



THE LYTLE LIGHT

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

— Matthew 5:14a (NKJV)

The believer is appointed to be a lighthouse to others;
a cheering lamp, a shining star, a loving guide.

bulletin of the **CHURCH of CHRIST** in lytle, texas

Volume MMXXIII **AUGUST 6, 2023** Number 31

Current Sunday Schedule: 9:45AM - Bible Study | 10:45AM - Worship
~12:00PM—Every 4th Sunday (Except For Months With 5 Sundays)—Potluck Fellowship Meal
~ 12:00PM—Every 5th Sunday—Potluck Fellowship Meal & Games Following Meal
Current Wednesday Schedule: 5:00PM—Bible Study

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| physical address | — | 15340 Main Street, Lytle, TX 78058 (do NOT use for mailing) |
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| facebook | — | facebook.com/Lytle-Church-Of-Christ-101136328215158 |
| co-ministers | — | Tom Woodard (210-562-0136) & Mitch Watkins (210-213-8392) |

If you're searching for faith rather than simply religion; virtue rather than simply values; relationship rather than rule-keeping; divine help rather than self-help; then we may be the place for you.

WORLDLINESS — JAMES 4:1-5 — PART TWO

Last week I began part one with the fact that fights, quarrels, lusts, hates, envies, pridefulnesses, and sins are the words that stain this portion of James' letter like inkblots on old parchment. James opens chapter four with "fights and quarrels," confronting this despicable behavior with valor because the appearance of conflict among the followers of Jesus stirs James to intense indignation.

Before we finish with verse three and conclude with verses four and five, let's keep in mind the following:

1. People who make their own desires the chief goal of their lives stifle their walk and relationship with God.

2. James's readers lacked what they sought because they failed to ask God. They yearned after satisfaction, but they looked in the wrong places. They did not ask God as Jesus had taught (Matthew 7:7). They allowed their lives to be governed by pleasure, self-

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WELCOME VISITOR!

We *Welcome* Each & Every One Of You To Our Worship Services today! We Hope You Will Stay After Services So We May Become Better Acquainted! And Be Sure To Join Us For Our Monthly Fellowship Meal After Worship Services On The 4th or 5th Sunday Of Every Month!

Be Sure To Pick Up A Visitor Pamphlet From The Table Under The Mirror In The Front Hall.

And Please Fill Out A Visitor Card (We *PROMISE* Not To Sell Your Information!) From The Back Of The Pew In Front Of You And Place It In The Collection Plate On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium.

ORDER OF SERVICE

- ENTER TO WORSHIP •
- ANNOUNCEMENTS •
- SCRIPTURE READING •
- OPENING PRAYER •



Song No. 703—Rejoice In The Lord Always

Song No. 10—Let Every Heart Rejoice And Sing

Song No. 384—Sing On, Ye Joyful Pilgrims

- MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •

Song No. 141—Into The Heart Of Jesus

Song No. 299—There Is Sunshine In My Soul

Not In Song Book—Come, Share The Lord

- LORD'S SUPPER •

- SERMON — *SEE RIGHT COLUMN* •

Invitation Song 304—Jesus Is All The World To Me

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song No. 702—Jesus Loves Me

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •

- DEPART TO SERVE IN LOVE •

SERMON

— JESUS AS THE WAY —



SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Job 14:1-2; John 14:6; Matthew 6:31-33; 1 Peter 1:6-8;
Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; John 17:2-3;
John 17:20-21; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 14:13

SERMON OUTLINE:

» REVIEW «

INTRODUCTION — (1) Three Questions To Ask; (2) You Are Not Alone; (3) Jesus Is The Answer

- I. Way To A Better Life
 - A. Abundant Life
 - B. Blessed
- II. Way To Forgiveness Of Sins
 - A. Jesus Solves Serious Problems
 - B. God Provides Forgiveness
- III. Way to God
 - A. Jesus Reconciles To God
 - B. Relationship With God Is Imperative
- IV. Way Out Of Confusion
 - A. Dilemmas Of Today
 - B. Confusions Can Be Averted
- V. Way To Eternal Life
 - A. Death Is Inevitable
 - B. Jesus Offers Eternal Life

CLOSING — (1) Jesus Is "The Way"; (2) My Purpose Is Twofold
- (a) For Christians (b) For Non-Christians

» INVITATION «

WED NIGHT STUDY

AUGUST 9 @ 5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us If At All Possible!

(Use Rear Doors)

— 1 Thessalonians 2:16-20 —



A Very Happy Upcoming Wedding Anniversary

To Gene & Carlene Vierling!

