

I am absolutely certain that as we begin this new year of 2021, we are going to be tested and held accountable for lessons we have learned in 2020. We have been required to be socially distanced, wear our masks, and be prepared to turn our world upside down in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Our only certainty became uncertainty as week to week it seemed that the guidelines and forecast were ever changing!

The one thing that hasn't changed is the dependence upon our faith. And I am convinced that far more of our destiny can be focused and shaped as we engage proactively in our prayer lives with God.

I am believing that in this exciting new four-week series called "PRAY", we have the opportunity to go deeper in our experience with God than ever before. No longer will we be satisfied with prayers that are intended to "just help us make it through." Rather we will reach deep into our hearts and spirits and open doors to our innermost thoughts about God and the exact way we honestly want to see Him at work in our lives.

Join us live at HBC 10:00 am this Sunday for a sanitized and safe worship experience – Or tune into Facebook Live and join in with our virtual worship experience – Invite a friend!



Active In Sharing Your Faith!

“I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.” Philemon 4-6

What a beautiful opening prayer we discover Paul writing to his beloved friend from his restrictive prison cell, and what wise instructions he gave - wisdom we all need to heed. Paul was praying that his dear friend Philemon would be an effective witness as he shared his faith with others.

He further prayed that he would come to a deeper knowledge and understanding of the incredible riches of God's unfathomable grace that are discovered in Jesus Christ alone.

It was the Lord Jesus Himself that demonstrated to us about how to live and walk in spirit and in truth, by the leading of the Spirit of God. Jesus lived a perfect life by looking to the Father day by day, and learning obedience through the things He suffered.

It was Paul who revealed the mystery that was hidden from the ages and from the generations but has now made known to his sanctified people of God. It was a mystery kept hidden from past ages and generations but has been unveiled to us - in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We will never understand the full extent of the incredible riches of God's unfathomable grace that are discovered in Jesus Christ our Lord, but the more we know Him the more effective will be our Christian ministry and witness.

We need to pray for one another, just as Paul prayed in the book of Philemon, that the fellowship of OUR faith may become increasingly effecting as together we all grow in grace and in a knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Let us never forget that all we are and all we have is ours by Christ alone. The more we come to know JESUS and the blessings that flow to us from HIM, the more we will desire to share these blessings with others, until we can pray: I must decrease so that He may increase.

Let us pray for our fellow believers that at the fellowship of our faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in us, for Christ's sake.

On the grace journey of travelling 2021 with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

January 5, 2021

12/31/2020 Budget \$1580.50

Total Deposit \$1580.50

12/31/2020 Budget \$800.00

Budget Designated in memory of Kathy and David Moore \$50.00

Lottie Moon \$10.00

Total Deposit \$860.00

1/3/2021 Budget \$1420.94

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$10.00

Food Closet \$125.00

Total Deposit \$1565.94

Lottie Moon
Collected to Date
\$3807.00

PORT

Starting January 6, 2021, HBC will be hosting PORT nightly until January 27. PORT will look different this year compared to others. Please pray for Pam as she leads in this ministry and all the workers that we will have working here. And please pray for our guests, we are blessed to be able to help the less fortunate during these cold months.

Special donations were made in memory of Emma Fischer for her Birthday and Christmas in the amount of \$150.00. Also a donation was made in her memory for \$210.00

Thank you for your special offerings to the memory of Emma Fischer



MY
GRACE
IS SUFFICIENT
FOR YOU,
FOR MY
POWER
IS MADE
PERFECT IN WEAKNESS

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9



WMU – January Mission Emphasis

Collecting money for PORT

Serve The City – sign up: stcpeninsula.com

Jan 9, 12:30-3:30 (Big Work Day) - yard work, sorting goods at Heart of Giving warehouse, trash pick up and lawn maintenance Elmerton Cemetery

Jan 24, 2:00-4:00— Trash pick up and lawn maintenance Elmerton Cemetery (partnering w/ Hampton Roads Hikers)

PORT – sign up: signup.com/go/qbHOttb

Contact Pam Cooke if you can help 757-660-4226

Food Pantry Focus

Wednesday Jan. 6, 4:00-6:00pm

Hope Boxes for Appalachia

We are doing boxes for the kids that are eastern Kentucky deep in the Appalachian Mountains. Please pick up all the information in the Mission Outreach Corner. Boxes are due February 21st

