

*“Lost and Found”*

[Please keep in mind, **this is the very abbreviated version** of the Sunday sermon and much is missing, so make sure you get the Marvell/Lexa Messenger for the whole Sermon and more!] Luke 4:1-13!

In this week’s passage we see Jesus being tempted in the wilderness for 40-days. In Jesus’ wilderness journey, He lost/avoided the easy route and found victory over temptation. Think about it. In the first temptation, the devil tempted the very hungry Jesus to turn stones into bread. But Jesus answered, *“It is written, ‘People do not live by bread alone’”* (v. 4). *What did Jesus lose? He lost* a loaf of bread to temporarily fill his stomach. *What did Jesus find? He found* the nourishment of the Word of God. The same was true for each of the temptations. In the end, Jesus found much more than he *lost*. As we enter the 40-days of the Lenten Season, we consider our 40-days to be times of prayer, fasting, and introspection as our own “wilderness” journey in its own right. The same is about “lost and found” is true for us also. Sometimes “losing” something leads to greater gains than we can imagine!

Let me share this idea through a very personal “Lost and Found” story of my now. One of my questions for the Board of Ordained ministry was *“How has the practice of ministry affected my experience and understanding of God?” Here is my answer...*

My experience of God is as a loving parent who guides me, corrects me, but most importantly loves me with a love beyond anything I have ever experienced in this world. Perhaps this is so meaningful for me since I lost my dad many years before he died. During the earliest years of my recollection, it had always been just me and my mom. My mom was very private, so I don’t know when she and my dad divorced, but I do that it was a result of my dad’s drinking. The last time I remember seeing my dad when I was around 4 or 5 years old. It was when he picked me up for our last visit together in Asbury Park, New Jersey. At that young age, I remember very little of our time together, but remembering that it was our last time the vague recollections of that visit have stayed with me. After that visit, I did not know where he moved to and never saw him again. The next time I heard about my dad was when I was serving in the US Army at Fort Ord, California. It was around 1977 and I picked up the phone one day and it was my mom telling me that she had just gotten word from my dad’s girlfriend. My mom told me that he had just died from a heart attack at the age of 53. I almost didn’t want to call, since I felt my dad abandoned me so many years ago. I could have not called and held on to my disappointment, but I called my dad’s girlfriend, Irene. She told me how much my dad wanted to call me, but he was afraid I would reject him for leaving me without a word of goodbye so many years ago. With tears in my eyes, I told her that I would have never rejected him and would have loved to have seen him. As sad as that was, I came to the realization that I had moved all the way from the East coast to the West coast in my military tour and, unknowingly, wound up living within 50-miles of my dad and could have been there with him for the last years of his life. I did all that I could, I met his girlfriend, attended his funeral, and sadly returned to my apartment in Marina, California with many thoughts and emotions filling my saddened heart.

As I reflect on the loss of my dad from an early age, I drew comfort from my heavenly Father and the words of Scripture. In *Hebrews 13:5*, the Apostle Paul made a creative quotation from the Book of Deuteronomy as he wrote, *“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”* This verse coupled with *1 John 4:8* concerning the love attribute of God still gives me great comfort. I see the fruits of such a love in the faces of those I have the privilege of ministering to on a daily basis. Those who feel abandoned will know they are loved by the time our visit has concluded. Those who feel hopeless, know they not only have a friend in Jesus but a pastor and church that loves them dearly, despite their current circumstances.

Perhaps you have viewed God through the lens of a stern and unloving father, or that of a being that cannot forgive you for your many flaws and faults. Maybe you even feel abandoned by God. I’m not sure how you envision or feel about God, but in my experience of God, I envision my heavenly father as being full of grace, mercy, and love. *What’s lost in my life was* unforgiveness and disappointment. *I also lost* my fear of sharing the Gospel, rejection, and being cast away as being unloved by my dad and God. *What’s found* forgiveness as a way of life. I later found a right relationship with God, the one who will never leave me nor forsake. I found a deeply personal reason to share the Gospel along with the Great Commission. I found: The one who loved me first, even through times of rebellion and sin. I found: The one who never gave up on me but desired me, like the Lost Son, to come home! Maybe you, like my Dad, think that you will be rejected because of the sin and rebellion in your life. Maybe you don’t realize just how close God is to you. If that’s the case, then I have some good news for you! The God of grace, mercy and forgiveness is but a breath and prayer away! Come home today and enjoy a taste of eternity right now!