August 8, 1958-2023

[continued from front]
ishness, and greed.

3. We must be careful that we are not serving both God and the world. We must be completely loyal to God.

Verse 3 (continued): In prayer, God does not bow to our will; instead, we are to submit to His good will for our lives. Scripture suggests that God listens to the prayers of the righteous (Psalm 34:15; 1 John 3:21-22). Those who are upright must voice their requests in accordance with God's will (1 John 5:14-15). We will not receive the answers to our prayers unless we ask Him with right motives and in accordance with His will.

Verse 4: Instead of the customary "my brethren," James bristled with the adulterous people to whom he wrote. Again he asked a pointed question: "Do you not know that

friendship (Greek *philia*) with the world is enmity (may be translated hatred) toward God?" Then he adds, "whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." The consequence is worse than ending up empty-handed; a rebellious Christian who has an adulterous relationship with the world is at hostility with God! This verse does not speak of God's attitude toward the believer but of the believer's attitude toward God. The difference between the world and God is so vast that as we move toward the world we alienate ourselves from God. In the world, many sins are considered acceptable. Ultimately believers lose their awareness of sin, thereby making sin habitual. James's concern is not for occasional sins but for the attitude of heart that

leads a person to turn their back on God and their face to the world. Rather than knowing sin by observation or personal experience, a Christian is supposed to use their God-given mind to discern good from evil without tasting of evil itself.

Verses 5-6: Here James provides the cure for conflict. This is one of the most difficult verses to translate in the entire letter. A literal translation of the Greek would be, "Or think you that vainly the Scripture says to envy yearns the spirit which was made to dwell in you, but He gives great grace." The NASB translates this verse as: "Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: 'He jealously desires the Spirit which He

has made to dwell in us?'" The question is whether the "spirit" is the Holy Spirit or the human spirit? Is the spirit to be taken as the subject of the verb "yearns" or as its object? Is

"envy" to be seen as "unrighteous desire" or as "righteous jealousy"? Numerous translations are possible: (a) "The Spirit who indwells you jealously yearns [for you] and He gives more grace." (b) "He [God] yearns jealously for the Holy Spirit which indwells you and He gives more grace." (c) "The [human] spirit which indwells you yearns to envy, but He [God] gives more grace." Some say it is the latter translation that is correct. Some say it is the Holy Spirit the verse is referring to. There are pros and cons to all sides of the argument. Galatians 5:16 describes the Holy Spirit as the opponent of "the desires of the sinful nature." This picture is consistent with the translation that points to it referring to THE Holy Spirit (NASB).

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she's now on some different meds. ^[4]

- ◇ Lester, Kathy [Ruane Renninger's sister-in-law] — She was in an accident and suffered six broken ribs. ^[4]
- ◇ Orr, Lori — An X-ray and CT scan of her lungs showed that excess fluid has returned in her right lung and that it was nearly completely collapsed. ^[4]
- ◇ Smoot, Deborah — She's been in pain from a dental procedure on Wednesday, July 12. ^[4]

JULY 9 & PRIOR

- ◇ Arnold, Bowen [Tom Woodard's daughter, Janice's, boss' son] — He had surgery on his hip — which he broke while on maneuvers with the Army — and is doing very well, **Praise GOD!** ^[6]
- ◇ Brown, Carolyn [Joyce Burris' sister from Washington state] — She fell and broke her wrist. She'll be in a cast for the next several weeks. ^[8+]
- ◇ Burris, Joyce — She's doing fairly well considering her foot pain due to tendonitis. ^[8+]
- ◇ Harris, Hallie Kay [Fintels' new great-granddaughter] — **Praise GOD!** She was born healthy on April 13. She was 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19 inches in length. ^[8+]
- ◇ Homburg, Norm [Mitch Watkins' barbershop singing "buddy"] — He fell several weeks ago and hit his head and bruised several ribs. He thought he was doing well and healing but it turned out that his head injury (which seemed the lesser of his injuries at the time) had caused a small brain bleed which grew until it was giving him some major issues. He remains hospitalized. ^[6]
- ◇ Hubert, Donald [Deborah Smoot's friends husband] — His cancer has metastasized. Method of cancer treatment is currently unknown. ^[8+]
- ◇ Jacob, Jay [Carol Vierling's best friend] — He's been diagnosed with a tumor at the base of his skull. Method of cancer treatment currently unknown. ^[8+]
- ◇ Martinez, Alice [Smoots' son, Troy's, mother-in-law] — She had a stint procedure on an artery

that was 75% blocked this past Thursday, June 29. **Praise GOD!** All Went Well! ^[6]

