

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



Can You Doubt God and Still Have Faith?

Doubt is natural. But, all too often, we think of this as a bad thing for a Christian. Rather than run from it, use it to your advantage. Bring your doubts to God and seek answers to your doubts. When you do that, doubts will lead to growth.

It's easy to think of doubt as a sign of weak faith. But it's not.

God isn't afraid of our doubts, so we don't have to be either. In our new series, *Doubting God*, we're creating a space for the questions we've been afraid to ask. Together, let's discover how doubt can actually build our faith.

A Special Word From Pastor Lynwood...

It's time we ALL decided to make it back to church in person! We are grateful for our Facebook Live Stream, but it is no substitute for the experience that only comes through live attendance. Jesus promised that where 2-3 were gathered, He would meet them there... When was the last time you met Jesus for His word and His touch in your life?... See you this Sunday!



Dealing With Our Doubts!

“Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, ‘I believe; help my unbelief!’” Mark 9:24

I’ve been a believer for almost four decades now. Or at least that was what I would have told you until recently. Don’t get me wrong. I gave my 10-year-old heart fully to Jesus, and I’ve never looked back. I know He’s my Savior, Lord and that he has filled me with His Holy Spirit., and each year has brought experiences with Him that are growing in me maturity, love and passion for God.

I’m still a work in progress, but He’s clearly at work!
However, the dawning realization Jesus has given me this year is a painful gift. He’s giving me a startling look at how unbelief has permeated my life.

While seeking a word from God for guidance recently, I heard Him whisper the word “believe” into my heart. This word is going to be easy, I thought. I’ve known it since I was a little boy!

As I sat in complete silence in the presence of God a few weeks ago, I wrote all the areas where my faith wavers and doubt prevails — in my ministry, my job, my calling ... the exposing list went on and on. I knew God was showing me truth by the way I worry sometimes and by the nights I toss and turn. I know it’s true by my control-freak ways and the times I try to “help” Him manage my life.

I wanted to argue with God and tell Him that I do love Him and believe Him, but all I could whisper was the cry of a father from long ago, “I believe. Help my unbelief!”

Mark 9:14-29 tells the story of a father who was struggling. His son was mute and had severe convulsions that endangered him, so he had brought the boy to the disciples who were unable to heal him.

Then, the father approached Jesus with a pebble of faith and a mountain of doubt and said, *“If you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.”* (vs. 22) Jesus’ response to him holds indignation and challenge that rings in my ears, *“If you can?”* said Jesus. *‘Everything is possible for him who believes.’* (vs. 23)

In the past, I’ve been so much like that father.
When the circumstances seem overwhelming ...
When my own abilities have run dry ...
When others have failed to help ...

In Jesus’ answer to the father, Jesus puts doubt to rest. He’s simply waiting for our faith to come in line with His power.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

April 19, 2022

Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Budget \$664.25

Annie Armstrong \$275.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$550.00

Food Pantry \$ 50.00

Total Deposit \$1539.25

**Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering**

Total to date \$1545.00

Calendar

Tuesday, April 19th

1pm–2pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, April 20th

7pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, April 21st

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Sunday, April 24th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids

Food Collection Sunday

Tuesday, April 26th

1pm– 2pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, April 27th

7pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, April 28th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Friday, April 29th

5:30pm-6pm Community Dinner

Saturday, April 30th

Soles for Souls Walk

Sandy Bottom Park 10:30am

Sunday, May 1st

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids



Happy Birthday in April

Reagan Fries 4/20

Nicholas Gibson 4/20

Dot Cook 4/22

Lillian Clopton 4/26

Wayne Tawney 4/29



PBA Vision Night
Sunday April 24th

Will be in person at Ivy Memorial Baptist Church at 6:30 PM; and on line at <https://peninsulabaptist.org/vision-night/>.

Would you like to work with 2 and 3 year old's?

We have started a class to cover this age group. We are looking for helpers...not every week but maybe one week a month. If you are interested please contact Dreama as soon as possible!

