



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Family Matters

January 8, 2023

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George Clark
Nate Crowden
Greg Dowdy
Charlie Kluesner
Doug Lester
Brian Mitchell
Todd Newman
Kenny Simmons
Scott Spraggs

Lessons for Today

AM: Brian Mitchell
"A Reason for Living"
Matthew 4:18-20

PM: Brian Mitchell
"Spiritual Gifts in Corinth"
1 Corinthians 1:4-9

A Reason for Living

There's an old country song that goes—There goes my reason for living, There goes my everything. Have you ever heard it? The song is about a man who has lost his one reason for living—his one true love. Without her, the song goes on to say, life isn't worth the trouble—it isn't worth living. Our culture tells us certain things are so important that they can be considered a "reason for living."

For example, things like power, fame, wealth or possessions. The problem is that most often getting these things doesn't bring about the satisfaction that we thought it would. Just ask Solomon—Eccl.2:3-11. When the things of the world are ALL that we have, it usually does not take long to realize that we have nothing at all.

Here is a little secret you ought to know: Many People are Miserable. Primarily because they have discovered no real purpose for living their lives a part from the fulfillment of their own selfish desires which, like Solomon, they often find no satisfaction in. Bob Geldof was a British rock musician who decided to do something about the famine in Ethiopia during the early 1980's. He put his own career on the back-burner and spent an entire year of his life organizing fund-raising events for dozens of famine relief organizations.

He was the inspiration behind the song "We Are The World" and "Live Aid" event. Through his efforts more than \$100,000,000 dollars was raised toward famine relief. Later, Geldof wrote a book that sums up this experience. The book is called, "Is That It?" Geldof recognized that even though his accomplishments were significant, after all was said and done, he couldn't escape a feeling of unfulfillment.

For more than a year the famine in Ethiopia had been his "reason for living" and after all he had accomplished, he realized that hardly a dent had been made in the problem of world hunger, and his efforts hadn't brought him peace of mind. This is not to diminish what he did—he certainly did a great deal for world hunger—but his experience underlines a simple truth in life. No matter how lofty your goals are; if Jesus isn't the center of your reason for living, you will never find lasting fulfillment in life.

In our final lesson on this theme I want you to consider the fact that Life is Wonderful because, In Christ, we have a Reason/Purpose for living that drives everything that we do. In the gospel of Matthew there is a story about Jesus taking a walk beside the Sea of Galilee—Mt.4:18-22. He saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and called out to them to follow him. Instead of arguing with Jesus about whether or not He had found the right men, they immediately dropped their nets at that moment and began following Jesus.

As a result their lives—and the worlds—were never the same. This story reveals to us how to develop a reason for living that will last for all eternity and make this life really worth living. It requires that we make three commitments. Making these three commitments will give your life meaning and purpose beyond anything else this world has to offer. So I pray that these 3 commitments are a part of your life.

Brian Mitchell

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:00 am
AM Worship: 10:00 am
PM Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Sunday Class: 83
Sunday AM: 143
Sunday PM: 71
Wednesday PM: 68
Contribution: \$5338
Budget: \$4464

Think on This...

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Psalms 19:7

Celebrating This Week...

Birthdays

Lindsey Campbell: 01.09
Larry Dowdy: 01.10
Doug Lester: 01.13
Laura Naramore: 01.13
Nate Crowden: 01.14
Carolyn Neese: 01.14

Serving This Week

Announcements: David Selvig

SUNDAY

Greeters: Charlie & Lesley Kluesner
Ushers: Cody Naramore/Scott Spraggs
A/V: Zach Dowdy
Nursery: Eva Mitchell
Lead Singing: Greg Dowdy
Head Lord's Table: Steve Simmons
Scripture: Kolten Kluesner
Prayers:
AM: Murray Dunn/Nate Crowden
PM: Ben Allen/Charlie Kluesner

WEDNESDAY

Lead Singing: Seth Spraggs
Devo: Gary Miller
Prayer: Scott Watson
Elder Chair: Gary Ridenour
Communion to Shut-Ins: Gary Ridenour
Worship Organizer: Doug Lester

Daily Bible Reading

January 8: Job 17-20
January 9: Job 21-23
January 10: Job 24-28
January 11: Job 29-31
January 12: Job 32-34
January 13: Job 35-37
January 14: Job 38-39

Continuing Prayer Needs

****Contact the office with updates****

Ron Anderson	Diana Ivanovich
Ginger Avery	Betty Jones
Esther Beck	Sid Naramore
Mark Blaylock	Carolyn Neese
Lee Brooks	Wanda Raper
Thelma Brown	Susan Seabaugh
Dalton Bryan	Earle Silvers
Reita Conley	Steve Simmons
Donna Cox	Lee Simpson
Bill Dillman	Sarah Singleton
Kelly & Trudy Garland	Robin Star
Jalonda Harris	Don Tawney
Allen & Juanita Hedge	Chris Weaver



Remember in Prayer

- **Newt Gilliland** remains in the hospital as he recovers from surgery correcting two brain bleeds. He has moved out of ICU and is in a regular room (Southeast Hospital Room 473) and may have short visits. Please remember him and **Kay** in your prayers and make it a point to stop in to see Kay for a few minutes also if you can.

Special Request

- **Melissa Brown** responded last Sunday requesting prayers. Please remember her in your prayers and take time to encourage her in her Christian walk.

News & Notes

- **Paragould Children's Homes** item of the week: **Chili Mixes**
- Our **Blood Drive** this past week was a huge success! The Red Cross was able to collect 31 units of blood with your help. We appreciate all those who donated as well as those who provided snacks. Keep your eyes peeled for the next opportunity to help.
- Please make an effort to support our youth and our youth rally next weekend by attending if you can. You don't have to be a teenager to benefit from the lessons and the fellowship at these events! And just think what a great example you'll be showing our young people! Registration starts at noon and activities will begin at 1pm.
- A **pizza lunch** planned following morning services next **Sunday, January 15** to conclude our youth rally. All are invited and encouraged to attend, but we ask that you sign up for planning purposes if you intend to stay for lunch. A sign up is posted...please plan to bring a dessert or soda.
- Our **Daily Bible Reading** for this year will be a chronological reading. Copies of the full year of readings are available to pick up on the entryway table if you'd like to have that schedule. Read along with us!

Upcoming Area Events

- **January 8: Bernie Youth Emphasis Night** at 5pm with **Gordon Hogan**. Theme: "*Intensity of Desire*". We will take the bus for anyone interested in attending. Please meet at the building to leave by 3:45pm.
- **January 14-15: IGNITE 2023: Ignite Your Legacy**. We are hosting our annual youth rally with keynote speaker, **Jeremy Pierce**. Please make plans to attend and be challenged and encouraged!
- **February 23-26: CYC** in Pigeon Forge. Watch for details!
- **March 10-11: Inspiration 2023** in Dexter. **Lonnie Jones** will be speaking and the theme is "*Spiritual Campers in a Physical Campground*".

