

The HBC Weekly Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church. www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601



Some of you will go through a tough time soon!

Seems like everyone we know is either heading into a trial, in middle of a trial, or coming out of a trial ... Sometimes ALL THREE!

Unanswered prayer, Criticism Beating you down, Lost job, Health issues, Financial challenges, Strained relationships, Discouragement, Depression.

These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold-- though your faith is far more precious than mere gold.

So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. 1 Peter 1:7 NLT•

And you will know in that day, beyond all doubt...

**“A FAITH THAT’S TESTED IS A FAITH
THAT CAN BE TRUSTED.”**

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



Does “How We Act” Really Matter?

On the surface this seems like a pretty simple question and the obvious answer is "yes." So, when people like me start talking about the Gospel of God's grace and how our behavior is irrelevant to our right standing with God, I can see why people would immediately - and sometimes forcefully - push back.

Today's Good News is about the completely upside-down counter-intuitive nature of the Gospel. Here is the truth - our right standing with God is given to us by God's declaration, NOT based upon our behavior. Our behavior has zero impact on where we stand with God. Does this shock you? It shocks me!

Yet, that is exactly what the Bible teaches when it says we receive Christ's righteousness simply because we BELIEVE that Jesus paid the penalty for our sin through his life, death and resurrection. Now before you get too wound up, let me share what the true impact this truth has on our lives - we behave better, not perfectly, but better. Those who truly understand the freedom of the Gospel are transformed by that same Gospel.

The Gospel that declares there is nothing we can do to separate ourselves from God's love, is the same Gospel that changes our way of thinking Paul's response in his letter to the Romans about this is not a return to more rules and forced change, but instead a reminder to return to the true Gospel and its transformative power.

This also means we put down the gavel and quit playing judge and jury on ourselves - and on the people around us. God is the only one with the ability to judge properly - and his judgement, for those who believe... Not guilty! This does not mean we weren't guilty - we were - but Christ has taken the guilty verdict upon himself and paid the due penalty. In return we are granted his perfection and the decree "Not guilty."

Amazing! When one truly understands the power of this truth, the only natural reaction is to thank God for his grace, and in turn look for how we can pass this truth on to someone else. You'll treat those around you with respect - even the ones who disagree with you.

You see, the focus no longer has to be on yourself - you're made complete in Christ. And you don't have to try and figure out how to "be better" - which would only bring the focus back on you. In short, your behavior will radically change for the better - not to earn God's love, but because you already have it. Not to earn God's blessing or favor, but because you have already received it. Not to try and make your good outweigh your bad, but because the verdict has already been delivered in your favor. This is the power of the Gospel - and that's Good News!

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

May 25, 2021

Budget \$1395.00

Annie Armstrong Offering \$10.00

PBA Offering \$35.00

Cash in Cashout– Sonshine Kids \$100.00

Cash in Cashout– Coffee Fund \$1.00

Total Deposit \$1566.00



Another Way to Give



Vacation Bible School

August 9th– 13th

6:00pm– 8:30pm



Table Captains are needed. We can use YOU! Contact Dreama to help or register!



A Special Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who made Dreama's 10th Anniversary and Pastor Lynwood's 20th Anniversary so special.

Because of your sacrificial giving we were able to give Dreama \$3700.00 and Pastor Lynwood \$6030.00. This was such a blessing to them. Thank you for being a part of these special recognitions and celebrations.

Roger Cooke, People Support

Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

Serve The City

June 1st– Food Delivery at Berkley Village

June 12th– Big Volunteer Day 9am-2pm

Register online at <https://www.stcpeninsula.com>

Big Volunteer Week– July 13th– 17th. Registration is open now!

WMU Focus

WMU Missions Focus for June– Lackey Free Clinic. Services provided there are Primary and Specialty Medical Care, Dental Care, Free and Low Cost Medicines, Behavioral Health Counseling, Spiritual Care, Better Vision Eye Care. 77.5% of the patients have 3 or more chronic conditions, 63% of our patients are employed but can not afford health care. We will be sending all donations sent for this worth Ministry.

