The Hilton Baptist Church Record Lynwood Wells, Pastor May 12, 2020

<u>Deposit</u>

Budget Deposit \$3974.52 Annie Armstrong \$46.00 Associational Missions \$100.00 Food Pantry \$100.00 Total Deposit \$4220.52



Regathering of Hilton Baptist Church

It has been two months since we have gathered together in the Church Building for church as a church family. During this time we have been blessed to receive the Word through Facebook Live Sunday Worship Services, Morning Meditations at Millpoint and have recently started Virtual Bible Studies on Facebook. We have been blessed to hear the Word and continue in our growth in the Lord.

This past week, Governor Northam has indicated that he is opening up the State with Phase One of a plan to get the state back in full operation. In Phase One, he has given a little more liberty for churches. At this time, we are keeping our services as Virtual Services. The Vision Team will be meeting next week to discuss things that need to be put in place for the opening of the church.

This is a very important decision on what, when and how to do this. We would ask you to pray for the Pastor and the leadership of the church. We want to do that which is pleasing to the Lord in all ways.

Sunday School Literature Joy Class, Tribble and Faith Class

The new Sunday School books and Open Windows are in and at the church office. These books begin in June. If you would like to have your Sunday School book, please call the church office and we will be sure you have it delivered or sent to you . We know that some people are still using their Sunday School Books to study weekly.



Please join Pastor Lynwood Monday through Friday at 9am for a morning devotion on Facebook Live. If you are not his friend, just send him a friend request him and he will accept . These devotions have been a blessing to so many.

During this crisis, if you need anything, please contact the church office 595-3300 and we will be able to help you. The church phone will be answered 24 hours a day.

Pray for our Missionaries: AT (Central Asian People) MS (East Asian People) Gary Rowland (European People) SG, DS, (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) RT (Southeast Asian People) Robert Lane, Nick Moore, George Smith, Matthew Stauffer (Sub– Saharan African People) Robert Greenfield (MD) Itamar Elizalde (MA) Tony Lynn (MI) Thomas Alley (NC) Rory Tate (OH) Josias Laporte (Quebec)

<u>Homeless Update</u>

Thanks to everyone who has helped with lunches for the Homeless Community. LINK put out an update about the homeless in this area...

"Up to 40 homeless folks are currently being supported in hotel/ motel accommodations during Covid 19. These are the most vulnerable, some who have been infected, others who are susceptible to the virus, thus lunches serve street homeless persons and those fragile homeless who are currently in hotels."

Please continue to pray for our homeless community during this uncertain time.

<u>A Special Thank you</u>

Dear Dreama, Lynwood and HBC,

Thanks to all of you for prayers, cards, notes, etc. It was a freak fall. Surgery was long and serious but went well. Even the doctors find it hard to realize I have had no pain. God has blessed me in so many ways. I have such loving in laws! For the present my address is 306 Powhatan Drive, Poquoson, VA 23662.

Love to all, Betty Powell

<u>Tuesday, May 12th</u>
1:00– 3:00pm Food Distribution
<u>Wednesday, May 13th</u>
7:00pm Facebook Bible Study
<u>Thursday, May 14th</u>

1:00-3-00pm Food Distribution

<u>Sunday, May 17th</u> 10:00 Worship Live on Facebook

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The Baby Bottles that have been turned by this Forecast, have been turned into the Crisis Pregnancy Center.

In 2019 Care Net served 580 unique clients, performed 448 ultrasounds and gave away 686 packs of diapers. Over 100 women were connected with a personal mentor from a local church! Because of your giving we have been able to bless these ladies.

There are other people that still have their baby bottles. You can drop

them at the church or call the church office and we will pick them up. We will take the



rest to the Center at a later time.

<u>Happy Birthday</u>

5/11 Beverly Hudson 5/12 Jonathan Michie 5/14 Pastor Lynwood 5/15 Mary Ann Schell 5/17 Tommie Peake



"Serving our community with the love of Jesus"



When The Bottom Falls Out!

"Help God, the bottom has fallen out of my life! Master hear my cry for help!" Psalm 130:1, The Message

That sums it up. We've been there, done that, got the T-shirt and remember the pain, not just the physical agony, but the emotional torment of life when the bottom drops out, when our hopes are dashed, when one we love is gone, when the

foundations of our life are shattered, when all that we have depended on has betrayed us.

Life in the pits. Life in the depths. Out of the depths, the older translations of this psalm said, *"I cried unto thee."*

"Listen to the voice of pain, disgrace and dishonor: "Master, hear my cry for help! 2 Listen hard! Open your ears! Listen to my cries for mercy... My life's on the line before God, my Lord, waiting and watching till morning, waiting and watching till morning." Psalm 130:1,6

Someone has been up all night. Someone can't sleep. Someone's walking the floor. Someone's in trouble. Someone is in desperate need of life's greatest therapy–grace.

