

## Our Foundation

Scripture: I Corinthians 3:10-23

Date: March 8, 2021

Message:

*For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light.*

*I Corinthians 3:11-13a*

Lent is a time of reflection and self-examination. It is a time to ask yourself, am I doing enough? What can I do to improve my relationship with Jesus Christ? What can I do to improve the life of my church and the people with whom I worship? Our scripture tells us that Jesus Christ is the foundation of the church and anything that is built upon it is to be worthy of his glory. The scripture warns not to build with the things of this world, such as gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw for they will be shown for what they are...unsuitable for building God's kingdom. They are worthless things that tarnish and rot – like envy, greed, power, and gossip. Paul is talking about the relationships we build with Jesus Christ, our church family, and the community.

Last year I started attending a new church. I had become discouraged and needed a fresh start. It happens sometimes. And it happened to me. But now I am renewed and have begun to build relationships with new people. And it's good, very good. I have learned Jesus Christ is the foundation of everything in my life. Without him, I am nothing. Why wouldn't I want to build upon that and help others along the way?

What you invest today will have great returns tomorrow. What do we do to build up the church? Are we building each other up or tearing each other down? Are we half-heartedly going through the motions of Christianity? Or are we on fire for the Lord?

In this season of Lent, take time to reflect upon these questions and find ways to make a positive change in your church and community. Find ways to build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ with solid and reliable things like your time, talent, presence, gifts, and your witness. Pray for the church to survive and become stronger than it has ever been.

**Remember, we are only as strong as our foundation.**

Prayer: *Dear God, our Creator, help us this Lenten season to find ways to build upon the foundation of Christ. Help us to love one another and hold each other up in times of need. Be with us as we build your Kingdom. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.*

---

Judy Farley  
First (Shinnston) United Methodist Church  
MonValley  
[judyfarley1029@gmail.com](mailto:judyfarley1029@gmail.com)  
Certified Lay Servant