Always remember that you have been blessed to be a blessing. So be one! *Brother Gary*

**Calendar for the Week**

<p><b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m. Exercise <b>5:00 p.m. Youth/WOW CANCELLED</b></p> <p><b>Thursday</b> 10:00 a.m. Classics 5:00 p.m. Exercise</p> <p><b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m. Exercise</p> <p><b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. Lexa Worship 9:55 a.m. Marvell SS 11:00 a.m. Marvell Worship 12:00 p.m. UMW Meeting 4:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>Sunday</b> 4:30 p.m. Luke Bible Study</p> <p><b>Monday</b> 9:00 a.m. Exercise 3:00 p.m. Farm Meeting 5:00 p.m. Exercise</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> 5:00 p.m. Exercise</p> <p><b>Greeters - Toney Keys, Bryan Wayman</b> <b>Liturgist - Shannon Young</b> <b>Acolytes - Brooklinn King/Lauren Turner</b> <b>Nursery - Jennifer King</b> <b>Youth SS - Shannon Young</b></p>
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**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

2019 Budget	\$172,685
Needed each week	3,321
Received this week	3,110
World Hunger	20
Prison Ministry	20
Capital Improvement	45
Food Pantry	75

**ATTENDANCE**

Lexa Worship	3
Marvell Sunday School	38
Marvell Worship	78
Youth/WOW	21
Bible Study	12
Ash Wednesday Service	46

**YOUTH & WOW will not meet for 2 weeks!!**

## UMW Sunday this Sunday!!

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Rosemary Collins - 215 Roosevelt, Marvell  
John & Linda Hall - 146 Riverside Dr, Hot Springs 71913  
Mike Shelley - 4047 Hwy 316S, PG 72374  
David Gordon - 1048 Hwy 259 N, Moro 72368  
Larry Moeller - 7721 Meadow Rd, #221S, Dallas, TX  
75230-4896 (Jane Glass' brother-in-law)  
Emily Johnson - 12193 Hwy 146, Holly Grove 72069  
Lloyd George - Crestpark, Helena  
Jimmy Oliphant - Box 544, Marvell  
Pam Smith - 300 Mt. Crest Rd, Mt. View 72560  
Luke Schaffhauser - 1814 Aggie Rd, Jonesboro 72401  
Courtney Turner - Box 1602, Marvell  
Terry Fuller - 2856 Hwy 316 S, PG 72374  
Lannie Travis - 668 Phillips 217, WH 72390  
Laine Ware - Denver, CO (Boby's granddaughter)  
(had brain surgery last week for seizures)  
Dennis Walker - Marianna  
Katie Cavette - 2527 Hwy 243 N, Marvell  
Brandon DeBolt - 23250 North 120th Ln, Sun City, AZ  
85373 (Mike & Brenda Woodyard's grandson)  
Lacosta Burrow - Shepherd Center, 2020 Peachtree Rd  
NW, Atlanta, GA 30309  
Kathy Snyder - Box 212, Lexa 72355  
Sara Schaffhauser Roth - 337 County Rd, 127, Bono  
Billy Washburn - 2640 Kenwood Rd, Bartlett, TN  
Gloria Treadaway - Box 22, Lexa 72355  
James & Deane Cavette - Marion  
Frances Inman - Crestpark, Helena  
Sheila Connelly - Box 598, Elaine 72333  
Van Cooper - 1430 Chestnut, Forrest City 72335  
Rickey Little - 1162 Hwy 318 S, Marvell  
Christy Billingsley - Box 24, Aubrey 72311  
Summer Lay - 100 Harper Cove Ln, Star City 71667  
Miranda Racca - 5905 Flint Ridge, Flower Mound, TX  
75028  
Ian Miller - 36 Fontwell Ln, Franklin, TN 37064  
Barrett Michael Miller - Children's, LR  
Frankie Broom - Crestpark #128, 116 November Dr  
Clara Bass - 2975 Shelton Rd N, Bee Branch 72013  
Mildred Clatworthy - Box 1308, Marvell  
Gloria Higginbotham - 16175 Hwy 49, Marvell  
Ruby Jean Turner - 2852 Harmony Hills Dr, Arnold,  
MO 63010  
Opal Muscalino - NLR  
Janette Griffin - Box 126, Lexa 72355  
Jimmy & Donna Allen - 2800 N Vine, Magnolia  
Sanda Whitmer Andrews - 373 Melbourne Dr, Haines  
City, FL 33844 (friend of Mickie Cox)  
Dorothy Young Thompson - Opelika, AL  
John Armstrong - Box 265, Balmorhea, TX 79718  
Corporal Clayton & Lila McWilliams & boys - Texas  
Mark & Alexis Stringer & unborn baby - 1307  
Carmichael St, Malvern 72104  
Ashley Bobo - Box 2, Helena 72342  
Harold Cummings-95 Rocky Top Rd, Mayflower 72106  
Enicita Cantilang - %Rhea Cumberland - Box 32  
Vern Hamelback - TN  
Sherry Tuminello - 1204 E 19th St, Stuttgart 72160  
Delores Jackson - Box 13, Marvell  
Jody Cook - 6253 Basilone St, Tarawa Terrace, NC  
Doris Wallace - 301 N Pine, Marvell  
Alan Wildschuetz - 5 Bear Trail Cove, LR 72210  
Kevin Forrester- 1565 N State Hwy 8, New Boston, TX  
Jennifer Heavner - 209 W Ash St, Brinkley 72029  
Lee Scarbrough - Uganda  
Landon Jones - 5460 Fox Den, Hernando, MS 38632  
Sandra Myton - Box 103, Marvell

