

**The HBC Weekly Forecast**  
**Hilton Baptist Church. [www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org)**  
**101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601**



## Getting Past Your Past:

*The Challenge of Forgiving Others*

Forgiveness is not merely a suggestion of our Christian experience. It is both a commandment and requirement if we are to maintain a healthy and rewarding relationship with our God. We are not called to forgive because someone deserves it. We are called to forgive because both love and the abundant life we have been given requires it.

Choose love today over your own sense of fairness. Choose to be like your heavenly Father and forgive those who have wronged you. Choose to be a doer of Colossians 3:13 and “[forgive] each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”

You weren't made to live with the weight of unforgiveness, so don't bear it any longer. The Spirit will help you. He will give you the strength and courage to do what seems impossible. Spend some time in God's presence today and forgive as he guides and directs you.

***Join us live at HBC, 10:00 am for this exciting new series...  
“Getting Past Your Past!” – Or tune into Facebook Live at 10:00 am and encourage others to join in with you!***



***Mark Kroos, internationally famed  
guitarist, returns to HBC  
Sunday Morning, September 12...  
Mark your calendars now!***



## ***Getting Past Your Past... Forgiveness***

We're promised forgiveness from our Father because his forgiveness is offered in complete grace. We have done nothing to deserve the forgiveness God so freely lavishes upon us. God offers us forgiveness because he is love; it is his very nature. And as Jesus demonstrated through his death, love forgives.

Sin stood between us and God like a great chasm separating a wanderer from an oasis; and so great was the Father's love for us that he sent his only Son that we might be justly forgiven. Jesus fully bore the weight of our sin. In doing so, he received the wrath of God on our behalf that we might be afforded restored relationship with our heavenly Father. He set aside what was fair for himself and chose to give grace. *"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God"* (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Christianity is the only religion where salvation is based on grace instead of works. God, in his love, has laid before us a path founded on mercy, and he calls us to do the same for others. As the children of God, brought into his family solely by his grace, we must forgive as God has forgiven us. Jesus modeled forgiveness perfectly in laying down his own life for you and me. In order for us to forgive others, we must be like Jesus and die to our own rights for the sake of the person who has wronged us. Forgiveness requires humility. It is a decision to offer unmerited grace because "as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Think about your own life for a moment. Who in your life do you feel has wronged you? It could be a small wound. It could be a life-altering sin committed against you. Maybe a parent left you. Maybe you were abused. Maybe you lost a job opportunity that should have been yours. Maybe it was a word someone spoke against you that hurt you. Whatever sin was committed against you, large or small, call it back to mind. Feel the injustice over it.

God weeps over what's been done to you. He knows your pain because people wrong him every minute of every day. But still he chooses to forgive because there is no love without forgiveness. There is no abundant life apart from restoration of relationship. There is no joy for God or us when we harden our hearts and live for what is fair rather than what is good.

We aren't called to forgive because someone deserves it. We forgive because love requires it. We forgive because abundant life requires it. Choose love today over your own sense of fairness. Choose to be like your heavenly Father and forgive those who have wronged you.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

# The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

July 6, 2021

Budget \$2970.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$25.00

Food Pantry \$125.00

Pure Water Pure Love \$25.00

Total Deposit \$3145.00



Another Way to Give

## Vacation Bible School

August 9th– 13th

6:00pm– 8:30pm



You can register your kid today! Can you be a helper?

We will be doing VBS in the Worship Center and we will have tables set up as we did for the Christmas Workshop and Easter Party. Table Captains are needed to help with the kids.



Please let Dreama know if you can help or if you want to register your kid(s) or grandkids.

### **Monday, July 5th**

Church office closed  
For July 4th Holiday

### **Tuesday, July 6th**

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

### **Wednesday, July 7th**

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### **Thursday, July 8th**

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

### **Sunday, July 11th**

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online /Sonshine Kids

### **Tuesday, July 13th**

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

### **Wednesday, July 14th**

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### **Thursday, July 15th**

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

### **Sunday, July 18th**

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

[Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226](#)

[Serve The City](#)

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

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

[WMU Focus](#)

WMU Missions Focus for July— Pure Water/ Pure Love

PWPL has three purposes : to supply missionaries with water filters, to provide the people they serve with wells that offer clean water and to supply missions teams with water filters for use on short-term missions trips.

