

SERMON NOTES

16th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18, Year B * September 8, 2024

Sermon by the Reverend Tom Rutherford

Isaiah 35:4-7a * Psalm 146 * James 2:1-17 * Mark 7:24-37

Ask and Cooperate

God wants us W_____.

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear. Your God will come ... he will come to save you." Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Isaiah 35:4-6

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. Psalm 146:7

God fixes broken things. Especially broken P_____.

Salvation is being made completely whole: in our spirits, minds, bodies, emotions, relationships, and finances.

How do we get there?

We A_____. For ourselves... and O_____.

Then we C_____.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. James 1:22

Next Week's Lessons

Isaiah 50:4-9a * Psalm 116 * James 3:1-12 * Mark 8:27-38

Chewing on Our Daily Bread

Questions for conversation with your family, small group, or a friend

1. What is something you asked God to do for you in the past that he DIDN'T do? How did you feel about that then? How do you feel about it now?
2. What is something you asked God to do for you that he did. How did you feel about that then? How do you feel about it now?
3. What is something you'd like God to do for you – or someone you love – now? Why?
4. What can you do to cooperate with God to help enable that to happen? How and when could you start?
5. PRAY:
 - ✦ Thanking God for the times he's answered your prayers ... even if it was with a "No" or "Not yet."
 - ✦ For God to do what you talked about in #4 above.
 - ✦ For grace to cooperate with God as he answers that prayer.
 - ✦ For any needs in your group.