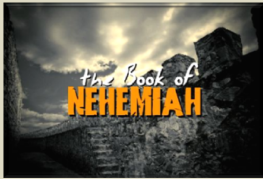


WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

9/2 - The Right Leader

9/9 - The Right Method

9/16 - The Right Response



9/23 - The Right Provisions

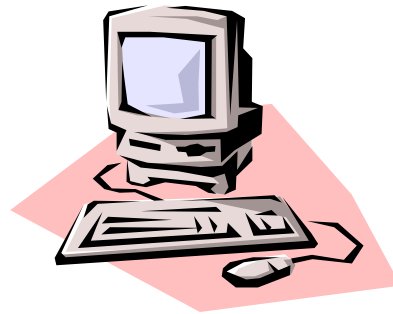
9/30 - The Right Answer

10/7 - The Right Security

10/14 - The Right Beginning

10/21 - The Right Agreement

10/28 - The Right Celebration



Check us out online:
www.fccmtncity.org

"The hunger of the soul can only be satisfied by the bread of life." - Dr. Jerry Taylor

As we begin the month of September, I am excited about the momentum God has created in our church! After an exciting summer, the fall is looking to become another great season for our church!

On Wed nights, our kids will now be together as 1 group for a "VBS style" service led by our wonderful teaching staff of volunteers!

We will also have a Sunday night video series that will help us focus on keeping God as the priority while we are close to a very important election in November!

Our Spirituality of Jesus study on Wed nights are rolling along well and the Facebook study group is working well with this study. This study will take us into mid-October.

Our new sermon series will be based on the book of Nehemiah. As we rebuild our church, we should use Nehemiah as an example of faithfulness to what God has decided to do through His people!

Let's grow together!
-Earl Winfrey
Earl@mkdisciples.org

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 9/2:
Mon – Genesis 11:1-9
Tues – Psalm 127
Wed – Luke 14:25-35
Thur – Romans 15
Fri – 1 Corinthians 3
Sat – Nehemiah 3

Week of 9/9:
Mon – Psalm 31
Tues – Proverbs 16
Wed – Is 59:14-21
Thur – Matt 5:38-48
Fri – Romans 12:9-21
Sat – Nehemiah 4

Week of 9/16:
Mon – Ezra 4
Tues – Ezra 5
Wed – Ezra 6
Thur – Ezra 7
Fri – 2 Thes 3
Sat – Nehemiah 5

Week of 9/23:
Mon – 2 Chron 20
Tues – Psalm 89
Wed – Eph 6:10-20
Thur – 2 Peter 2
Fri – 2 Timothy 3
Sat – Neh 6:1-14

Week of 9/30:
Mon – Psalm 20
Tues – Psalm 27
Wed – Zechariah 9
Thur – Zechariah 12
Fri – Isaiah 40
Sat – Neh 6:15-7:3

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15 ESV)

A big “howdy-do” from the state of Texas! School has started and the fun has begun down here at Dallas Christian College. Because I tested out of several general studies courses, I am able to start the semester with more advanced and relevant classes. Life of Christ and Evangelism are my favorite classes so far. The professors are skilled and helpful and there are many dedicated Christians at DCC. God has me here for a reason and I want to make the most of the opportunities to learn and serve in Dallas.

But I think about you all often and I’m so grateful to God for the encouragement my Christian family back at First Christian Church is and has been. There are two things that you all have done that are especially meaningful to me.

First, you all have offered to help meet my financial needs. The church sent a large gift from the Bible College Fund that has made a huge difference in the financial picture. And many individuals have given generous gifts to help me follow God’s leading to school. Knowing that these gifts have come during an economic downturn makes me even more grateful and more motivated to steward them rightly. May God bless you for your concern for me.

And second, you all have helped confirm my calling to the ministry. I’ve gained experience by doing things within the church services and you all have been supportive and encouraging whatever I’ve done. You’ve listened to me try to preach the Word and you’ve manfully suffered through my attempts to play my guitar for specials and for the song service. If there was any doubt in my mind about going into ministry full time, you have helped it disappear. Thank you for letting me learn how to teach. Thank you for encouraging me in the work I believe God has called me to. “And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” - Benjamin Lantzer

New Sunday Night Series begins September 30!!

Beginning Sunday night, September 30 at 6:30pm, we will begin another 6 week video series for our church. This series will begin with the documentary “Monumental” with Kirk Cameron and then we will have a 5 week study on the silencing of God. This will lead us up to the election in November. During this series, we will also dedicate part of the sessions to praying over the election coming up.

Emergency Numbers - May be dialed direct. No operator assistance is necessary. All lines are open to heaven 24 hours a day.