[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 the last Sunday of every month. Drive Thru Food Donation is the first Wednesday of Every month 4pm-6pm in the back parking lot.

[Pray for Our Missionaries](#)

RV (Central Asian People) SK (East Asian People) MC (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) MW (Southeast Asian People) NG, Joshua Thrower (Sub– Saharan African People) Savannah Hutto (AL) Justin Erickson (AZ) Jen Cook (FL) Thomas Cotton ( GA) Devin Gresham (MD, Preston Dabbs (WA)

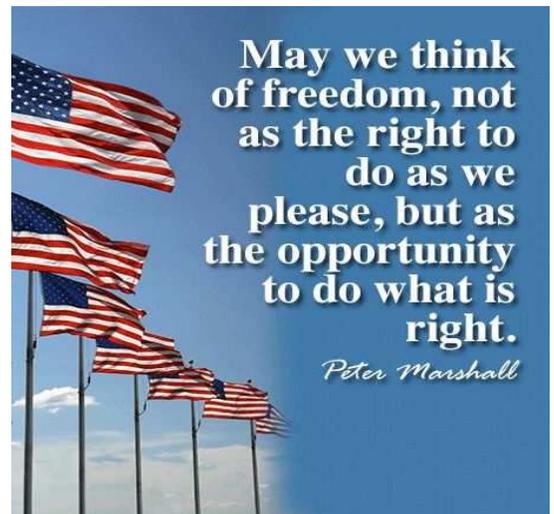
A note of thanks

Hilton Baptist Church

Once again your support came at the perfect time! There must be educators in your church community! Sedgefield felt the love and support from Hilton Baptist Church this most challenging and unpredictable year! Your kindness helped our staff realize that the work we do for children and families matter! Your snacks and heartfelt notes were so uplifting and much appreciated!

Love, Jacky Barber

“A little spark of kindness can put a colossal burst of sunshine into someone’s day”



[Happy Birthday for the next two weeks](#)

7/12 Emma Beard





## ***Mercy Is The Nature Of Forgiveness***

We would be wholly lost if it weren't for the abundant mercy of our heavenly Father. Romans 3:23-24 says, *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”*

We are offered total and complete forgiveness of our sins because God loves us and has mercy on us. The mercy of God allots us freedom and restored relationship we could never attain on our own. We are not justified by our own works or inherent worth, but by grace alone.

The nature of forgiveness is mercy. And the Bible tells us in Luke 6:36-37, *“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.”* In order for us to be merciful with others, we must be consistently encountering and reflecting on the abundant mercy of God toward us. When we were at our lowest, God met us and offered us eternal, abundant life in him. When we had no ability to attain right standing before our Creator, he brought himself low, took on the form of a servant, and died for our sakes (Philippians 2:8).

You were saved by the greatest act of mercy the world will ever know. And now your heavenly Father is asking you to share the great mercy you have been shown. He's asking you to live and operate in his likeness by loving others the way you have been loved. The Bible commands us to forgive others. God doesn't give us the option. Colossians 3:13 says, *“Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”* James 2:13 says, *“For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.”* If we are living with unforgiveness, we are living outside of the will of God.

God knows forgiveness is difficult. He knows that it takes courage and strength to offer mercy where it is undeserved. He paid the highest price for our sins by sending Jesus to an undeserving, gruesome death. But he also knows the joy that comes from reconciliation. He knows the goodness of wiping the slate clean that he might have restored relationship with us. And he longs for you to be a minister of reconciliation to all who have hurt you. He longs to overwhelm you with his love and mercy to the degree that offering others mercy and love comes from a place of overflow rather than your own strength. He longs to fill you with courage and perspective so that you can forgive those who need a glimpse of his mercy and grace.

Take time as you enter into guided prayer to receive the love and mercy of your heavenly Father. Allow him to fill you up to overflowing today. And follow his guidance as he gives you grace to forgive others in obedience and love.



## ***Trying To Please Everyone***

The story is told of a man and his grandson traveling down the road, walking and leading a donkey.

They first met a man who said, "How foolish for you to be walking. One of you should be riding the donkey." So the man put his grandson on the animal.

The next traveler they met frowned and said, "How dreadful for a strong boy to be riding while an old man walks." So the boy climbed off the donkey and his grandfather climbed on.