For additional information or if you have questions, contact Pam at 660-4226

Pray for our Missionaries

Laura Allen, Beth Ann Earley, Brenda Lawzabal (American People) TC, SF (Central Asian People) Kyu Park (East Asian People) David Morgan, DS (European People) NB (South Asian People) Ben Gipson (GA) David Mills (NC) Yong Sup Kim, Nego Pierre Louis, Yong Sup Kim , Nego Pierre Louis, Yong Sup Kim (Ontario) Soungho Chun (TX)



Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Calendar

Tuesday, January 5

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, January 6– PORT

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, January 7– PORT

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

Friday, January 8– PORT

Saturday, January 9– PORT

Sunday, January 10 PORT

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Monday, January 11– PORT

Tuesday, January 12 - PORT

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, January 13– PORT

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, January 14– PORT

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Friday, January 15– PORT

Saturday, January 16– PORT

Sunday, January 17– PORT

10am Live worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Happy Birthday for

the next two weeks

1/8 Zach Lowman

1/9 Debbie Greene

1/9 Matt Jordan

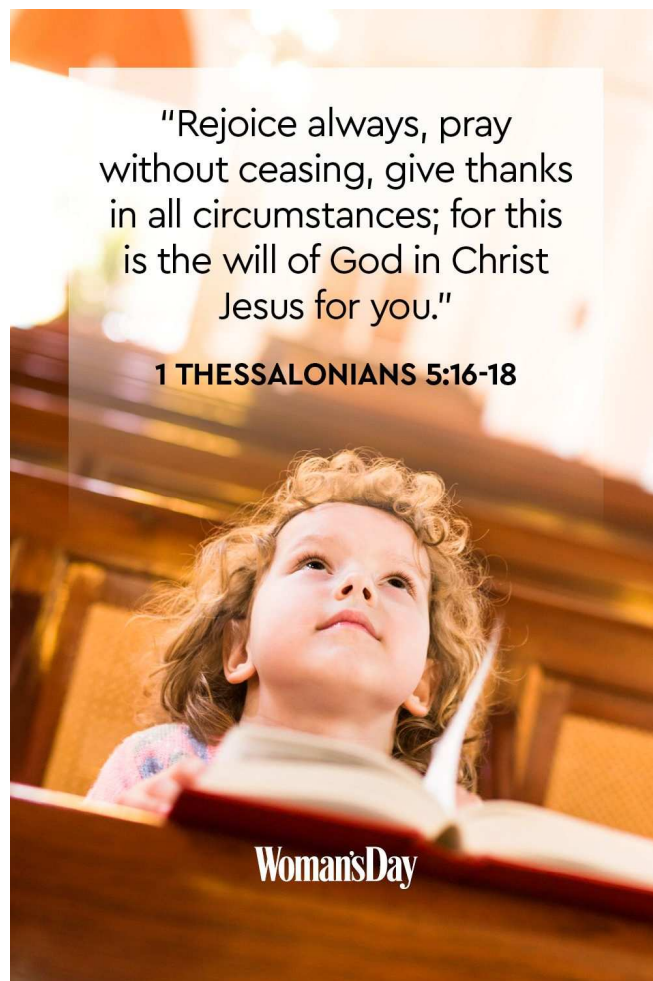
1/10 Mia Kuhlne

1/10 Heather Collins

1/13 Cathy Childs

1/13 Dreama Johnson

1/14 Mary Frances Beech





PRAY” - New 4 Week Message Series!

Prayers aren't empty words hurled at the sky. They're conversations—in fact, they're the most important conversations of our lives. Find out just how much it matters when you pray!

This four-week series focuses on Paul's prayers for the early church and the "so that" statements he used in his writing. Each week, we learn to pray so *that* Christ may dwell in our hearts, we'll understand every good thing in Christ, we'll have one mind and voice to glorify God, and we can discern what is best.

“PRAY” – Our new 4 week message series enters its 2nd week! Plan to be here and invite your family and friends!

Facing the Unknown

"Having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia ... they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them." – Acts 16:6-7



Paul had a clear mission: to spread the Gospel, follow God's call, and deliver His messages. Throughout his journeys, he developed confidence that God was guiding him – until he approached Troas (in modern-day Turkey). Suddenly, God blocked every move. As a result, Paul didn't know what to do or where to go. He faced a future filled with unknowns.

He could have given in to frustration and doubt. But, just in time, God spoke to him in a vision and told him to go to Macedonia. This was a new direction but clearly God's will. Looking back, Paul could see why He had blocked his path. God wanted him to do something different than he had planned. God may block our path for reasons we don't understand at times. We may not have His peace. Doors may close in ways we didn't expect. We simply may not know exactly where to go.