When in sorrow - John 14

When you have sinned - Psalm 51

When you worry - Matthew 6:19-34

When you are in danger - Psalm 46

When God seems far away - Psalm 139

For peace and rest - Matthew 11:25-30

When your faith needs stirring - Hebrews 11

When you are lonely and fearful - Psalm 23

If you feel condemned - John 3:16-17

If you grow bitter and critical - 1 Corinthians 13

For the secret of happiness - Colossians 3:12-17

For keeping things in perspective - Psalm 91

When the world seems bigger than God - Psalm 90

For Christian Assurance - Romans 8:1-30

When you leave home for labor or travel - Psalm 121

When your prayers grow narrow or selfish - Psalm 67

If discouraged about your work - Psalm 126

If you are depressed or have been failed - Psalm 27

When you want courage for a task - Joshua 1

How to get along with others - Romans 12

If people seem unkind - John 15

“Who has a friend with whom to share, has double cheer and half the care.” For a best friend - Psalm 91

“Show me someone who has done something worthwhile,
and I’ll show you someone who has overcome adversity.” - Lou Holtz

“God lets us be part of the preaching process b/c He likes to go to work w/His kids.”

I’m a preacher. I’m also a teacher and a leader, but most of all, my desire is to inspire through the art of preaching. It is through strong, Biblically based proclamation that God has built His church, and almost 2,000 years later, this fact remains true no matter how much we try to “improve” our worship services. This is the main reason why I believe in the sermon series, theme-based song services, and the invitation that is given at the end of every sermon. The Holy Spirit is able to work through many circumstances even if they are not ideal, but that does not excuse us from the responsibility to build strong preaching based on the prompting of the Spirit.

When talking about the prompting of the Spirit, many people believe that the only way to preach according to the Spirit is to stand up Sunday morning, open the Bible, and let the Spirit flow without any preparation during the week. I will not debate the fact that the Spirit can and has preached in this manner, but as much as the Spirit can move in the moment, He can also move a year in advance! This is why I embrace the idea of producing a sermon schedule every year. The sermon schedule is prepared after a few months of prayer and observation has taken place, and even when it is complete, the schedule is never set in stone.

I like to look at the sermon schedule like a playbook for a football team. As the game is played, the coach uses the plays that have been practiced in the way that he feels will be the most effective. If the coach would wait until the game begins, he could create plays that the team could run, but there is no guarantee that the plays would work. The team works best if they practice the plays ahead of time so that when the coach calls the play, they will know how to run it. Our 2013 sermon schedule is our playbook. It is ready for our coach (Holy Spirit) to use however He sees fit. Here is what we are looking forward to in 2013:

No Regrets: What would you do if you had 30 days to live? We need to make our days count.

Lamentations: Sometimes life can be depressing, so how do we handle that?

Beyond the Natural: Miracles of Jesus which includes the Resurrection of course

Holy Spirit: What does the Bible say and how should we live as spirit-filled believers?

Faithful Families: Based on a book by Dave Stone about raising children who love the Lord.

10 Commandments/7 Churches: We need to become people of integrity, then our church will glorify God. The 10 commandments can help us grow and Revelation 2-3 can help our church.

Laws of the Harvest: Most of the time, we sow in 1 season and harvest in the next.

Socks and Underwear: While growing up, we most likely got gifts for Christmas that we didn’t want, but we needed them. When Jesus came to earth, He was not the gift the Jewish Nation wanted, but He is exactly what they need. Jesus is the greatest gift of all!

When praying, don't give God instructions, just report for duty.

A Complete Puzzle - Daisy Hepburn

"Thank You for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about."

Psalm 139:14, TLB

It was evident that this was the very first time she had been able to gather enough courage to give her testimony. Finding the desire in her heart was not a surprise, but to get the words past her throat where they had been stuck for weeks-and into the big world of risk-was quite another thing.

She quivered and quaked, stuttered and shook, and then: "Be-before I c-came to know Jesus Christ, my l-l-life was l-like a p-p-puzzle with one p-p-piece m-m-missing." She caught her breath, and her statement of faith was formed, confident, and sure: "Now that I know Christ as my Savior, my life is a complete puzzle!"

A round of joyful applause confused her, but those of us who had been walking for some time with the

Lord suddenly found our hearts warmed as we reflected on even the simple events and experiences of the day.

Be it an out-of-balance checking account; a dress pattern that calls for more fabric than we purchased; two commitments and a phone call for the same time slot-our daily lives are often puzzling. How can we know the Lord's special will for a particular situation? Should I lead the Sunday School class, or start a neighborhood Bible Study group? Who will care for my children if this illness is more serious than it appears?

