

Lion's Roar 6-3-20

Musings from Mrs. Stout

God can be trusted even when we can't predict the outcome.

Does anyone have any summer plans? Our family's plans are up in the air. Customarily each year we enjoy a family vacation with all the kids and grandkids at Cannon Beach Conference Center. We're a big group – 21 in all. Where else can a group our size go and enjoy the benefits of someone cooking and cleaning for us while we enjoy the beach and great Christian teaching? Right now the conference center ministry is "hoping" to be open. It's unsettling and a little discouraging not to know. It's hard not to be discouraged when the things we love about summer and look forward to all year are cancelled one by one. And yet, God can be trusted even when we can't predict the outcome.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego In the book of Daniel, refuse to bow down and worship a statue of King Nebuchadnezzar despite his mandate. The punishment for not bowing down? Being thrown into a blazing furnace.

The king asks Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, "What god will be able to rescue you from my power?"

The young men respond, "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God who we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." (Daniel 3)

Don't you just love these guys' confidence? They are "all in" even when it comes to the threat of death. Wow! God can be trusted even when we can't predict the outcome.

There are so many other bible characters who come to this understanding in scripture. Remember Joseph's words to his brothers who had sold him into slavery? "You

intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.” (Genesis 50:20) God can be trusted even when we can’t predict the outcome.

As you face this summer of uncertainty, examine the examples of bible characters who are committed to God during hard times. Read bible stories with your children and talk about them. The first six chapters of Daniel are a great place to start. You’ll find lions, fiery furnaces and disembodied hands writing on the wall, and even a king eating grass like a cow! From Daniel, go to Hebrews 11. There you will find a list of great bible characters. Consider the challenge each character faces as they seek to walk with God. What do the characters do when times are tough? How do they feel? Your kids will take the conversation and run with it.

We’re going to remember this crazy Covid19 life we’ve been living, so let’s make the most of it. When you’re not sure how to handle the challenge before you, just take the next right step. And remind yourself, God can be trusted even when we can’t predict the outcome.

What Will School at CCS Look Like in September?

Will there be school every day? Will the schedule stay the same? Will we follow our normal school calendar? What will be different? Do we have to do staggered days?

Here is what we are planning for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Yes, we plan to have school every day Monday through Friday. This is our hope and prayer. We believe families need a consistent schedule. Students learn and develop skills incrementally day by day from interacting with peers and teachers.
- While the public schools are suggesting alternate schedules, we do not believe this will be necessary at CCS due to our spacious facility and small class sizes.
- We plan to follow the same weekly schedule we have followed in the past.
- OSPI (Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction) has a large task force in the process of developing guidelines for reopening schools. Once the guidelines are published, we will utilize them as appropriate to CCS. However,

as a private Christian school we are independent and not governed by OSPI policies. Hence we are not required to follow OSPI policies.

- CCS has a task force committee meeting weekly to plan for reopening. We are examining three scenarios:
 1. Return to our traditional five day per week schedule.
 2. Staggered Days if mandated by the governor.
 3. School closed if mandated by the governor. Distance learning resumes.

As you can see, our first priority is to return to our regular school schedule. It's what we do well and have refined over many years of practice. Please pray that God will pave the way before us. We will run the race well. We will trust God for the outcome.

Summer Send-Off Family Parade

Next Wednesday, June 10th from 5:00 – 6:15 we are going to have some fun here at CCS! Please join us for our Summer Send-Off Family Parade! We would love to see all your kids as you drive through the parking lot stopping at each of your child's teachers and staff who will be lined up along the parade route. All supplies and any other items will be given to your student at that time. We would love to have you decorate your car and make this a fun and memorable time!

8th Grade Graduation

We are excited that we are able to hold our 8th grade graduation ceremony this year on June 9th. It will be held outside in our parking lot, following our county's guidelines of social distancing. Unfortunately, we can only have the families of the graduates attend. If you have a graduate, we need to limit attendance to just one car load per family. Though we wish we could have our ceremony as in previous years, we are thankful and blessed that we are able to still hold our social distancing graduation.

Chromebooks and Library Books

Please return any borrowed Chromebooks, school library books, classroom textbooks and classroom library books by this Friday, June 5th which is our last homework drop off day.

Watch your mailbox!

Parents can watch for a mailing from the school during the last week of June that will include report cards, supply lists, calendars, immunization updates and other important information. All borrowed items (Chromebooks, school library books, classroom textbooks, etc.) will need to be returned before report cards will be sent home or records transferred.