Food Pantry at HBC

HBC gives food away on Tuesdays and Thursday. See Sue Monfalcone to volunteer and for more information on how you can help.

Restock the pantry– This Sunday, May 30th in the sanctuary and Wednesday, June 2nd in the back parking lot from 4pm– 6pm.

Pray for Our Missionaries

DK (American People) MT (Central Asian People) AH, ML (East Asian People) BP (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) CF (Southeast Asian People) Bart Gibbs, BJ (Sub Saharan African People) Yuening Li (CA) Hugh Orr (ID) Weaver McCahey (IN) Matthew Yoder (IA) Johannes Slabbert (WY)

Sedgefield Elementary

We will be blessing the teachers of Sedgefield Elementary School one final time before the end of the School year. Please bring your individually wrapped snacks to the church by Sunday, June 6th. Also we encourage everyone to write a note of appreciation for their work . Cards and names are located in the

Mission Outreach area.

Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Calendar

Tuesday, May 25th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 26th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, May 27th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Sunday, May 30th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Monday, May 31th

Happy Memorial Day!

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, June 1st

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, June 2nd

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, June 3rd

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Sunday, June 6th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

The church office will be closed on Monday, June 7 and Wednesday, June 9th
Karen Simpson will be in the office on Tuesday, June 8th to answer the phone and be there for food referrals from the United Way.



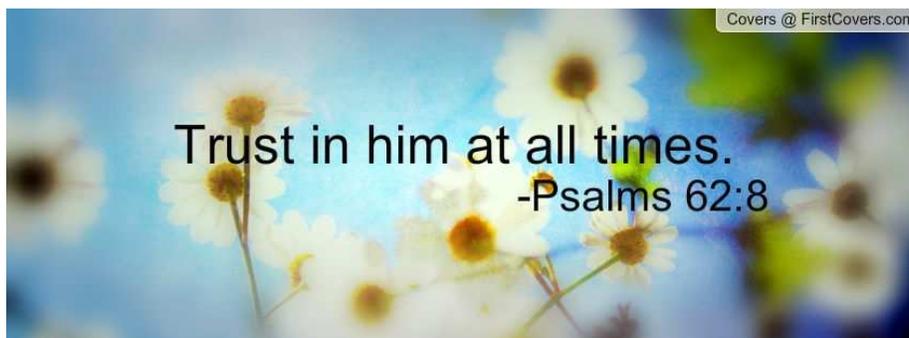
Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

5/27 Debra Jones

5/30 Dave Gibson

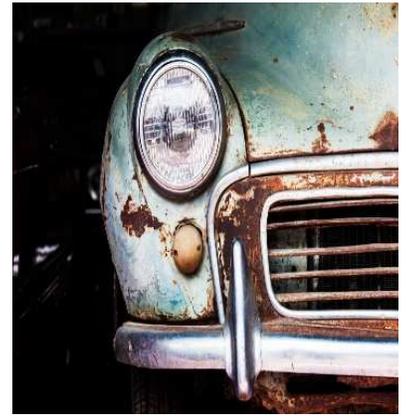
6/1 Joe Caskie

6/9 Kimberly Michie



7 THINGS THAT WORKED IN THE CHURCH A DECADE AGO THAT DON'T TODAY

Remember when we entered into church leadership full of enthusiasm and fresh ideas. And for a season, a lot of those ideas worked. We saw our ministry grow, people come to faith and the mission advance. But times change. And—these days especially—culture is changing faster than ever before.



As a result, the shelf life of ideas, assumptions and approaches is shorter than it has ever been. What used to work, doesn't. Not anymore. Here are 9 things that used to work in ministry a decade ago that aren't nearly as effective as they used to be.

