



FAMILY NEWS

APRIL 28, 2024

Classes

Auditorium Class: Tim Smith

Teens: Arpoika Daniels

4th - 6th Grade: Lani Renner

1st - 3rd Grade: Ginger Posey

3yr - K: Lynn Grimes

Nursery: Miranda Hays

Sermons

AM: Arpoika Daniels

PM: No Evening Bible Study



IN **SEARCH**
OF THE LORD'S WAY®

Next Sunday on Search: May 5 – Back To The Bible

What the Lord has caused to be written in Scripture never loses its authority. It stands written. The Scriptures had authority in the first century and will have authority in the 21st century. Let's go back to the Bible.

Daily Bible Reading

Sunday

Ruth 1-2 & Matthew 18:21-35

Monday

Ruth 3-4 & Matthew 19

Tuesday

1 Samuel 1-3 & Matthew 20:1-16

Wednesday

1 Samuel 4-6 & Matthew 20:17-34

Thursday

1 Samuel 7-9 & Matthew 21:1-22

Friday

1 Samuel 10-12 & Matthew 21:23-46

Saturday

1 Samuel 13-14 & Matthew 22:1-22

Sunday, April 28th
Potluck Luncheon

Brothers
Keeper
Group 1 is
in charge.

Stay for fellowship
and food after our
morning worship
service!

We will have a brief devotional after our
meal and there will be no 5:00 Bible study.



A Baby Shower

for
Haley & Cameron Gates



Sunday, May 5th from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the fellowship room

Diaper Raffle: For every package of diapers you bring you will be entered into a drawing for a prize basket.

(If you want to help with the shower please see Lani Renner or Debbie Crane.)

**GOD USES BROKEN
PEOPLE LIKE YOU
AND ME TO RESCUE
BROKEN PEOPLE LIKE
YOU AND ME.**

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)



In Our Hearts:

"Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall." Psalm 55:22 (NIV)

Steve Lashley was scheduled to have a heart procedure done on Wednesday, April 24th.

Jerry Pratkan was to have knee surgery on Friday, April 26th.

Larry Waddell was scheduled to have plastic surgery on Thursday, April 25th.

Lee Daniels, mother of Arpoika Daniels, Debbie Crane, Bill Davidson, husband of Jan Davidson, Pat Joslin & Barbara McKinney, sisters of Sue Alexander, Eddie Hillhouse, LaRohnda Jones & Mary Ray, nieces of Johna Myers, Kenny Brewer, Sue Alexander, Talhia Vandlingham, Steve Lashley, Barry Haynie, friend of Arpoika Daniels, Alvis Campbell, Ted Criswell, Fred and Velma Baxter, brother and mother of Debbie Crane, Shirley Carson, the late Wayne Maxell's sister

Let's remember our shut-ins: Peggy Jackson, Sue Lofton, and Carolyn Self

5:00 Bible Study: Make plans to attend our 5:00 Bible study next Sunday, May 5th. Meal Group 1 will be hosting. We will have a presentation by a representative from the 22nd Judicial District CASA, Inc. program. CASA is a program helping children in the foster care system.

I want to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of myself and Charles' family to all who assisted to make the celebration of his life a day we will remember. Thank you to all who assisted with the meal, you did well as usual. A special thank you to Arpoika for a job well done.

In Christian Love - Auttis and family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the words of comfort, the cards, the prayers, and for those who attended the funeral of my brother, Bob Lashley. Your many demonstrations of thoughtfulness and compassion have been a great blessing at this time of our loss.

In Christian Love - Steve & Kay Lashley

Time With Tim

Trusting in God: A Foundation of Faith

"But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you."

1 Samuel 12:24

In architecture and construction, a foundation is the structural base upon which a building or structure rests. It provides stability and distributes the weight of the building to the ground, ensuring that the structure remains secure and durable.

In times of uncertainty and adversity, our trust and faith in God become pillars of strength, grounding us amidst life's storms. As we journey through the highs and lows of life, Scripture reminds us of the importance of placing our trust in God's unwavering promises and leaning on His faithful presence.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6

This timeless wisdom from Proverbs encourages us to trust wholeheartedly in the Lord, acknowledging His sovereignty over our lives. When we surrender our plans and desires to Him, we invite His guidance and direction, confident that He will lead us along the path of righteousness.

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

In moments of fear and doubt, Isaiah 41:10 serves as a comforting reminder of God's steadfast presence and provision. Even in the face of daunting challenges, we can trust in His unfailing love and rely on His strength to sustain us. With God by our side, we need not be afraid, for He is our ever-present help in times of trouble.

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1

Hebrews 11:1 encapsulates the essence of faith—confidence in God's promises and assurance in His faithfulness, even when we cannot see the outcome. As we cultivate a deeper trust in God, our faith grows stronger, enabling us to persevere through trials and to embrace the hope that lies ahead.

In conclusion, trusting in God is not just a fleeting sentiment but a deliberate choice we make each day. As we anchor our faith in His unfailing love and sovereignty, we find strength, courage, and peace to navigate life's journey. May these Scriptures remind us of the importance of placing our trust in God and inspire us to deepen our faith in Him, knowing that He is always faithful to His promises.