Lock up/ Hall Monitor

4/24 Joe Caskie

5/1 Roger Cooke

Counter

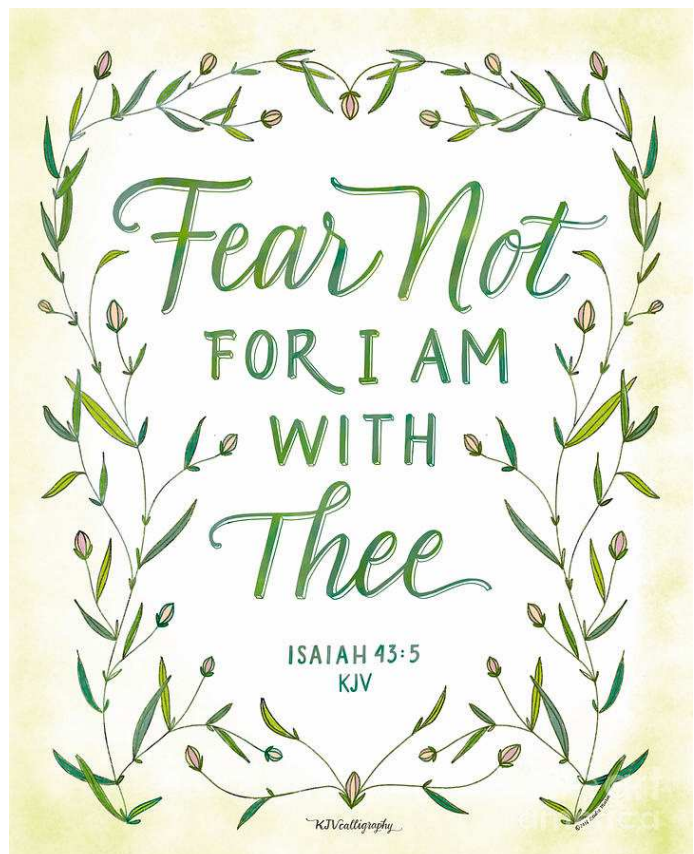
4/25 Kathy Caskie

5/2 Sue Monfalcone

Kids Church Helper

4/24 Nadine Stephenson/ Youth

5/1 Kathy Caskie



Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

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. Bring your non-perishable food to restock the pantry the last Sunday of every month.

Aluminum Cans

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions!

Pray for our Missionaries

RW (Central Asian People) SL (East Asian People) MN, JW (European People) AK, KN, NP (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) CA (South Asian People) MC (Southeast Asian People) Todd Panter (AL) Manuel Sanchez (GA)

Serve The City

There are many ways you can serve. Go to the website STCpeninsula.com to see how you can serve. You don't have to build anything, there are so many ways to serve.

Check it out!

Southeastern, Correctional Ministry

“Sole for Souls” Walk

April 30th, Sandy Bottom Park Walk 10:15am Lunch 11:30am. Get donations for this important ministry and come and join the fun. This ministry provides all correctional facilities in the Hampton Roads area with Bible Studies, devotionals, Christian counseling and other materials and programs. Any amount of donation is appreciated!



April Community Dinner

Our Community Dinner for April is April 29th and we could use your help!

It is a great time when everyone comes together and fellowships with our community as we share the love of Jesus.

If you can help, contact Pam Cooke



A Sympathetic Jewel

A young couple was visiting a jewelry store. They browsed through cases of magnificent diamonds with their gleaming yellow light along with many other splendid precious stones.

Among those beautiful stones, one in particular caught his wife's eye. It was completely lusterless and didn't seem to be in the right place. "That is one terrible looking stone, do you see that?" she said. The curious husband asked a clerk if they could see the stone.

The clerk opened the case, took out the stone and held it in his hand for a few minutes. When he opened it, there was a perfectly flawless stone. There was not a place on it that didn't gleam with the splendor of the rainbow. "How did you do that?" they asked in surprise.

"This is an opal", he replied. "It is what we call the sympathetic jewel. It only needs contact with the human hand to bring out its wonderful beauty." Merely a touch brings out this stone's beauty.