1. RELYING ON AN AUTOMATIC RETURN TO CHURCH

There was a day when you could fairly safely assume that once young adults got married and had a child, they would automatically come back to church. Those days are gone or largely gone. The average unchurched person doesn't think about going to church anymore than the average Christian thinks about going to synagogue. It just doesn't cross their mind. Having an exceptional next-generation ministry that reaches *out* to the community is critical. Want a better way to impact families? I know of no better approach than this. You can't assume families will reach out to you, so you need to reach out to them.

2. APPEALING TO PEOPLE OUT OF GUILT OR OBLIGATION

The number of people who feel guilty about not being in church on Sunday shrinks daily. Ditto with the number of people who will serve at a church because they feel they *should*. Interestingly enough, Jesus never appealed to people out of guilt or obligation. He invited people to come and see. The future church will as well

3. SIMPLY BEING BETTER THAN OTHER CHURCHES

When people went to church, being a better church than other churches used to get you mileage. Most people no longer go to church. Saying "we have a better church." It is kind of like saying "we have better, organic, locally grown watercress" at a burger cook-off. Most people just aren't going to buy.

4. INAUTHENTIC PRESENTATION

People's fake detectors are set at a higher level than ever. In a culture that markets everything to death, people are longing for authenticity. Fortunately, that's at the heart of the Gospel. None of us has it all together. And while there shouldn't be any gaping unaddressed character holes in your life, letting people see the real you (even if it scares you) is essential. These days, letting people see you're human is a prerequisite for ministry to fellow humans.

5. A SELF-CENTRED MISSION

You have to be careful not to make the mission about *your* church. When your church has had a little success, it's easy to become self-centred. The people you're trying to reach aren't interested in your church. What they're interested in (whether they realize it or not) is Jesus. And his mission. Churches that are obsessed about how big they are, how many programs they offer, and how much better they are than other churches have a limited shelf-life. The true mission isn't about your church. It's about THE church. THAT resonates.

6. RANDOM PROGRAMMING

Why does random programming not work? Simple: because random programming pleases insiders but rarely reaches outsiders. Instead, be strategic and focused. Do whatever helps move people the most clearly and deeply into a growing relationship with Jesus, and do whatever advances your mission into the city. Make no mistake: What people become involved in becomes the mission. So choose carefully. Make the mission your mission.

7. ASSUMING PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THEIR NEXT STEP IS

A decade ago, in a more churched culture, it was commonplace to assume that most people knew what they needed to do to become a Christian or to grow as a Christian. That era is gone. Now the average unchurched person arrives knowing almost nothing about Christianity, what to do to become a Christian or how to grow as a Christian. To understand how radically things have shifted, imagine you converted to Hinduism. How would you know you've actually become a Hindu? What's your next step? Exactly.

Pastor Cary Newhouf, pastor of "Connexus Church" a thriving congregation seeking to navigate and help lead other churches through the present storms and challenges of church life. Each person should read this several times over and try to apply before letting it go...



“Be Heir to the King!”

There is an Irish legend about a king, who had no children to succeed him on the throne. So, he had his messengers post signs in every town and village of his kingdom inviting qualified young men to apply for an interview with the king. This way the king hoped to be able to choose a successor before he died. Two qualifications, especially, were stressed. The person must have a deep love for God and a deep love for his neighbor.

A young man saw one of the signs. He indeed had a deep love for God and neighbor. He felt a kind of inner voice telling him to apply for an interview. But the young man was so poor that he didn't have decent clothes to wear to an interview. He also didn't have any money to buy provisions for the long journey to the king's castle. So the young man prayed over the matter. He finally decided to beg for the clothes and the provisions he needed. When everything was ready, he set out. After a month of travel, one day the young man caught sight of the king's castle. It sat high on a hill in the distance.

At about the same time, he also caught sight of a poor old beggar sitting by the side of the road. The beggar held out his hands and pleaded for help. "I'm hungry and cold," he said in a weak voice. "Could you give me something warm to wear and something nourishing to eat?"

