



FAMILY NEWS

APRIL 20, 2025

Classes

Auditorium Class: Andy Scott
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:

April 27 – Will God Hear

Will God hear my prayers?
Does God care? It's important to know when God will hear us and when He will not hear. God cares about all people but listens to those who are faithful and obedient to His will.

Daily Bible Reading

Sunday

Judges 1-3 & Matthew 13:31-58

Monday

Judges 4-6 & Matthew 14:1-21

Tuesday

Judges 7-8 & Matthew 14:22-36

Wednesday

Judges 9-10 & Matthew 15:1-20

Thursday

Judges 11-12 & Matthew 15:21-39

Friday

Judges 13-15 & Matthew 16

Saturday

Judges 16-18 & Matthew 17



A lot of folks believe the finest day for mankind was when a man set foot on the moon, but my friend the real finest day for mankind was when Jesus stepped out of the tomb.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25 (NIV)

*Up from the grave he arose;
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
he arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.*

Sunday, April 20th,
there will be no 5:00 Bible study
due to the Easter holiday.

In Our Hearts:

"You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry." Psalm 10:17 (NIV)

Ted Criswell is back home but not doing as well as was hoped. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

Alvis Campbell was scheduled to have another procedure done on Thursday, April 17th, to remove a tumor from his bladder.

Autis Johnson has been ill with pneumonia.

Larry Waddell, Lee Daniels, mother of Arpoika Daniels, Pat Joslin & Barbara McKinney, sisters of Sue Alexander, LaRohnda Jones & Mary Ray, nieces of Johna Myers, Kenny Brewer, Sue Alexander, Talhia Vanlandingham, Steve Lashley, Alvis Campbell, Ted Criswell

Let's remember our shut-ins: *Peggy Jackson and Carolyn Self*

Potluck Luncheon: Next Sunday, April 27th, will be our end-of-the-month potluck luncheon after morning services. It will also be Senior Sunday to honor our 2025 high school graduate, Emma Noey. Brothers Keeper Group 1 will be in charge of set-up and clean-up. There will be no 5:00 Bible study that evening.

Attention Ladies: Please join us for a ladies dinner being held at Roma's on Thursday, May 8th, at 6:00 pm. All ladies of the congregation are welcome and invited to attend! Please RSVP by May 1st to Sharon Hayden (573) 517-1889 so reservations can be made.

TRUE STORY: God ALWAYS works it out . . . I just panic first

Time With Tim

Baptism: Its Meaning and Necessity for Salvation

The word **baptism** comes from the Greek word *baptizó* (βαπτίζω), which means "to immerse, submerge, or dip." This definition is significant because in the New Testament, baptism was always practiced by full immersion in water. Sprinkling or pouring was never used in biblical baptism. The act of baptism symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, as Paul explains in **Romans 6:3-4**:

"Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." This passage makes it clear that baptism is not just a symbolic act, but a spiritual transformation where one is buried with Christ and raised to a new life.

Many today claim that baptism is optional or merely an outward sign of an inward change. However, the New Testament repeatedly affirms its necessity for salvation.

1. Jesus' Command in Mark 16:16

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Jesus Himself ties salvation directly to belief and baptism. If baptism were not essential, why would Christ emphasize it alongside faith?

2. Peter's Command in Acts 2:38

On the Day of Pentecost, after Peter preached to the crowd, they asked what they must do to be saved. His response was clear:

"Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Baptism is for the "remission of sins," meaning it is the point at which sins are forgiven. If salvation comes before baptism, then Peter's command would be meaningless.

3. Saul (Paul) and His Baptism in Acts 22:16

After encountering Christ on the road to Damascus, Saul (later Paul) fasted and prayed for three days. Yet, he was still in sin until he was baptized. Ananias told him:

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

If baptism were not necessary, why would Saul still have sins that needed to be washed away?

4. Baptism Puts Us into Christ (Galatians 3:27)

Paul writes, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Baptism is the way a person *enters* into Christ. If one can be saved outside of Christ, then baptism would not be necessary. However, Scripture repeatedly affirms that salvation is found in Christ (2 Timothy 2:10).

5. The Example of the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:35-39)

When Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch, the man's first response was, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

Philip told him that if he believed, he could be baptized. After confessing his belief in Jesus, the eunuch was immediately baptized. Notice that Philip did not tell him to pray a "sinner's prayer" or wait for a later time. Baptism was urgent because it was essential.