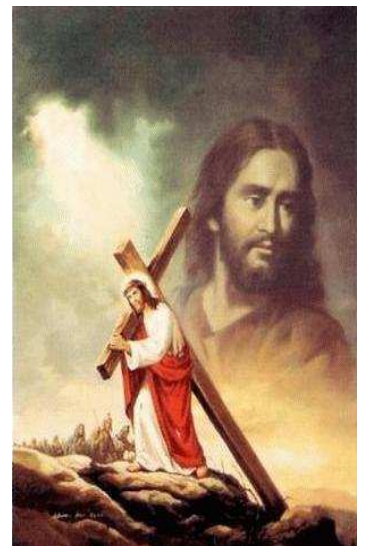
We live in a world where beauty is hidden under sorrow, sin and suffering. How many lives only need the warm touch of human sympathy, love and compassion to make them gleam with a radiant splendor?

Reach out and touch someone this week for His glory! Share with them the love of God. Not only will they receive a glimmer of joy, but you will gleam with His radiance too!

In Isaiah 6:8, the Lord asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Isaiah replies, "Here am I; send me." Be a sympathetic jewel in someone's life today!

Jesus...

He had no servants, yet they called Him Master.
He had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher.
He had no medicines,
yet they called Him Healer.
He had no army,
yet kings feared Him.
He won no military battles,
yet He conquered the world.
He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him.
He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.





The German Shepherd, Squirrel and Panther

One day an old German Shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a panther heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old German Shepherd thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in trouble now!"

Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the panther is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious panther! I wonder if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!" says the panther, "That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther. So, off he goes.

The squirrel soon catches up with the panther, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the panther.

The young panther is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old German Shepherd sees the panther coming with the squirrel on his back and realizing the squirrel has probably given away his secret thinks, "What am I going to do now?" but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says...

"Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another panther!"

Moral of this story...

Don't mess with the old dogs... Age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery. Brilliance generally only comes with age and experience!



Our Longing To Be Loved

Let's face the fact. Everyone longs to be loved.

Most people will do anything to find love. And as we study the Scripture, we recognize that God goes to great extremes to demonstrate His love for us. He longs to love us, even at our worst. He offers His forgiveness to all, even the most unlovable people.

This gets to the heart of the questions that haunts our hearts and minds. We can accept that God loves us because that is His nature. But we want to ask on a deeper lever. Can God forgive me? That's a good question.

You see, we all suffer from human brokenness and imperfection. Maybe our sin is not doing drugs, illicit sex, smoking, or alcoholism. Maybe our sin is a temper we can't seem to control; or a fear that overwhelms us; or an inability to trust. Maybe our sin is our inability to control our tongue, gossiping and telling lies about others, slicing people up with our words. Maybe it is our impure thoughts.

Regardless, if our sins are big or if they are small, the bottom line is that we are all in need of forgiveness. Forgiveness of sins is nothing less than the embrace of a loving God around sinful man. How do we experience that embrace? Found in the words, ". . . *just as in Christ God forgave you*" (Ephesians 4:32 NIV), is the secret to understanding how we can experience the forgiveness of sin and how we can experience the embrace of our Heavenly Father.

According to Ephesians 5:2 Christ "loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God". Christ died for us. Jesus paid the highest price possible—His sacrifice on the cross, to give us the greatest gift possible—the forgiveness of sin.

When we are confronted by the cross, we recognize that our forgiveness did not come cheap. Jesus deserved commendation and compassion, but he got a cross. The cross is the heart of Christianity because of man's sin.

Jesus' death saves us from sin, death, and hell. The cross shows us how difficult and painful it was for God to forgive our sins, how far Jesus was willing to go to forgive our sins, and how costly it is to forgive our sins.

The cross is the heart of Christianity. It reveals the heart of Jesus. It shows the price that Jesus was willing to pay for the forgiveness of our sins so that we could feel the loving embrace of our Heavenly Father – and you can feel His loving embrace today.

Simply reach out today and receive it in faith!



A Listening Spirit

"For by wise guidance you will wage war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory." – Proverbs 24:6

Seeking advice is an important, yet difficult, habit to cultivate. It requires humility and admitting that we might be wrong. We need to admit that we don't have all the answers and that we need help.