The sight of the beggar moved the young man. He stripped off his warm outer clothes and exchanged them for the tattered old coat of the beggar. He also gave the beggar most of the provisions he had been carrying in his backpack for the return journey. Then, somewhat uncertainly, he walked on to the castle in tattered clothes and without enough food for his return trip.

When the young man arrived at the castle, guards met him at the gate. They took him to a visitors' area, and after a long wait, he led into see the king. He bowed low before the throne. When he straightened up, the young man could hardly believe his eyes. He said to the king. "You were the beggar beside the road." "That's right," said the king.

"Why did you do this to me?" asked the young man. The king said, "I had to find out if you really did love God and neighbor." And then the king told him he had proved himself and was the new heir. What a surprise!

*“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,
I needed clothes and you clothed me...” Matt. 25:34,35*

It Happens to the Best of Us!

A pastor was building a fence while the neighbor's 12-year-old son watched. The pastor smiled and said, "Are you interested in carpentry?" "No," the boy replied. "I just want to hear what a preacher says when he hits his thumb with a hammer!"



You are the only Bible some people will ever read, and they're watching to see how your life lines up with what you profess. Some are hoping for confirmation of the life-changing power of Jesus; others for a chance to say, "See, Christians are all hypocrites!" We want to set a good example, but sometimes we fall short. God uses those failures to "...make it clear that our...power is from Him, not...ourselves." (2 Corinthians 4:7 NLT)

God doesn't gloss over the shortcomings of even the most notable saints. They're "examples... written down as warnings for us..." (1 Corinthians 10:11) Abraham, the "friend of God," lied about Sarah being his wife (Genesis 12:10-20). Moses, the mighty leader, got angry and disobeyed God. David, a man after God's heart, committed adultery and then tried to cover his tracks with murder (2 Samuel 11:15). Peter, head of the church, denied Jesus not once but three times (Luke 22:54-62), and John Mark gave up and went home during a missionary trip (Acts 15:38).

So don't get discouraged when you stumble. Get up, admit your mistake, apologize to the people involved, ask God for forgiveness, forgive yourself, learn from what happened, and move on.



THINK

Alan Redpath once formed a "mutual encouragement" fellowship at a time of stress in one of his pastorates. The members subscribed to a simple formula applied before speaking of any person or subject that was perhaps controversial.

T – Is it true?

H – Is it helpful?

I – Is it inspiring?

N – Is it necessary?

K – Is it kind?

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or of praise, think about such things" Phil 4:8

How Much Can God Trust You With?



We never really own anything – it's just a loan. It was God's property before we arrived, and He'll lend it to somebody else after we're gone. Our selfish culture says, "If I don't own it, why should I take care of it?" Those who understand God's will live by a higher standard. They say, "Because God owns it, I'll take even better care of it!" In God's Kingdom, *"...those who are trusted with something valuable must show they are worthy of that trust."* (1 Cor. 4:2)

To illustrate this, Jesus told the story of a businessman who entrusted his wealth to his servants while he was away. When he returned he evaluated and rewarded them accordingly: *"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"* (Matt. 25:21)

When you make the most of what God has given to you He promises three rewards. First, you'll be given commendation: *"Well done, good and faithful servant!"* Next, you'll receive promotion: *"I will put you in charge of many things."* Finally, you'll be honored with a celebration: *"Come and share your master's happiness."*

For many of us, money is the greatest test of all. Jesus addresses this: *"If you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of Heaven?"* (Luke 16:11) There's a direct correlation between how you use your money, and the quality of your life. So the question is, could the way you're handling your money be preventing God from blessing you with more?



The Last Impression

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely.

"The front row please," she answered.

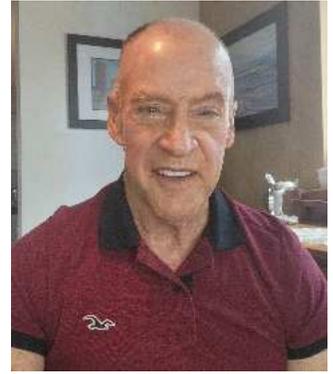
"You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said.