- ◇ Mays, Alice [Melanie McMeans' aunt] — Post stroke: She's now in rehab at The Heights of Atascosa in Pleasanton. ^[5]
- ◇ Morris, Barry [Tom Woodard's football official friend] — He's dealing with prostate cancer. ^[8+]
- ◇ Potter, Edna [TOPS friend of the Watkins'] — She is now in a residential nursing home. ^[8+]
- ◇ Robinson, Betty [Joyce Burris' sister from Laveria, TX] — She fell and broke her hip. She had surgery and then was admitted to rehab. ^[8+]
- ◇ Shermer, Betty [Barbara Felts' (former member) sister] — She's in a nursing home. Barbara says she believes Betty has "given up." ^[8+]
- ◇ Smith, Zachary [Ronda Spicer's daughter-in-law, Barbara Brown's nephew] — **Praise To GOD!** His leukemia is in remission but he'll continue with maintenance chemo and be monitored by his doctors for the foreseeable future. ^[8+]
- ◇ Smoot, Mary Jane [Roger Smoot's cousin's spouse] — She's been diagnosed with adenocarcinoma cancer. She's responding well to her treatment(s), **Praise GOD!** ^[8+]
- ◇ Sparks, Tim [Tom Woodard's son-in-law] — He passed another stress test of his heart, **Praise GOD!** ^[6]
- ◇ Strunk, Lea & Billy — She suffers from heart issues and both have been feeling poorly. ^[8+]
- ◇ Vela, Olivia Raye [Ruane Renninger's newest great granddaughter] **Praise To GOD!** She was born May 19 and is a healthy girl. Congratulations to the Velas and Renningers! ^[8+]
- ◇ Vierling, Carol — **Praise GOD!** Her eye shot procedure went well! ^[6]
- ◇ Watkins, Betsy — **Praise To GOD!** She's at home receiving home health care: OT & PT. ^[8+]
- ◇ Welsby, Carol [Friend of the Vierlings] — She still has a long row hoe recovering from her fall. ^[8+]



SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

1 JOHN 3:1-3

¹ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

F G M G Q K I S I Q G C U K E F N F G B
K J H D Q Q T F D L U O H S H V Y V J Z
I J F V A Z D H D L O H E B V B O I V V
F Q T G P U R E E Y H Q U O W F A L F D
M M R M K E P R J R U E N O Y R E V E K
V G N D A G P E F T E L Z V X G J Q J F
N L B E W V U C P U V F O G J S O C L S
O L J W H Q R C D O J W O J S T L E E O
C A U O A O I J H H H E M R D I S J V Q
F H S T T B F V W I N C R G E M C X V K
G S T S E N I N B M L F Z E I U X J I H
O O F E H V E V U W D D C H H W H D U R
D W L B M N S L O Q O L R T N T H Q E E
Q A O G L T S N O A G N R E O Z A E J N
B E E N O P E B J L D C K O N N A F N N
D E V O L E B T Y T X W F W W V W R Q A
R S U S I P T I S M R F N P A G S Z Y M
H I P C C D E L A E V E R L H N V R E P
I C U S D N B S Y I K C A L L E D O R C
Y W K A L P B E C A U S E T J S B G D W



CHILDREN
OF GOD.

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James was saying that God's Spirit earnestly desired our undivided allegiance to the Lord.

James was probably asserting that God had placed his Holy Spirit within believers. The Spirit was intensely concerned about any rival in the Christian's heart. "yearns jealously" (ESV) or "Jealously desires" (NASB) translates a strong word describing an intense longing or desire. It underscores the idea that God is a jealous God and allows no rivals. God refuses to share our commitment with any other so-called god. He wants our total loyalty and devotion. It is vitally important for us to remember that God makes great demands of His people.

James' question, typically rhetorical, "Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says" (the word "purpose" is from the Greek *kenos*, literally "vainly"), introduces the section. The ambiguous sentence that follows is not a direct quotation of any passage in Scripture. Rather than assume that James quoted some other sacred book or some unknown Greek translation of the Old Testament, some seem to break this quotation down into two groups. Some say James probably does not have a specific OT reference in mind; instead, he is speaking of a general concept/sense in Scripture. The jealous yearning in this verse most likely refers to God's jealousy for His people, a concept prevalent in the OT (Exodus 20:5; 34:14; Psalms 78:58; 79:5) and an idea that fits the context. The friendship with the world mentioned in verse 4 would naturally provoke God's jealousy. However, the expression "spirit that he has made to dwell in us" could also indicate our individual human spirit. Then the jealous yearning would be the covetous desire of people, recalling the theme of verse 2.