The next person they met said, "I just can't believe a grown man would ride and make a little boy walk." So the man pulled the boy up and they rode the donkey together. That is, until they met another man who said, "I never saw anything so cruel in all my life — two human beings riding on one poor defenseless donkey!"

Down the road a ways, they met a couple of men. After they passed, one of the men turned to the other and said, "Did you ever before see two fools carrying a donkey?"

The point is: You can't please everyone! And it can be very frustrating to even try to do so because it's impossible. The truth of the matter is, even if we could please everyone, we shouldn't. In fact, trying to please others can distract from the One we should be pleasing, if we're not careful. Our chief aim in life is to glorify God and live lives pleasing only unto Him. Nothing else really matters.

Though Paul was certainly mindful of the feelings of others, he wrote: *"Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ."* (Galatians 1:10, NIV)

Living our lives so as to receive the praise of people around us will only get us into trouble. I think of the chief rulers who *"believed in Him [Jesus], but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God."* (John 12:42-43).

When we become attached to public opinion and pleasing others around us, we will eventually end up denying God.

Have you found lately that everyone isn't pleased with your decisions?

Don't lose any sleep over it, as long as you're seeking to please the only ONE that really matters!

## ***Making God a Priority***

One of the values of daily Bible reading is that it keeps individual Bible verses set in their original context. For instance, a favorite verse of Christians regarding God's faithfulness is Philippians 4:19: *"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."* While the verse sounds like a blank check from God to us, it isn't.



The apostle Paul wrote those words to a church that had given sacrificially to him while he was imprisoned in Rome (Philippians 4:10-18). They had put the kingdom of God above their own needs; they had made the advancement of the Gospel through Paul a priority in their lives by providing for Christ's chief apostle in his dire straits. So Paul tells them, "Because you have sacrificially made God a priority in your life, God will meet your needs." That doesn't mean we earn God's blessing by giving. But it does mean that God looks for those whose "heart is loyal to Him," on whose behalf He can show himself strong (2 Chronicles 16:9).

### ***Attitude and Circumstances***



*"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation..."* Philippians 4:11-13

I love the story of the little boy who was overheard talking to himself as he strutted through the backyard, baseball cap in place, toting ball and bat. He was heard to say, "I'm the greatest hitter in the world." Then he tossed the ball into the air, swung at it and missed. "Strike one." Undaunted he picked up the ball, threw it into the air and said to himself, "I'm the greatest baseball hitter ever," and then he swung at the ball again. And again, he missed. "Strike two!"

He paused a moment to examine his bat and ball carefully. Then a third time he threw the ball into the air. "I'm the greatest hitter who ever lived," he exclaimed. He swung the bat hard again and missed a third time. He cried out, "Wow! Strike three. What a pitcher! I'm the greatest pitcher in the world!"

His circumstances hadn't changed but his attitude had changed, and that makes all the difference in the world. What difficult time are you going through right now? Is there really something that can change it? If you can do something about it, great; don't wait another day. But if you can't change the circumstance, then change your attitude and that will make all the difference in the world.

## ***Love Matters Most***

If you want your life to count you have to focus it. You don't have time for everything. Everyone agree with that? You don't have time for everything. And not everything is of equal value.

Jesus said there are two things that are more valuable in life than anything else. He said its love. Loving God and loving each other.



One of the verses that we looked at last Sunday is where Jesus was asked, what is the most important command? He replied *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second most important is similar: Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself.”* Circle “most important” and “second most important.” God says these are the two things that matter most in life. Love for God and love for people. He says if you get these two things you’ve got it.

When God created you, have you ever thought why didn't he just take you to heaven? Why did he just put you on earth? You're only here for sixty, eighty, maybe at the most a hundred years and you're going to live for eternity in heaven or hell. Why didn't God just create you and take everybody to heaven?

The Bible is very clear about it. God put you here on earth to do two things: to learn to love God and to learn to love other people. Life is one giant lesson in love. Life is not about acquisition – how much I get. It's not about accomplishment – how much I do. It's not about achievement – how much I earn. It's not about all the other things we're told life's about. Because everything else you're going to leave behind.

