are living in desolate _____, living desolate _____ and may we, strengthened by God’s Spirit seek to make a _____ in those lives.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following are daily devotions meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, May 12

We’re half way through our messages about our “new” Social Principles recreated last year, 2024. Here’s the two questions we want you to consider today, having heard the tremendous scope of issues presented thus far: Do we need our United Methodist Social Principles? Why? Contemplate these questions and record your thoughts here.

Tuesday, May 13

The first section of The Social Community is “The Nurturing Community” which presents the importance of family in any form families exist. The issues of Human Sexuality and Marriage as well as Divorce. This portion of The Social Community up holds the ancient traditions of the Jewish as well as the Christian family as the basic unit of a faith community. Pastor Jack spoke of the tradition of homes having an Advent Wreath during the Season of Advent. What faith traditions do you observe in your home? Are there some traditions that you no longer observe? Are there some you would like to incorporate into your home? Think about these questions and write your reflections here.

Wednesday, May 14

During the Message, Pastor Jack listed many Social Issues that are addressed in The Social Community section of our Social Principles. Which ones pique your interest? Are there some that you would like to learn more about and perhaps get involved in addressing those issues? Are there other issues you believe should have been included? Think about these issues and write your ideas here.