Grace therapy. It's the kind of therapy that brings us back to health; grace is the kind of therapy that brings us back to ourselves; grace is the therapy that makes us right with God. In that wonderful grace there is mercy, there is forgiveness, there is love, there is generous redemption. With God there is liberation from captivity, from the prison that we've made for ourselves, from the web of deceit that we have spun for ourselves.

Grace is amazing because it changes the way we think, the way we feel, the way we act. But grace is effective only when forgiveness transforms us from the inside, when by the power of God at work in us, we change direction in our lives. We do not presume upon the grace of God. By that I mean, beg for forgiveness only to re-embrace the kind of attitude, the kind of life-style, that got us in trouble in the first place.

The power of grace is to life us out of that bottomless pit and to set us on a firm foundation. God's grace may be free, but it's not cheap. I know the little phrase unconditional love is thrown around a lot these days, but God's love for us is a redeeming love, that is, a love that changes us, that brings out the best in us, but also gives us the power to free us from the captivity of our past.

It is a costly grace—the offer of God's grace and forgiveness to you in Christ cost God a lot—cost Jesus his life on the cross. But God was true to His character in sending us Jesus. God wanted to put us back on top when the bottom drops out. He still does.

The Strength to Start Over

"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God." Acts 9:20

In the beginning of Saul's early adult life, the scriptures reveals how he wanted to imprison, or murder any disciple of the Lord he could find. But what Saul would

soon discover, is that the Lord of the disciples would find him first. For there was a day, when Saul was walking on the road to Damascus, and it would be on this day, that he would be forever changed.

The first thing that the Lord did when it came to Saul, is to change his name. For he would now be known from that day forward, as Paul. And more importantly, he was no longer zealous for the "ceremonial law" for he was now instead, a minister that was devoted, to the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now one can't help but to wonder, where did Paul find the strength to start over; to abandon a path that he knew, for a path, that he had no clue on where it would take him? How could he become apart of the very thing, he was trying to put an end too? How could he now call himself a follower of Christ, after spending so much of his early life, trying to destroy the very same people, who themselves were followers?

I mean after all, the Pharisees knew him as "Saul of Taurus: the defender of the law of Moses." But now he's saying to his fellow Pharisees, that all that they'd known, all that they'd lived for, could be no more, for they had to change.

Understand that the strength to start over, comes from having the knowledge of God's Word. It also comes from one, who constantly press themselves, when it comes to having a constant, developing, good relationship with the Lord. For I like to think, that this is why, it's also crucial for us to pray, and feed from the Word of the God daily.

Know that the more time you spend alone with God, the more willing you will be, to learn how to have the Spirit of the Lord teaching, and guiding you in your everyday life. Keep in mind, that walking with God, will challenge you to reach beyond the natural things you have grown familiar with from within your life.

Later in his life when he looked upon his transformative experience he would sum it all up like this...

"For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am..." 1 Corinthians 15:9,10



Discouragement

"I am weary with my sighing; every night I make my bed swim, I dissolve my couch with my tears. My eye has wasted away with grief; it has become old because of all my adversaries." Psalm 6:6-7



Robert E. Lee was revered throughout the Confederate army during the U.S. Civil War, and respected by many even among his adversaries in the Union army. In addition to being a brilliant soldier, he was known as a man of character and integrity.

But on this day in 1863, Lee wrote a letter to Confederate President Jefferson Davis that was filled with discouragement. The Gettysburg campaign had ended a month earlier. Many in the South expected a victory, but the battle resulted in a boost for the North. Lee felt like a failure and was ready to give up.

Lee wrote that he had "seen and heard of expression of discontent" about the campaign. He suspected that officers" were "too kind to report" this discontent. But he felt that the only acceptable solution was for him to be removed as head of the army of Northern Virginia.

He wrote that "no one is more aware than myself of my inability for the duties of my position. I cannot even accomplish what I myself desire. How can I fulfill the expectations of others?" But Davis rejected Lee's request, and he continued in leadership until the end of the war.

The Bible tells us that anyone can be discouraged. Even a man like King David. The Bible records his confession at a time when he was weary and spent his nights crying. But he realized that God "heard my supplication" and "receives my prayer."

Do you feel discouraged? Feel like giving up? Call on God. Trust in Him. Allow Him to renew and strengthen you that you might accomplish the assignments He prepared for you. Remember: You are special in His sight. And He hears your prayers.



The Last Laugh...

An enthusiastic believer had volunteered and just begun teaching the children's Sunday school class at church

The topic for the day: Easter Sunday and the resurrection of Christ.

"What did Jesus do on this day?" she asked. There was no response, so she gave her students a hint: "It starts with the letter R."

One little boy excitedly blurted out... "Recycle!"



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