



SACA NEWS

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THOSE GOD WILL BRING WITH HIM

(The following article was written by Christian author, the late Edward Fudge, using his weekly e-mail ministry, and addresses what will happen at the return of Christ. I pray it will both encourage and inspire you to eagerly anticipate our Lord's return! – Joe Pritchett)

*In First Thessalonians 4:14, Paul states that God will bring with him those who sleep in Jesus. "Where are they now," asks a gracEmail reader, "that they will be brought to the earth? What does this verse mean?"**

The young church at Thessalonica to whom Paul wrote these words seemingly expected the Lord to return during their own lifetimes (1 Thessalonians 1:9-10). However, some of their fellow-believers had died already -- "fallen asleep" is the common biblical metaphor -- and Jesus had not come yet. This raised a concern for the Thessalonians whether their departed loved ones would miss the blessings of Christ's return. Paul addresses that concern in the text in question. The apostle reminds the Thessalonians that God will raise the dead and that fact

ACGC Triennial 2020 has been Canceled as of 4/7/20

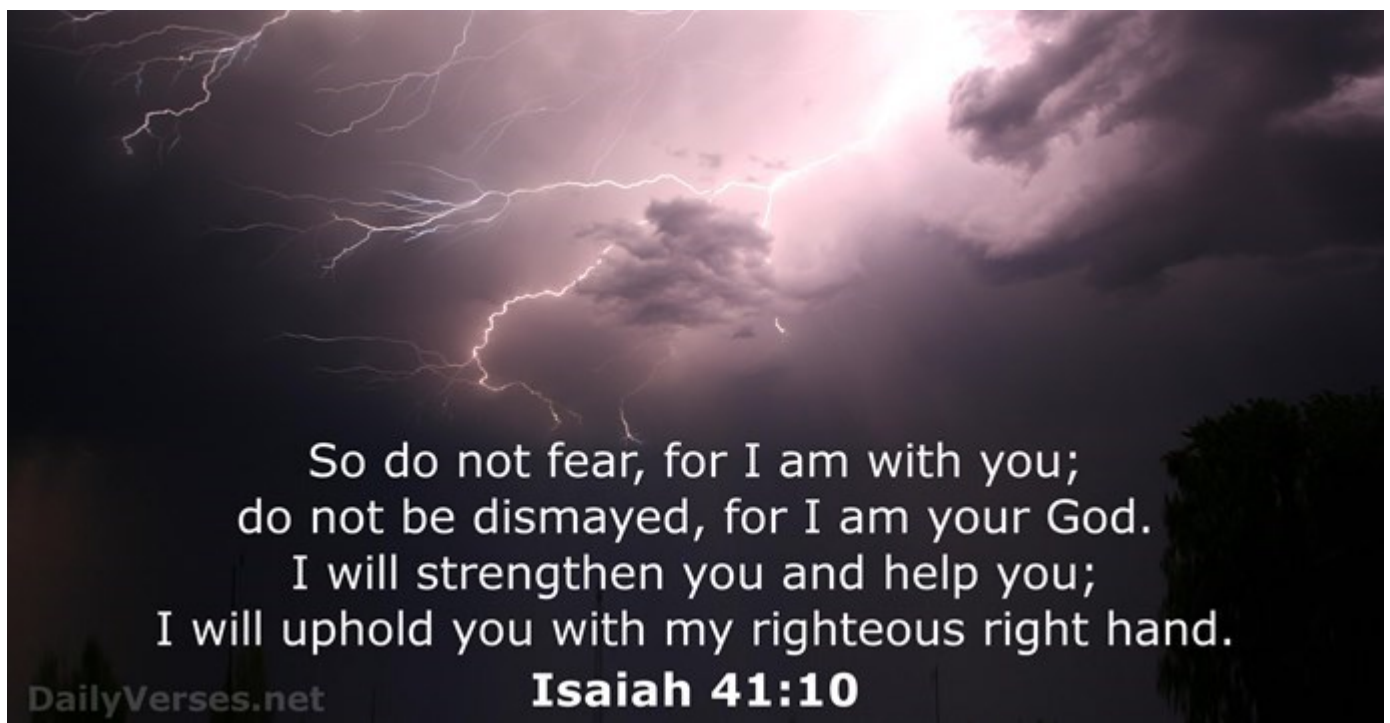
Due to COVID-19, Triennial 2020 has been canceled and will be rescheduled for a later date. If you have any questions regarding this cancelation, please email acpub@acgc.us. Anyone who has already registered will be refunded by check.

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provides reassurance concerning those who have died in Christ. As surely as Jesus died and rose again, just that certainly those who died in union with him will also share in the final reward (1 Thessalonians 4:14). Believers still living on that day will have no advantage over others who have "fallen asleep" (v. 15). Jesus will descend from heaven, heralded by angelic shout and trumpet fanfare, and God will resurrect his people who have died (v.16). Then those who are resurrected, along with surviving believers, will be "caught up" together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (v. 17).

God will "bring with him" all his people who have died already -- not from heaven, for they are not there, but from their graves -- by his mighty act of resurrection (John 3:18; Acts 2:29). The Bible sometimes pictures the dead as in Sheol or Hades -- not a geographic place at all, but the "unseen" realm we might call "gravedom." Whether they live or die, believers are safe in God's keeping. No wonder Paul concludes this paragraph with the admonition, "Therefore comfort one another with these words" (v. 18).

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May 15, 2020

We still have more questions than we have answers with regards to safely operating our overnight summer camps. The NCDHHS came out with *Interim Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Day Camp or Program Settings Serving Children and Teens*, but has not yet addressed residential camp settings like ours. We continue to meet virtually with other camp leaders and monitor sites for further guidelines, and pray for wisdom.

Two things we can now say with certainty:

1. We have made the decision to postpone our two scheduled June sessions of Kids' Camps and Super Kids' Retreat with the hopes of potentially rescheduling them in July if we can do it safely. We do not yet know what July will look like or in what order we would be

able to offer the sessions.

2. The guidelines put forth in the document we referred to above from the NCDHHS make it clear that if open, the summer camp experience will look drastically different than it has in the past. Here are a few of the changes we envision:

- Limited camp enrollment in each session
- Limits on the number of campers and staff in shared lodging
- Strict health screening procedures for each camper
- Restrictions on the kinds of camp activities we can engage in safely

An altered schedule to prevent the mixing of smaller groups of campers

Unfortunately, we are not prepared to announce today what July will look like. Next Friday, May 22, we will post another update. Thanks for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

Parents of campers currently enrolled in one of our Kids' Camp sessions or Super Kids' Retreat should check their email and communicate with us via a survey link contained in the email.

Camp Georgolina and COVID-19



A decision about camp this year will be made soon. As most of you know the new campground location is in North Carolina and as such we are closely watching their re-opening plan to determine our course of action.

Camp Georgolina would like to thank everyone who has been praying for our camp program and asking about the path forward. We will keep our Facebook page updated as information comes out. Stay safe and trust God.

Camp Suwannee and COVID-19

Camp is 62 days from May 4th. We are waiting for the go ahead from the Governor and the Village. We will send applications out and re-post on our Facebook page as soon as that happens. Hopefully, a decision will be made by June 1st. In the meantime, PRAY!!

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Coming Events...

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| May | Prayer Emphasis |
| May 31 | Advent Christian Village Sunday |
| June 28 | Adventual Heritage Sunday |

Philippians 1:4-6

⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.