You're not taking your career to heaven. You're not taking your car to heaven. You're not taking your china to heaven. You're not taking your house to heaven. But you are taking your character. You're taking *you*. And the measure of the evidence of God in you is whether you spent your life loving Him, and loving others.

Life is all about learning how to love. Jesus says here the two most important things in life are learn to love God with all your heart and learn to love everybody else. He says you get that, you've got life. If you don't get that, wrong answer. You just wasted your life.

How will you measure up?



## ***The Prize***

There is an old story about the Greek Marathon. Muscular, conditioned runners paced nervously near the starting line for the long-distance race. The time was near. They "shook out" their muscles, inhaled deeply, and put on their "game faces."

In the midst of it all, a young stranger took his place at the starting line. His physique was awesome. Taking no notice of the other contestants, he stared straight ahead. Two prizes would be awarded the winner of the Marathon: a magnificent bouquet of flowers and the honor of standing beside the king until the conclusion of other contests.

There seemed to be no question among the runners about who would win the prize. It is alleged that the stranger was offered money not to run. Someone else attempted to bribe him with property. Refusing the offers, he toed the mark and awaited the signal to run. When the signal was given, he was the first away. At the finish line, he was the first to cross, well ahead of the rest.

When it was all done, someone asked the young man if he thought the flowers were worth as much as the money and property he had refused. He replied, "I did not enter the race for the flowers. I ran so that I could stand beside my king!"

Those of us who have chosen to follow Jesus Christ are "running the race". (1 Corinthians 9:24-25). It is a race that has a prize for those who finish (notice, not those who finish first, but all who finish). This prize, according to Paul, is an "imperishable crown." The rewards for those who enter heaven are described in scripture with a lot of terms – "many mansions", "streets of gold", "tree of life" – and the list goes on and on.

All of those things are attractive. That's why God tells us about them.

But I would be willing to give up all the streets of gold and settle for a small corner of a shack as long as I can know the reward of being able to stand beside my King. That's what I look forward to more than anything else. It is the one thing that will make heaven the wonderful reward that it will be.

"...The throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him." (Revelation 22:3)

## ***Drifting***

The story is told of a boy who was floating his boat on a pond when the boat drifted away. A man came by, saw the boat drifting out on the pond, and began throwing stones on the far side of the boat.



The boy asked, “What are you doing?”

But then he noticed as something very interesting happened. As the stones hit the water beyond the boat, they created ripples which pushed the boat back toward the boy. Even though the stones disturbed the smooth water, they achieved the desired result.

That’s how it is with God sometimes. When we drift away from Him, He throws the disturbing stones out beyond us in order to push us back to the shore of His love.



## ***The Sinner’s Friend***

One evening a woman was driving home when she noticed a huge truck behind her that was driving uncomfortably close. She stepped on the gas to gain some distance from the truck, but when she sped up the truck did too. The faster she drove, the faster drove the truck.

Now scared, she exited the freeway. But the truck stayed with her. The woman then turned up a main street, hoping to lose her pursuer in traffic. But the truck ran a red light and continued the chase.

Reaching the point of panic, the woman whipped her car into a service station and bolted out of her auto screaming for help. The truck driver sprang from his truck and ran toward her car. Yanking the back door open, the driver pulled out a man hidden in the backseat.

The woman was running from the wrong person. From his high vantage point, the truck driver had spotted a would-be rapist in the woman’s car. The chase was not his effort to harm her but to save her even at the cost of his own safety.

Likewise, many people run from God’s provision of atonement on the cross, fearing what He might do to them. But His plans are for good not evil – to rescue us from the hidden sins that endanger our lives.



# Welcome to Online Giving

*"The Benefits To You & HBC!"*

Online donations to HBC may be made at any time from the comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Online donations are credited to your tax statement for the end of the year (except when made anonymously), and each user can change his or her preferences or desired donation amounts at any time. You can make a one-time gift or a recurring donation.

No need to hassle with checks or cash

Totally secure encrypted 24/7 web-based access

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Debit / Credit card option allows you to take advantage of rewards such as air miles or cash bonuses. Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express are accepted

No need to share bank account information as you enter it directly into the Online Giving 100 % secure site

Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend services

Contribution amount is easily adjusted as desired or needed

Option to remain anonymous

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***God is doing some exciting things  
through the people of God at  
HBC...***

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

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