

Where Compassion Makes a Difference

JULY 2025

PASTORAL NOTE

John 11:35 is the shortest Bible verse, but shows one of the greatest emotions. Why did Jesus cry?

1. Jesus *experienced* grief
2. Jesus *empathized* with others
3. Jesus *envisioned* future joy and pain

Jesus cried because He loved people!

OUTREACH FOCUS

Mark Ministries is reaching grieving children who are facing a variety of different losses. This monthly group meets in Somis, but support will be made available throughout Ventura County.

HUMOR MOMENT

Q: What's the most popular sport on the Fourth of July?

A: Flag Football

PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for divine wisdom and spiritual discernment in making decisions and connecting with people.

INTERESTING FACT

A firework requires three key components: an oxidizer, a fuel and a chemical mixture to produce the color. The oxidizer breaks the chemical bonds in the fuel, releasing all of the energy that's stored in those bonds. To ignite this chemical reaction, all you need is a bit of fire, in the form of a fuse or a direct flame.

—Smithsonian Magazine

BIBLICAL TRIVIA

What did God give the Israelites every morning to eat? (Exodus 16:31)

- A. Oatmeal
- B. Pancakes
- C. Manna

MEMORABLE QUOTE

"Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit and human dignity." —Herbert Hoover

JUNE REPORT

- 5 sermons and Bible studies
- 14 funerals and memorial services
- 15 spiritual and grief counseling sessions
- 9 music therapy and support appointments
- 30 bereavement groups and seminars
- **6 decisions for Christ...Praise the Lord!!!**

MISSION STATEMENT

Mark Ministries is a non-profit 501(c)(3) community outreach organization whose goal is for people to experience God's love through grief counseling, spiritual guidance, and music therapy.