Yet another camp says it seems more reasonable to assume that James focused on the quotation in verse 6, a statement clearly taken from Proverbs 3:34: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (also quoted in 1 Peter 5:5).

— END —

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Tom Woodard | August 1 | Birthday |
| Carol Vierling | August 7 | Birthday |
| Gene & Carlene Vierling | August 8 | Anniversary |
| Laura Gardner | August 9 | Birthday |
| Dan & Lori Orr | August 13 | Anniversary |

*Our Special Day Is Between Today's Date And August 13, 2023,
And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

— Church Stuff —

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 4th OR 5th Sundays |  <p>"Table" Fellowship Potluck Lunch – <i>After Worship From Approximately 12:00PM To 2:00PM</i> Every 4th Sunday Of Every Month EXCEPT For Months With a 5th Sunday</p> |
| Every Monday |  <p>Sewing Sisters (All Ladies Welcome!) – Meet In The Fellowship Room From 12:00PM To 2:00PM For Fellowship And To Sew Stuff (Lap Quilts, Bibs, Etc.) For The Needy Or Just To Do Things Together.</p> |
| Sun–Aug 6 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – To Be Announced – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |
| Sun–Aug 13 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – To Be Announced – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |
| Sun Aug 27 | <p>4th Sunday Fellowship Meal & Games Play After Morning Worship – Theme: Sandwiches & Cool Salads</p> |

— Non Church Stuff —

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Every Tuesday |  <p>Lytle Friendship Art Club – Fellowship Room From 9:30AM To 1:00PM Plus, Every 2nd Tuesday Of Each Month The Club Meets For A Business Meeting, Lunch & Demonstration</p> |
| 3rd Mondays |  <p>auxiliary – Fellowship Room @ 6:00PM</p> |
| 4th Tuesdays | <p>Quail Creek Ranches Property Owners Association (QCRSPOA) – Fellowship Room @ 6:30PM</p> |
| Sun–Aug 6 | National Root Beer Float, International Forgiveness, Smithsonian Days |
| Mon–Aug 7 | Purple Heart Remembrance, Raspberries & Cream, National Lighthouse & Lighthouse Workers Appreciation Day |
| Thu–Aug 10 | National Lazy, S'mores, Spoil Your Dog(s) Days |
| Sun–Aug 13 | National Filet Mignon, Melon, Left-Handers Days |

GOD'S PLAN For Saving Man —

- ♦ *God's Grace* — Ephesians 2:8;
- ♦ *Christ's Blood* — Romans 5:9;
- ♦ *The Spirit's Gospel* — Romans 1:16;
- ♦ *Sinner's Faith* — Acts 16:31;
- ♦ *Sinner's Repentance* — Luke 13:3;
- ♦ *Sinner's Confession* — Romans 10:10;
- ♦ *Sinner's Baptism* — 1 Peter 3:21;
- ♦ *Our Work* — James 2:24;
- ♦ *Our Hope* — Romans 8:24;
- ♦ *Our Endurance* — Revelation 2:10

ARE YOU SAVED BY GOD?
ASK HOW IF YOU'RE UNSURE!

INTERACTIVE

Daily Bible Reading Plan —

To open and/or download the interactive PDF file go to: video.wvbs.org/spotlight

DAILY Bible Reading —



Immersive —
Through OT Once & NT Three Times

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| SUN | Prv 6; Prv 7; 1 Ptr 3; 1 Ptr 4 |
| MON | Prv 8; Prv 9; 1 Ptr 5; 2 Ptr 1 |
| TUE | Prv 10; Prv 11; 2 Ptr 2; 2 Ptr 3 |
| WED | Prv 12; Prv 13; 1 Jhn 1; 1 Jhn 2 |
| THU | Prv 14; Prv 15; 1 Jhn 3; 1 Jhn 4 |
| FRI | Prv 16; Prv 17; 1 Jhn 5; 2 Jhn 1 |
| SAT | Prv 18; Prv 19; 3 Jhn 1; Jud 1 |

WANT TO BE

Part Of Our Local Family?

To be identified as part of our Congregation (aka “place membership”): Fill out a Visitor’s Card with all your family information, making sure to check the box on front that says, **Wish To Serve In this Congregation**, then place the card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

MEMORIZE Scripture —

VARIOUS VERSES FROM 1 JOHN

1 John 1:1-4 — ¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life — ² the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us — ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

1 John 2:3-6 — ³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

1 John 5:14-15 — ¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.