The New Testament consistently teaches that baptism is necessary for salvation. It is the moment when sins are forgiven (**Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16**), when one is united with Christ (**Romans 6:3-4**), and when one enters into the body of Christ (**Galatians 3:27**). If we seek to follow Christ's commands, we must not minimize or neglect the role of baptism in God's plan of salvation.

New

We all like new things, or at least things that are new to us. The new car, the new house, the new computer, the new ... fill in the blank. We speak about the New Year and perhaps new beginnings. There is something special about newness. Sadly, we often tire of something after the newness has worn off and we are ready, again, for something else new. Yet what if we can have something new that stays new, is constantly being renewed, and forever keeps its newness? This is what we have in the gospel of Jesus!

New Creatures: When we become disciples of Jesus, we become new creatures: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Cor 5:17). As we are born again of water and the Spirit (John 3:3-5), we are buried with Christ in baptism and raised to walk in "newness of life" (Rom 6:4). The "old self" was crucified with Jesus so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin (as is characterized by the old self). Being the "new creation" is not just a one-time event but is a continual effect of being in Christ.

Paul had more to say about putting off the old and putting on the new. If we are raised up with Christ, we are to seek the things above where Christ is (Col 3:1-2). We are to put to death the "what is earthly" in us: "sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry" (v. 5). Putting off the old self with its practices, we are to "put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator" (v. 10). This includes putting on "compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 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. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony" (vv. 12-14). With new attitudes and new hearts, we are continually renewed in Him. Likewise, Paul wrote about putting off the old self, that "former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness" (Eph 4:22-24).

Renewed in Mind: In contrast to being conformed to the world, we are to be living sacrifices for the Lord and "transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Rom 12:1-2). We must not allow ourselves to slip back into the old

self, conforming to the world and its evil desires. God will renew our minds daily when we trust Him.

Renewed in Courage: When faced with significant discouragement in his work, he could still say, "we do not lose heart" (2 Cor 4:1). He may have been afflicted, persecuted, perplexed, and struck down, but he knew he was not crushed, driven to despair, forsaken, or destroyed. "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day" (v. 16). Because of his eternal perspective, knowing that what is seen is temporary and what is not seen is eternal, he could focus on what was most important, trust God, and be renewed day by day.

A New Covenant: We live according to a "new covenant," which was promised by the Lord through the prophets. For example, the Lord promised through Jeremiah that He would "make a new covenant" with His people (Jer 31:31-34). The Hebrews writer quotes this, calling the new covenant "better" than the old as it is enacted upon "better promises" (Heb 8). He concludes this thought by saying, "In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away." It is this "new covenant" of which the Lord spoke when He gave instructions concerning the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 11:25).

New Heavens and New Earth. The theme of newness runs from beginning to end of Scripture, pointing us to the end times in which we look forward to a "new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (2 Pet 3:8-13). This points us to heaven itself, God's dwelling, and the "new Jerusalem" where the former things have passed away and He who sits on the throne says, "Behold, I am making all things new" (Rev 21:1-15). The glory of God illuminates the eternal city where the newness never wears off and God's people will never tire or battle with the "old" again.

If we do like what is new, then we need to understand that there is nothing greater than the newness we have in Jesus Christ. We share in a new covenant, look forward to the newness of God's presence, and, while remaining on earth, live a new life that is continually being renewed through His Spirit and His word. The old is gone. The new has come!

- Doy Moyer

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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 20

In Charge: Steve Johnson (405-380-5013)

Welcome AM: Syd Morgan

Song Leader: Steve Johnson

Opening Prayer: Jack Mattingly

Closing Prayer: Nuben Barton

Lord's Supper & Offering AM: Gil Turpin

Lord's Supper & Offering PM: No Service

Scripture Reading: Andy Scott

Heritage House

Thursday, April 24

Sue Alexander &
Debbie Ernst

April Nursery Attendants

April 6 - Ashley Noey

April 13 - Debbie Crane

April 20 - Kay Lashley

April 27 - Emma Noey

April Worship & Bible Class Greeters

North Doors: Jim & Donna Hardin

South Doors: Bob Griggs & Alan Morgan