God has promised His wisdom. The only condition attached is that I really believe the decisions I make about my time, money, abilities and are authored by the Holy Spirit in response to my request for His direction. If I am indecisive and wavering, I will be unstable in all my ways. How marvelous to know that He will help me put all the pieces of my life together in one complete puzzle!

Some 30 years ago we began the grand adventure of parenting. How excited we were! That excitement very soon became a reality that we were in for a life change. Did we have the training and experience needed to succeed? Early on we knew we couldn't succeed without God leading our adventure. Having the first 4 children in 4 years kept us motivated to seek God in the training & experience needed for success. Within 6 more years God had blessed us with 2 more girls. And had grown us to begin our homeschool adventure. Believe me, homeschooling was a big, challenging step up in our training & experience.

About the time we thought we had life pretty well figured out and our eldest was about to graduate, we would be welcoming another baby to the family.

Now we are at the place where all have graduated, have followed God's calling for the next stage of their life, and we are walking through the "empty nest" adventure.

Our adventure has not been lived perfectly nor without many challenges, but because of choosing to walk in God's ways it has been amazing. Through it all God has been drawing us to know Him better and showing us the way to go. Memorizing scripture as a family is one way we used to guide and guard our thoughts and decisions.

On your "adventure" are you troubled with motivation, parenting skills, fear of the future, finding Godly direction, etc.? Understanding Ps. 127 and looking to God to lead would help us all along the adventure.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the Lord guards the city, The watchman keeps awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep. Behold, children are a gift of the Lord; The fruit of the womb is a reward Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They shall not be ashamed, When they speak with their enemies in the gate." (NASV) - Diane Lantzer

"But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 19:14 ESV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is . . .

Y S Y L V R Y W I P X F
 O O C I E S E A S A S W
 R V J J T E V E S T A V
 S T E A K L X J E I Z H
 F A I T H F U L N E S S
 H A R I P C B J D N V M
 A Q D E S O C K O C Z Y
 G M A H O N I V O E Q S
 N C P S K T P U G Z N A
 E V O L U R L X R M W J
 F H F D S O U F D F G F
 S S E N E L T N E G E X
 R M K I N D N E S S U I

Galatians 5:22-23a (ESV)

FAITHFULNESS

GENTLENESS

GOODNESS

JOY

KINDNESS

LOVE

PATIENCE

PEACE

SELF-CONTROL

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Tuesday - Men's Discipleship group at Chick-Fil-A in Clayton 7am

Every Thursday - Food Pantry 4:30pm

Sept 2 - Fellowship Meal after Worship
Elders Meeting after Meal

Sept 5 - Elders/Deacons meeting 5pm

Sept 5-7 - Earl in Cincinnati

Sept 14 - Craft Day 9am
Women's Bible Study 6:30pm

Sept 21 - Neighborhood cookout and game night 6pm

Sept 26 - Men's Night 6:30pm
Deadline for October Newsletter

Sept 28 - Women's Bible Study 6:30pm

Servers for September:

Morning Prayer - Josh Berg
Offering Prayer - Kevin Berg
Server - Kaden Berg
Communion Meditation - Chuck Cleghorn
Communion Preparation - Virginia Berg



Please keep us informed of any address changes so we can keep our records up to date.

**I
JESUS
L
O
R
D**

General Prayer Items for the month:

(Please see the weekly bulletin for the church prayer list.)

- Church Leadership
- Ministries of the church
- Members
- Visitors
- Lost Souls
- Those needing work/Home sales
- The persecuted church
- Missionaries
- Future Kingdom Workers
- Those serving in the Military
- Government
- Schools

Evangelistic Opportunities:

- Does your neighbor go to church?
- Does your neighbor know that you go to church?

Partners in Ministry

Don't forget to pray for those churches around us and near our hearts!

- FCC of Franklin, NC
- Toccoa Christian Church
- Providence Road Church of Christ (Charlotte, NC)
- First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA
- Coastline Christian Church (New Smyrna Beach)
- Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)
- Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL
- Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)
- N. Citrus Christian Church (Citrus Springs, FL)

If anyone knows of any churches that need to be added to this list, be sure to let Earl know.

Our final neighborhood cookout for the summer will be Friday, September 21 at 6pm. We will also have game night that night in order to encourage those who attend to hang around after we eat.

Our cookouts have produced opportunities for us to get to know those in our community, and we are looking forward to seeing the fruit that will come from our reaching out and making new friends!

"Freedom comes not from the donkey or the elephant, but from the Lamb." -Samuel Rodriguez