When this happens, we need to remember Paul's example. Start by being faithful to what God has revealed. Obey His Word and the direction we have received. Always be sensitive to His Spirit. Pray and seek Him until we have His peace and He confirms His direction.

Remember, God is with you right now. Commit your way to Him. Be confident that He will guide you. Have faith that He will supply your needs and direct your steps!

Learn to Wait

“My times are in Your hand...” – Psalm 31:15

As you walk with God, you’ll find you spend more time waiting than you do anything else. And when you receive what you’re waiting for, then you’ll begin waiting for something else! So if you don’t learn to wait with joy, you’ll live in frustration.

Paul writes, “Let us not grow weary while doing good: for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart.” (Galatians 6:9 NKJV) “Due season” is when God knows the time is right, not when you think it is. God has a set time for accomplishing things in your life, so you might as well settle down and wait, because that’s when it will happen, and not before. God knows what you need, when you need it, and how to get it to you.

You ask, “And what am I supposed to do while I’m waiting?” Trust Him! One Bible teacher writes, “God has taught me to keep living the life I now have while I’m waiting for the things that are in my heart to come to pass. We become so intent on trying to give birth to the next thing that we neither enjoy nor take care of the things at hand. I had a vision from God ten years before I began to see it fulfilled. During those years I believe I missed a lot of joy by trying to give birth outside of God’s timing. Learn to enjoy where you are, while you are waiting to get to where you want to be.”

The Last Impression...



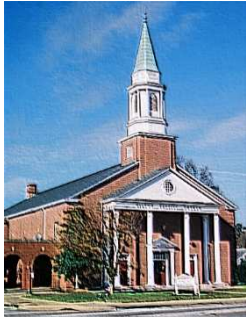
A man bought a donkey from a preacher. The preacher told the man that this donkey had been trained in a very unique way, (being the donkey of a preacher). The only way to make the donkey go, is to say, “Hallelujah!” The only way to make the donkey stop, is to say, “Amen!”

The man was pleased with his purchase and immediately got on the animal to try out the preacher’s instructions. “Hallelujah!” shouted the man. The donkey began to trot. “Amen!” shouted the man. The donkey stopped immediately.

“This is great,” said the man. With a “Hallelujah” he rode off, very proud of his new purchase. The man travelled for a long time through some mountains. Soon he was heading towards a cliff. He could not remember the word to make the donkey stop. “Stop,” said the man. “Halt!” he cried. The donkey just kept going. “Oh, no... Bible!... Church!... Please Stop!!” shouted the man. The donkey just began to trot faster. He was getting closer and closer to the cliff edge. Finally, in desperation, the man said a prayer... “Please, dear Lord. Please make this donkey stop before I go off the end of this mountain, In Jesus name, AMEN”. The donkey came to an abrupt stop just one step from the edge of the cliff.

“HALLELUJAH!” shouted the man.





***Start Off The New Year Of 2021 Right,
With A Special Gift Of Faith!***

As we are beginning a bright and hopeful New Year, we want to plant our seed early on for the blessings we hope to receive during the next 12 months. To accomplish this, let us consider sowing a special seed in our giving at the very outset of the year in an expression of our faith in His faithfulness.

“Give Your Best To God And Expect His Best Back To You!”



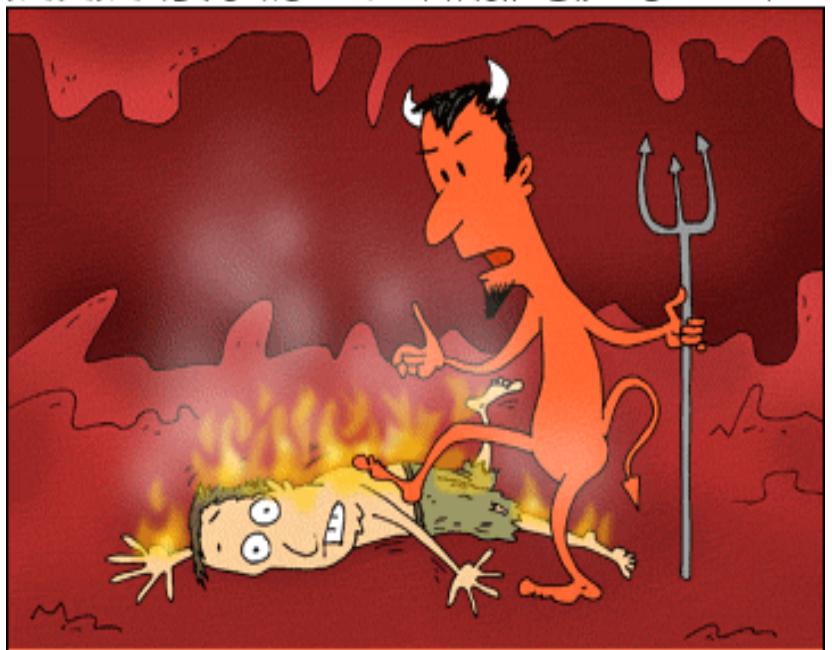
**P.eople
O.ffering
R.esources
T.together**