We often actively approach people we respect for advice. But we can also approach people we normally would not seek out, those we might not feel have anything important to say, those who have not helped us in the past, or even people we find irritating or spiritually immature – even novices (Psalm 8:2). Sometimes observations and opinions are given without our consent or request.

As the Bible tells us, there is victory “in abundance of counselors” and listening to the perspective of many people. It's possible to gain some important insights from anyone, regardless of their background or our past relationships, even if they're not 100% correct.

This process also requires sensitivity and discernment. It is impractical and foolish to accept the advice of everyone. We need to develop the right attitude and not be proud or self-centered but humble, willing to listen. In that spirit, we become more sensitive to God's leading, correction, and guidance.

We always must be careful to check every opinion and recommendation against the Bible to be sure our decisions are consistent with the Word. We need to pray about every situation and be sensitive to the Spirit and His leading.

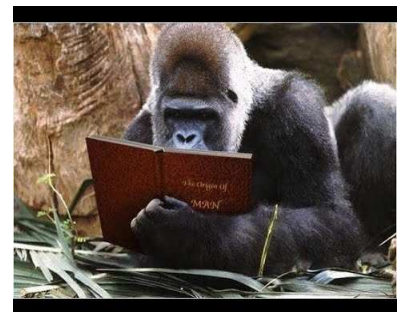
“Father, I humble myself before You. Help me be a good listener. Give me discernment. In Jesus' name, Amen!”

“The Monkey & The Zoo Keeper”

One day the zoo-keeper noticed that the monkey was reading two books - the Bible and Darwin's *The Origin of Species*.

In surprise he asked the ape, "Why are you reading both those books"?

"I am just trying to find out whether I am my brother's keep.... Or my keeper's brother?"





It's Your Move!

There's a story I have often told about a man and his wife who are driving to town one day. As he sits behind the steering wheel driving, she's all the way over on the other side of the car with her elbow out the window.

Reflecting on their relationship and feeling distant from her husband, she said to him, "You know honey, we don't sit close together in the car like we use to." The husband replied, "I'm sitting behind the steering wheel; if we don't sit as close as we used to, I'm not the one who moved."

I think of that story any time I hear people mention that they don't feel as close to God as they used to. They remember back to days when their spiritual walk was alive and vibrant, and they are discouraged at how cold and distant things seem today. If God seems like He is far away from you today, you need to remember that He's not the one who moved!

One Last Laugh...

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.



Out in the Desert

“a voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” – Mk 1:3 & Is 40:3

The gospel of Mark begins with a prophecy from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah. Some 700+ years before Christ’s birth, the prophet Isaiah said that John the Baptist would be ordained to prepare the way for Christ’s coming. John’s job would be to challenge people to turn from their sinful ways and instead, look to God. He would bring the good news (the gospel) to the people of Jerusalem. That good news could be summed up as: “Here is your God” (Isaiah 40:9).

John the Baptist was to prepare a path out of the wilderness of a lost world and lead people to Jesus. Jesus commands all Christians to do the same. We are called to share the good news... to be a voice in the desert preparing the way to the Lord. Today’s desert may not be the same as the desert John the Baptist preached in, but any life filled with sin is a wasteland.

Who do you know that needs to know the way to the Lord? Who do you know that is struggling for a new direction, searching for meaning, for protection, for peace, and for truth? Can you remember how desperate things were for you before you knew the good news? ...when you were stuck in the desert?

You don’t need to know all the answers. Christ is the answer! You just have to make a path for them to Christ. Reach out, tell them how following Christ has changed your life. Cry out to them “Behold your God!”

Have You Ever Wondered...

Just some questions I have always wondered about...

- Is there another word for synonym?
- Where do forest rangers go to “get away”?
- What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
- Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
- If a turtle doesn’t have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
- Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
- Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?
- How do they get deer to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?





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 recurring donation.

- No need to hassle with checks or cash
- Totally secure encrypted 24/7 web-based access
- Easily schedule recurring donations to fit your pay periods
- 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

Try it today at www.HiltonBaptistChurch.com!

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

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