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."

Proverbs 16:3

Justified By A Reason, But Not An Excuse

When attitudes, words, emotions, and behaviors are justified, they are well-grounded, warranted, and satisfactory. The individual who engages in these things has a reason, a basis, or a cause for doing them. When attitudes, words, emotions, and behaviors are not justified, many seek justification by using an excuse. An excuse is a faulty explanation that attempts to garner pardon for the individual who cannot give a warranted explanation for his actions. He hopes to hear words like: "That's okay," or, "I understand," or "No problem." His excuse and the person's generosity enables his conscience to be eased in the matter.

Jesus set forth a parable about excuses in [Luke 14:16-24](#). The story begins with THE INVITATION. "Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: and sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready" ([Luke 14:16-17](#)). Banquets are costly. They cost time, talents, and treasure. Those who are invited to "a great supper" are fortunate individuals. The invitation usually goes out to those who are loved, powerful, influential, or all three. The host eagerly anticipates seeing his guests. He longs to bless them with his generous hospitality.

The man who prepared this great supper did not get a reception to his invitation. Instead, we read about "THE REJECTION" ([Luke 14:18-20](#)). "And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have brought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

Remember, an excuse is a "faulty explanation that seeks some form of pardon." In Jesus' parable, the fault within each excuse is easily detected. One man said that he had bought a piece of land and needed to go see it. Everyone knows that no one buys land unless he has seen it first. Another said, he had bought five yoke of oxen and needed to go prove them. Again, before a person makes a purchase of five yoke of oxen, he would first prove them so he does not get swindled in the transaction. The last man said he had married a wife and could not come. The reality is that the host would have gladly accepted both at his feast. Excuses. Excuses. Excuses. All these individuals wanted was a pardon from the host of the feast.

There are four general areas wherein individuals will give flimsy excuses for their behaviors. The first involves an unfulfilled obligation. The individual had a responsibility. He was supposed to be at his post. He, however, failed to carry out the task assigned to him. Instead of admitting that he was not faithful in his duty, the individual presents a faulty explanation as to why he did not do what should have been done. It is hoped that his excuse will be acceptable, and his dereliction of duty will be overlooked.

The second excuse area centers around unfulfilled promises. Promises are made to others, but the promises are not honored. All kinds of faulty explanations are given as to why the promises were not kept. The one who was relying on the promise to be kept is supposed to accept the excuse hook, line, and sinker. He is supposed to respond with the words: "That's okay." Again, the excuse enables the person to be pardoned.

The third involves the commission of a fault or transgression against another. In these instances of excuse-making, the transgression may have been intentional until the perpetrator was made known. Once the transgressor is exposed, the excuses are forthcoming. The excuses that some people can make for sinning against another individual can be unbelievable at times. The individual longs for mercy even though he does not really want to confess his sin. He simply wants the one who has been injured to say: "No harm really."

The fourth area of excuse-making comes about when a person stands in need of an indulgence. Here, a person stands in need of something from another. Many times he is in need because of his inadequacy, irresponsibility, or inability. The person has all kinds of excuses as to why he must rely on someone else to assist him. He hopes one of his excuses resonates with the hearer, and the individual will respond favorably to his need.

When it comes to the Lord, excuses do not please Him. In the parable we are studying, we read about THE REACTION of host toward the excuses. "So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, yet there is room. And the Lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper" ([Luke 14:21-23](#)). The text reveals three reactions of the master of the house. First, he was angry. He was angry because the excuses were just that, excuses. None of those bidden had genuine reasons why they could not attend. Second, he invited others to his feast. Third, he plainly declared that those who were originally invited would never taste of his supper.

All of us have been excuse-makers from time to time. Sadly, we deceive ourselves into believing that our excuses are reasons that justify our actions. They do not. Excuses are really just lies cloaked in the dress of sincerity. Dear readers, let's be extremely careful about the use of excuses. This is especially true when it comes to the excuses we use not to "justify" our unfaithful service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

-Victor M. Eskew

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Deacons:

Ken Crane
Jim Grimes
Steve Johnson
Jerry Renner
Bob Swearingen

**Worship & Bible Study
Schedule**

AM

Sunday 9:30 - Bible Class

Sunday 10:30 - Worship

PM

Sunday 5:00 - Bible Study

Wednesday 6:00 - Bible Study

Worship Workers**April 28****In Charge:** Jack Mattingly, Sr. (405-380-2510)**Welcome AM:** Syd Morgan**Song Leader:** Steve Johnson**Opening Prayer:** Tim Smith**Closing Prayer:** Syd Morgan**Lord's Supper & Offering AM:** Andy Scott**Lord's Supper & Offering PM:** Nuben Barton**Scripture Reading:** Jack Mattingly**Heritage House****Thursday, May 2:**

Jim & Donna
Hardin

April Nursery Attendants

April 7 - Ginger Posey

April 14 - Ashley Noey

April 21 - Debbie Crane

April 28 - Kay Lashley

April Worship & Bible Class Greeters**North Doors:** Jim & Donna Hardin**South Doors:** Syd & Alan Morgan