**PORT Winter Shelter Ministry
A Very Special “THANK YOU!”
To ALL Who Have Helped Or
Who Are Helping!**

***God preserved us
through 2020...
Let’s expect miracles
in 2021!
Please remember your
commitments and giving
and be part
of the blessing!***

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Thanks to Peter Mason

03-21-2007

**STOP, DROP, AND ROLL DOESN'T WORK
HERE**

Jesus Never Said... "You Won't Have Bad Days!"

Let's face it... We all have bad days! One of the most difficult challenges of the Christian life is the fact that becoming Christ followers does not make us immune to life's trials and tribulations. Why would a good and loving God allow us to go through such things as the death of a child, disease and injury to ourselves and our loved ones, financial hardships, worry and fear? Surely, if He loved us, He would take all these things away from us. After all, doesn't loving us mean He wants our lives to be easy and comfortable?



Well, no, it doesn't. The Bible clearly teaches that God loves those who are His children, and He *"works all things together for good"* for us (Romans 8:28). So that must mean that the trials and tribulations He allows in our lives are part of the working together of all things for good. Therefore, for the believer, all trials and tribulations ultimately have a divine purpose.

As in all things, God's ultimate purpose for us is to grow more and more into the image of His Son (Romans 8:29). This is the goal of the Christian, and everything in life, including the trials and tribulations, is designed to enable us to reach that goal. This is explained in 1 Peter 1:6-7: *"In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which perishes, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."*

Trials develop godly character, and that enables us to *"rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us..."* (Romans 5:3-4).

However, we must be careful never to make excuses for our "trials and tribulations" if they are a result of our own wrongdoing. God forgives our sins because the eternal punishment for them has been paid by Christ's sacrifice on the cross. However, we still suffer the natural consequences in this life for our sins and bad choices. But God uses even those sufferings to mold and shape us for His purposes and our ultimate good.

Trials and tribulations come with both a purpose and a reward.

"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. . . . Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him" (James 1:2-4,12).

On the grace journey of forgiveness together with you, Lynwood



Peace

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would create a painting that best demonstrated peace. Many artists tried. The King looked at all the paintings, but there were only two he really liked and he had to choose between them.

One painting was of a beautiful and calm lake scene. The lake was a mirror reflecting the towering snowcapped mountains all around it. Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. Most who saw this painting thought that it was the perfect picture of peace. The other painting had mountains too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell, and lightning danced. Down the side of one mountain tumbled a turbulent waterfall.

When the King looked, he saw that behind the waterfall grew a tiny bush from a crack in the rock. Within the bush a bird had built a nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird in her nest. The King chose this picture as the one best demonstrating peace.

People grumbled at the King's choice. The king responded to the people saying that he chose the second picture because peace did not mean being in a place where there is no noise, trouble, or hard work. The King explained that true peace meant to be in the midst of all those things and yet still be calm in heart.

We live in a fast-paced world full of turmoil. Perhaps even now you are experiencing significant challenges that threaten to knock your world off balance and threaten to rob you of peace. Still, as the story points out, the absence of turmoil isn't the real meaning of peace. It can also be finding a safe and secure place in the midst of an onslaught.

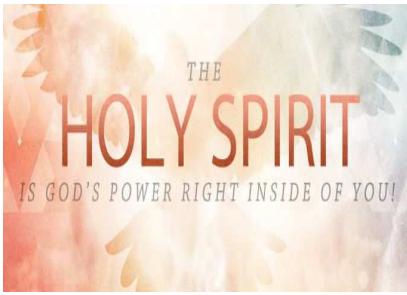
Like the King in the story, Jesus, knows the meaning of peace. He hasn't chosen to take us out of this world, or remove all sources of trouble, but rather to protect us and offer us the peace that only He can give!

One Last Laugh

Seven-year-old Kathy usually went to children's church on Sunday mornings, but one Sunday she went with her parents to the regular adult service.

