

NEWSLETTER



“Choosing”

By Pastor Steve Gibson

Are you familiar with the heroin of the first chapter of Esther? Obviously it's Vashti, since Esther isn't mentioned in the first chapter. Vashti declined an invitation to a drunken party. Was that a wise decision? Did she have the courage to choose what was right? How was she rewarded for her choice?

Esther Chapter 1 records that Vashti lost her job and her status in society. She lost her standing in the nation. Though some of the ladies in the land may have been quietly cheering for her, she was summarily divorced and sent into a life of obscurity. But was that all bad? Did her choice make a difference for someone else?

Do you choose right simply because it is God's side, not worrying about the immediate outcome? Vashti's successor, Esther, apparently had reached that point in her life. When lives were on the line—including hers, she said; We will fast and pray. Then I will do what God is calling me to do. Should I perish, I'll go down doing what is right.

Esther knew the king. She knew this guy could get mad. Vashti had declined his invitation to come visit and got axed. Conversely, Esther would be coming to visit without an invitation, something which could prove just as deadly. Where had Esther seen courage modeled? Had she not seen it in Vashti? Had she not seen it in Mordecai as he refused to bow to Haman (Esther 3:2)? In a sense, had not both Vashti and Mordecai refused to bow? While it may have seemed sensible or expedient to bow at the time, neither had opted for that. Each had to accept the consequences of their choice. And their choice sent out ripples that moved other people in time. I would suggest that even today the choices they made are still rippling, influencing those who become familiar with their stories.

In times of crisis and distress, we need to pray for wisdom in making choices. Often they need to be made in short order, not allowing for extended deliberation and consultation. As we see in the book of Esther, a choice cost Vashti her job, while Mordecai ended up with a better job eventually. What will happen to you when you choose to do right? There is no guarantee that all will be marvelously worked out in the near term. Maybe you will lose a job or a friendship or a promotion or public approval. You could even lose your earthly life. Esther recognized the possibility her choice could have that result. Yet it was her choice that God used to open the way for deliverance and demonstration of His mighty power. Many people became Jews because of her choice (Esther 8:17).

Shall we pray for wisdom in making choices before the crisis in each May day?

May 2020 Highlights

Women's Ministry Meeting

Next one will be June 6th

Prayer Vigil

Next one will be June 6th 5-6 p.m.
with prayer from your home

Elder's Meeting

None in May

Church Board Meeting

None in May

Vacation Bible School Meeting

Cancelled

Men's Ministry Breakfast/Mtg.

Cancelled until further notice

Community Service Meeting

Cancelled until further notice

Health Ministry Meeting

Cancelled until further notice

Church Work Bee

Cancelled until further notice

Exercise Class

Cancelled through June

Prayer Group & Bible Study

Call at 7:30 p.m. For prayer. Look for the conference call number and code in your emails

Email: pastorstevegibson@hotmail.com **Address:** 12400 W Desert Cove Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335

Mailing Address: 13954 W. Waddell Road, Suite 103 #616, Surprise, AZ 85379

MINISTRY NEWS!

Upcoming Events & Announcements

GARLIC

Here lately the big news everywhere is COVID-19. Well, one way to stay healthy and to prevent this horrible virus is to maintain good nutrition. Garlic is one herb that is very high in antiviral effects. It is very valuable to use during colds or any sluggishness. The biomedical action is carminative, vasodilator, expectorant, ant cholesterol, antifungal, and antibacterial. Garlic is an old classic remedy used for gastric disturbances such as flatulence, worms, parasites, infections, dysentery, typhoid, food poisoning, and Candida albicans. Its ability to remove pathogenic bacteria without depleting the body's natural flora takes it a step beyond being just an herbal antibiotic. It is strongly a decongestant as well as an expectorant. It helps to clear wet and sticky mucus. It enhances the body's immunity as well as directly removes pathogens. It can be both a prophylactic and a cure for many infections. It is not recommended to take during pregnancy but is fine for lactation. I like to take my garlic smashed on toast with a little olive oil in the morning. Also spread on top of some avocado is very a delicious treat. Please keep healthy and keep social distance. I can assure you that taking your Garlic daily will maintain that social distance!

“For one believeth that he may eat all things; another who is weak, eateth herbs.” Romans 14:2

Dr. Sylvia Hayashi, Health Ministry and Prayer Ministry Leader

Tithes & Offerings

Cathy will continue to be at the church Wednesday's from 4-8 p.m. for those who do not feel comfortable attending church again at this point. There is still the option of online giving. If you want to mail, send to Cathy Fields P.O. Box 15332, Scottsdale, AZ 85267.

Live Streaming

The church service will continue to be live streamed for those of you who do not choose to attend at this point. We will try to start at the announcements about 11 a.m. and right in to the rest of the service. Look for the link in your email each week or you can go to YouTube, search for Desert Cove SDA church and you should see the link for the service that day.

Church Opening

The church will be open starting May 16th for those who feel comfortable coming where there could possibly be more than 10 people. We have been advised from the Arizona Conference that we can hold services but with precautions of face masks if possible, one large adult Sabbath School class in the main room, hand sanitizers for use frequently if you want, wash hands when leaving the restroom and we will not be having fellowship lunch/potlucks until further notice. If you are staying for a meeting after church, please bring a sack lunch that does not require heating/cooking in the kitchen. Please note in the event column on the first page of this Newsletter, the events that will or will not be taking place until further notice. Please stay well and safe.

A Tasty Summer Garlicky Treat

Hey, with everything going on now, we all need to build our immune systems. If you read the Health article above, by Dr. Sylvia Hayashi, about Garlic, you will see the benefits in this simple treat.

1 slice of toast

1/3 cup coarse chopped fresh basil

Salt to taste

2-4 cloves smashed garlic depending on your size of bread

3-4 slices tomato

Sliced avocado if you want

1. Toast your slice of bread and spread your favorite mayonnaise on it. Spread the smashed garlic on the mayo and then spread the chopped basil over that. Put your sliced tomatoes (and avocado if you want) on top and sprinkle with a little salt.
2. This is great for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Check it out and help build your immune system.