The Family of Carrie Lou Stelzner - 2709 Onate,  
Roswell, NM 88201 (Nina's aunt)  
The Family of Janice Harpole Kasper - 1325 Bolen  
Long Creek Rd., Meridian, MS 39301-8052  
(Shelton's cousin)  
The Family of Diane Cutlip - Box 1204, Marvell  
The Family of Cora Lee George  
The Family of Judy Jumper King  
Those in the path of tornadoes  
Continued Prayer List  
Travelers                      Victims of natural disasters  
Our Country                      Marvell & Phillips County  
Service men & women, Police Officers, Firefighters &  
Emergency personnel & their families

### PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Cora Blair is 103 years old  
Courtney Turner & Mickie Cox got good reports  
Katie Cavette does not have cancer  
Miranda Racca is doing great & at home in Texas  
Jimmy Allen is out of the hospital  
Ashley Bobo is cancer free  
Gracie & Nathan are home  
Barrett Michael Miller weighs 3 lbs 1.7 ozs

### THANKS

Greeters - Toney Keys, Bryan Wayman  
Acolytes - Kailin Hollaway, Wesley Turner  
Liturgist - Mickie Cox  
Musician - Courtney Turner  
Ushers - Bill Heidelberger, Toney Keys, Nathan  
Turner, Winston Turner  
Nursery - Beth Schaffhauser, Delia Travis, Jill  
Richmond  
Video Tech - Wesley Turner  
Media Techs - Chuck Schaffhauser/Thomas Turner  
Youth Meal - Lannie & Delia Travis  
Children's Time Prayer - Casher, Sadie  
Children's Time Candy - Shannon Young  
SS Teacher - Bryan Wayman  
Ash Wednesday - Debbie Hayes, Bill Heidelberger,  
Charlotte Wayman & Gary Maskell

### VISITORS

\*Gracie Fuller - Starkville, MS  
\*Nathan Turner - Starkville, MS  
Jamie Cook & Kailyn - Marvell

### BIRTHDAYS

March 17 - Beverly Helmke  
20 - Barrett Catlett

### HONORARIUMS

#### DREW HUNTER DAVISON

Shelton & Nina Guest

#### KATHARINE HARRIS

Mary Henderson

#### WINSTON TURNER

Bill Heidelberger

### MEMORIALS

#### VESTER BYRD

Jimmy & Bettie Davison  
Clark & Becky Hall  
Chuck, Beth, Emma & Luke Schaffhauser

#### JUTTA HAYES

Shelton & Nina Guest  
Bill & Connie Heidelberger

Come celebrate 150 years of service with us! Bring your photos and stories of members past and present!

Marvell United Methodist Women will celebrate 150 years of organized mission service on Sunday, March 17 both during the regular worship service and afterwards with a Soup/Sandwich luncheon. We invite ALL women (any age!) - and anyone else that would like to attend - to join us in celebrating the legacy of this purposeful, powerful organization.

Our local unit has long been deeply involved in the projects sponsored by UMW, and in many others around our community. I'd like to ask our members or any guests to bring a photo or make mento of a former Marvell UMW member (or a woman who had a personal impact on your faith journey) and be ready to share a significant or special story of that person and their service to others.

We want to celebrate our legacy as a unit!! So please help us by coming and being a part of this special day! If you cannot be present but have a story to share, please email a photo and the story to me at [emily.johnson@arumc.org](mailto:emily.johnson@arumc.org), or perhaps get the photo to Nina by Saturday. We want there to be a lot of photos!!

Call me if you have questions - Emily Johnson @ 501-940-6577  
[emily.johnson@arumc.org](mailto:emily.johnson@arumc.org)

Hope to see you there!!

## **UMW**

United Methodist Women's Sunday will be March 17. The Call to Prayer & Self Denial Program will be at noon on March 17. The Spring Retreat will be March 23 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Camp Aldersgate in LR.

## **LAY SERVANT MANDATORY MEETINGS**

If you are a Lay Servant, you must sign up for one of the following classes, call Bro. Gary for more information.

March 30 - Wynne UMC - 1 pm    April 17 - Pine Bluff - 10 am    April 25 - Monticello - 10 am

## **LENTEN LISTENING**

The Helena UMW is hosting Lenten Listening Service each Wednesday at noon. The speaker this week will be Kelly King with special music by Abbi Phillips.

## **LAY SERVANT SERVICE**

There will be an evening worship service on March 31 at 6 p.m.