



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST  
*Family Matters*

July 10, 2022

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## Leadership

### Elders

Larry Dowdy  
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Allen Hedge  
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Gary Ridenour  
573.225.6480

Randy Seabaugh  
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David Selvig  
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Steve Simmons  
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### Minister

Brian Mitchell  
270-498-8407

### Deacons

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

## Lessons for Today

**AM: Brian Mitchell**  
"I Am the Light of the World"  
John 8:12

**PM: Brian Mitchell**  
"I Am the Door"  
John 10:7-9

## I Am the Light of the World

John's is the only gospel that records what are known as the "I Am" statements of Jesus. There are seven of these statements in all. In these statements Jesus tells us a lot about Himself and what He has to offer us, blessings that can be found in no one else. We will begin by looking at Jesus' statement in John 8:12. "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." This statement was made during the Feast of Tabernacles in late October and it was either this feast or Hanukkah in December which served as the backdrop for Jesus' teaching. What can we learn from Jesus' claim to be the "light of the world?"

First we must realize that there is darkness in the world. Darkness is used in the Bible to represent a number of things, but most often it is used to represent moral depravity and sinfulness (Jn.3:19, Rom.13:12-13, Eph.5:11). Thus darkness is used in contrast to light which represents truth, righteousness, and moral purity. We must therefore understand, spiritually speaking, that we are walking in either the darkness or the light, there is no middle ground.

It is unfortunate, but we do live in a world of darkness. Paul describes this group as walking in the futility of their minds, the darkness of their minds, ultimately alienated from God (Eph.4:15-17). If you live in this world you will have to contend with the darkness of it. However, even though we live in a world of darkness, we don't have to be overcome by it because Jesus gives light to the world.

Jesus is the light of the world. Jesus is not a light as though only one way to true understanding and righteousness. He is THE light in that He is the ONLY way to true understanding and righteousness (Jn.14:6). Thus in light of this we must be careful to guard against those who offer us a false light. If one claims to bring the light of Jesus, their deeds will match those prescribed by Jesus and His Apostles.

One may claim to be a servant of the Lord and in fact be a servant of Satan, so be on guard against them (2 Cor.11:13-15). Jesus is the true light of the world and as such the only source of true spiritual life. Jesus offers us an abundant life in the here and now (Jn.10:10), and eternal life in the here after (Jn.17:2). And He offers it to all, as He says He is the light of THE World, not just an elect few.

Jesus is only the light for those who follow Him. While Jesus gives the light of life to all who accept it, He only gives it to those who accept it. Thus, to receive the light of life one must first become a disciple of the Lord's. How? Through faith, confession, repentance, and baptism. However, to continue to receive the light of life one must continue to be a disciple. By continually abiding in His word or teachings (Jn.8:31, 2 Jn.9). You can't be a disciple of the Lord's while living contrary to His teachings.

One of the important things to understand is the fact that as we abide in the word of Jesus—we not only walk in the light—we become a source of light to those living in darkness (Ph.2:14-16). Even though we live in the "midst of a crooked and perverse generation" we must not allow ourselves to be overcome by the darkness. In fact we must overcome the darkness with the light of our lives (Eph.5:8-10).

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: 80  
Sunday AM: 147  
Sunday PM: 64  
Wednesday PM: 78  
Contribution: \$5464  
Budget: \$4464

## Think on This...

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Psalms 139:3**

## Celebrating This Week...

### Birthday

Alan Long: 07.11

### Anniversary

Gary & Marcia Ridenour: 07.12

## Serving This Week

**Announcements:** Larry Dowdy

### SUNDAY

**Greeters:** Gary & Marcia Ridenour

**Ushers:** Ron Fehr/Troy Bryan

**A/V:** Dale Gilliland

**Lead Singing:** Seth Spraggs

**Head Lord's Table:** Bill Welshans

**Scripture:** Gary Miller

**Prayers:**

**AM:** Larry Dowdy/Jeff Garland

**PM:** Kevin Bolen/Eric Craft

### WEDNESDAY

**Lead Singing:** Ephraim Rains

**Lesson:** Johnny Hester

"Those Who Mourn"

**Prayer:** Michael Newman

**Elder Chair:** Allen Hedge

**Communion to Shut-Ins:** Scott Spraggs

**Worship Organizer:** Scott Spraggs



## Remember in Prayer

- **Lucky Vander**, Glen Austin's son-in-law is continuing to struggle with colon cancer and has been placed in hospice care.

## News & Notes

- We will have a **Potluck Lunch** on this **Sunday, July 10** following morning services. Bring a dish or two and make plans to stay for a time of fellowship together.
- All ladies are invited to gather on **August 14** at 2pm in the fellowship room for a baby shower honoring **Kayli Naramore**. Kayli & Cody are expecting a baby girl in September and are registered at Target and Amazon.
- We are in the process of updating the **directory**. Please contact the office by July 20 with any corrections or additions that need to be made.
- **Thursday School** registration is open for 3-4 year old children and we still have a few openings. See Joy Kaye or call the office if you would like to register a child or if you need information for a friend or neighbor.
- Let's make an effort to increase our donations to the Paragould Children's Homes in the coming weeks. Collections here have been very small the past several times and the families at Children's Homes need our support to continue to provide for the children they serve. Our next pick-up date is September 12, so there's plenty of time to fill the bins! Each week, we'll focus on one of the items on their list to bring in. Donated items should be placed in the labeled collection bins in the room across from the ladies rest room. *This week's item: **Bathroom Cleaner**.*

## Daily Bible Reading

**July 10:** Proverbs 1-3

**July 11:** Proverbs 4-6

**July 12:** Proverbs 7-9

**July 13:** Proverbs 10-12

**July 14:** Proverbs 13-15

**July 15:** Proverbs 16-18

**July 16:** Proverbs 19-21

## Continuing Prayer Needs

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

Marian Allmon

Ginger Avery

Tony Boyd

Mark Blaylock

Thelma Brown

Donna Cox

Bill Dillman

Kelly & Trudy Garland

Juanita Hedge

Tim Hosey

Diana Ivanovich

Betty Jones

Sid Naramore

Carolyn Neese

Wanda Raper

Lena Schweain

Susan Seabaugh

Earl Silvers

Steve Simmons

Lee Simpson

Sarah Singleton

Fred Stoffregen

Kay Stroble

Don Tawney

Mike Turnbow

Lucky Vander

Chris Weaver

## Youth Corner

- **July 10-15:** BYC Week 3
- **July 18:** SYS at Green Forest
- **July 25:** SYS at Dexter
- **August 8:** SYS at Shady Acres
- **August 15:** SYS at Bernie

You search out my path  
AND MY LYING DOWN  
and are acquainted  
WITH ALL MY WAYS.  
Psalm 139:3