When Communion was served, she turned to her mother and whispered loudly, "The snack in children's church is much better. And we get a lot more juice."





Allow The Holy Spirit To Live Through You

You can work, work, work at being more Christ-like every day. But you will fail. You cannot do it. God did not design you in that way, and nor can you develop that capacity.

It is the Holy Spirit's job to produce Christ-like character in you. In a mystical mirror image, He is the invisible and powerful transforming image of everything Christ is.

No one knows Jesus better than the Father and the Holy Spirit. The Father reserved His place to rule and reign the universe from Heaven. When Jesus completed His earthly ministry, He ascended back to the Father to sit in the throne room and to make intercession on our behalf for every prayer and supplication we make to God.

But as the Father was delighted to send the Holy Spirit to anoint Jesus for His earthly ministry, He now delights in sending Him upon us. He directs us according to Father's perfect plan and purposes. He empowers us to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. He delights when we allow His divinity to flow through and outshine our carnal fleshly natural man.

You and I cannot reproduce the character of Jesus on our own strength. Resolutions, willpower, and best intentions are not enough. Only the Holy Spirit has the power to make the changes God wants to make in our lives. The Bible says, "*God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him*" (Philippians 2:13 NLT).

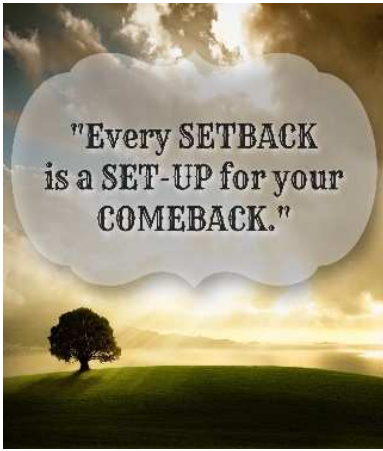
Mention "*the power of the Holy Spirit,*" and many people think of miraculous demonstrations and intense emotions. But, most of the time, the Holy Spirit's power is released in your life in quiet, unassuming ways that you aren't even aware of or feel.

Remember the Holy Spirit is a divine person of the trinity. He more than merely an invisible power.

In other words, Christ-likeness is not produced by imitation but by inhabitation. We allow the Holy Spirit to live and produce the life of Christ through us.

How does this happen? Through the choices we make. We surrender access to our lives and wills by choosing to follow Jesus in all situations and then trust God's Spirit to give us his power, love, faith, and wisdom to do it. Since God's Spirit lives inside of us, these things are always available for the asking.

Why not allow Him to live through your life more completely today? His presence is with us and is waiting to be invited in!



“It’s Time For Your Comeback!”

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

—Genesis 15:13-15

Do you believe that God’s word can change the atmosphere of your life? It can. It will. I believe this passage speaks to us in a significant way. I want to talk about God planning your comeback. In scripture, God gave Abraham two promises:

Promise #1 – That he would die at a ripe old age. Question: Do you ever worry about dying? Do you believe your life is fully in the hands of God?

God came to Abraham and He basically said, “Abraham, I don’t want you to worry about dying. You will go to the grave at a good old age.” I believe this means we ought to just expect and claim that we’ll have good memories and we’ll have healthy, strong bodies. I know we get older and everything changes, for sure. But I’m claiming today the good old age. I’ll always have provision. I’ll always be taken care of, because man is not my source. Isn’t that good news? That’s good news. Be free from the fear of what’s coming. Good is what’s coming.

Promise #2 - That his wayward children would comeback. Questions: Do you have children you worry about or who are not walking with God today? Can you have faith for a “comeback” for your child?

God warned Abraham about this, but in the covenant that He made with him, He told him that his children would come back again to where He called them to be. There will be a comeback.

This truth is for your children, but it is also for you. No matter how pessimistic, no matter how negative it looks today, you’re going to come back. It’s a season of comeback. It’s time to get up off the mat if you’ve been knocked down. If you’ve been through something, if you’ve been through financial setback or some kind of terrible thing has hit you in your health or something’s happened to your family, it’s time for a comeback!

It’s not time to quit. It’s no time to give up. It’s not time to moan and groan. We may be down, but we’re not out, because we serve a comeback God. Sometimes in life, stuff just happens. You may feel like you’ve been through hell, you messed up, and you did something you shouldn’t have done. It’s time for a comeback. The Bible said there is a river whose streams shall make glad again. That’s the river of the Holy Spirit, and if you can get a scent of that river, God can orchestrate your comeback