"I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said.

"Good," he answered, "Let me show you the front pew."

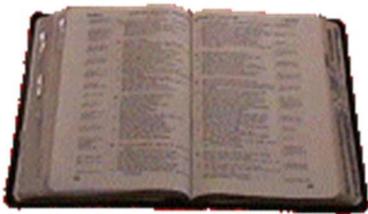
Words Cannot Begin To Express my Deepest Gratitude For My 20th Anniversary Celebration As Your Pastor!



To Everyone who participated in my 20th Anniversary Celebration, I can honestly, I have never been so personally nor publicly moved as I was this past Sunday!

The video and personal reflections of so many friends from my past and present willing to say such kind words overwhelmed me. The collections of thoughts & notes, the dance of the Kid's, Dreama's moving message and everything else truly humbled and blessed me in every way.

*The very generous love offering will enable me to pursue a dream this fall of visiting the Holy Land in October, the trip of a lifetime that I have wanted to make for years...**THANK YOU ALL & PLEASE KNOW HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR EACH ONE OF YOU!***



The Last Impression

A man had been in business for many years, and the business was going down the drain. He was seriously contemplating suicide and he didn't know what to do. He went to a minister to seek his advice.

The man told the minister about all of his problems in the business and asked what he should do. The minister said, "Take a beach chair and a Bible and put them in your car, and drive down to the edge of the ocean. Go to the water's edge. Take the beach chair out of the car, sit on it, and take the Bible out and open it up. The wind will blow the pages for a while, and eventually the Bible will stay open at a particular page. Read the Bible and it will tell you what to do."

The man did as he was told. He placed a beach chair and a Bible in his car and went to the beach. He sat on the chair at the water's edge and opened the Bible. The wind blew the pages of the Bible and then stopped at a particular page. He looked down at the Bible and saw what he had to do.

Three months later, the man and his family come back to see the minister. The man was wearing a \$1,000 Italian suit. His wife was all decked out with a full-length mink coat and their child was dressed in beautiful silk. The man handed the minister a thick envelope full of money and told him that he wanted to donate this money to the church to thank the minister for his wonderful advice.

The minister was delighted. He recognized the man and asked him what advice in the Bible brought this good fortune to him.

The man replied, "Chapter 11."

The Magic 8-Ball



When I was a young boy, I remember a special toy I used to have – the “Magic 8-Ball.” In case you aren’t familiar with this iconic toy, allow me to refresh your memory. The ball itself looks like a large black 8-ball used in the game of billiards, except that this ball is larger and is filled with a dark liquid that gives cover to its contents: A small three-dimensional triangle that has phrases on each face such as “Signs Point to Yes,” “Don’t Count on It,” “You May Rely on It”, “Yes,” or “Definitely.”

The person holding the 8-ball gets to ask a question, shake the ball and then wait breathlessly for the answer to appear. Of course, if you were like me and the answer wasn’t one you liked, you would shake the ball again until a better answer appeared.

Some people mistakenly approach the Bible this way. They have a question, open the Bible, point their finger on a verse and claim that as an answer from God, that is, as long if they like the answer. The problem is, the Bible isn’t a Magic 8-Ball nor is God a “Genie in a Bottle” that seeks to serve us and grant our wishes. The Bible is an amazing collection of God-inspired letters, writings, poems, songs, history, prophecy, judgment and more. It was written over hundreds of years by over forty different authors ranging in profession from king to shepherd, fisherman and recovering Pharisee. It is God’s love letter to the world.

The Apostle Paul wrote of the comprehensive nature of the sacred Scriptures stating, *“All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man or woman of God may be competent, equipped for every good work”* (2 Timothy 3:16)

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God is doing some exciting new and powerful things through the faithful people of God at HBC...

Please remember your commitments and giving and be part of the miracle!

SIRI ... SAY GRACE