



The Lytle Light

You Are The Light Of The World.

– Matthew 5:14a [NKJV]

Believers are 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 MMXXV **NOVEMBER 23, 2025** Number 48

Sunday Schedule: 9:45AM – Bible Study | 10:45AM – Worship | 12:00PM Fellowship Meal (4th or 5th Sundays)

Wednesday Schedule: 4PM – Bible Study

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WORKING WITH GOD – LANNY SMITH – FISHERS COC 5/23/2021

“We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain” (2 Corinthians 6:1). This text clearly shows that Paul considered himself and the other apostles as “workers together” with God. Sadly, this is often overlooked in our own relationship with God. Instead, many will gravitate to the extremes of saying “God does it all,” or “Man does it all.” Both are wrong! Our relationship with God is, and has always been, a cooperative matter! In this article, I want to discuss this concept.

God could just provide food to every human being miraculously. However, God did not choose to do it that way! Instead, it is a cooperative effort. God provides the seed, dirt, rain, and the sun; but man must till, plant, water, tend, and harvest his own food (cf. Genesis 3:19). If either side fails, man will surely starve!

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WELCOME VISITOR!

If You're Visiting Today, We *Welcome* Each & Every One Of You To Our Worship Services! We Hope You Will Stay After Services So We May Become Better Acquainted! And Be Sure To Join Us For Our Bi-Monthly Fellowship Meal After Worship Services, Usually On The 4th or 5th Sunday!

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 Located On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Enter To Worship •
- Announcements •
- Scripture Reading •
- Opening Prayer •

27 – *To God Be The Glory*

Not In Book – Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

- Minister's Intercessory Prayer •

26 – *For The Beauty Of The Earth*

23 – *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

176 – *Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?*



- Lord's Supper •

- Sermon – See Right Column For Outline •

61 – *Blessed Assurance*

- Final Announcements •

475 – *Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*

- Closing Prayer •

- Go In Peace, Departing To Serve In Love •



SERMON

– THE THANKFUL CHRISTIAN –

• SERMON SCRIPTURES •

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 1:2;
Matthew 6:6-9; Ephesians 5:3-4; Genesis 12:2-4;
Deuteronomy 11:26-29; Luke 2:13-14;
Colossians 3:16-17; Hebrews 3:15

• SERMON OUTLINE •

INTRODUCTION - (1) Holidays Are Favored Days (2) We Seem To Relax (3) What Can We Learn?

- I. The History Of The Thanksgiving Holiday
 - A. Rooted In Early American Tradition
 - B. Traditionally Traced To Plymouth Colony
 - C. Evolved Over Time
 - D. Remains A Cherished National Tradition
- II. Christians Are Thankful In Suffering
 - A. Spiritual Challenge
 - B. Jesus Offers Comfort
 - C. Suffering Can Be An Opportunity
- III. What The Bible Teaches About Giving Thanks
 - A. The Spiritual Discipline
 - B. Fundamentally Good For Us
 - C. Good For Our Heart
- IV. Thanksgiving Is Related To Christian Worship
 - A. Thanksgiving Is Distinct From Praise
 - B. Thanksgiving Is More Than An Action
- V. Christians Practice Daily Thanksgiving
 - A. Cultivating A Heart Of Gratitude
 - B. Reasons To Give Thanks
 - C. Distinguishing Christian Quality

CONCLUSION - (1) Importance May Vary (2) Christians Are Thankful

• INVITATION •

NOWED NIGHT STUDY

2025 FELLOWSHIPS

- TODAY! – THANKSGIVING REPAST
- DECEMBER 28 – “NEW YEARS EVE”

[continued from front]

God could have built an ark, and placed Noah on it, in order to save him. However, God did not choose to do it this way! Instead, it was a cooperative effort. God wanted to save Noah and his family; but if Noah had not worked with God, he would have surely drowned (Genesis 6:13-22).



God could have appeared to Pharaoh directly, and told him to let Israel go. However, God did not choose to do it this way! Instead, it was a cooperative effort. God solicited the help of Moses, who worked with God to get Israel released (Exodus 3:7-10). But what if there was no "Moses" (or similar person) to go?

God could have destroyed Goliath with a lightning bolt, and saved Israel. However, God did not choose to do it this way! Instead, it was a cooperative effort. God used David, a man after His own heart, to deliver Israel from Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40-47). But what if there was no "David" (or similar person) to go?

God could have written the Bible Himself, and sent it directly to us. However, God did not choose to do it that way! Instead, it was a cooperative effort. God inspired certain men to write His word for us (Ephesians 3:3-5; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). But what if there were no

inspired writers? How would we know God's will?

God (Jesus) could have just told Saul of Tarsus what to do to be saved. However, God did not choose to do it this way! Instead, it was a cooperative effort. God told Saul to go and listen to a preacher who would tell him what he must do (Acts 9:1-6). But what if Saul had failed to do as he was told?

God could also just tell each one of us what to do to be saved. However, God did not choose to do it that way! Instead, it is a cooperative effort. God chose to save man by "the message preached" (1 Corinthians 1:18,21). But if men do not "go into all the world and preach the gospel," then others cannot be saved (Mark 16:15-16). And if men do not "obey the gospel," they cannot be saved (Romans 10:13-16; 1 Peter 4:17).

God could just do everything that needs done. However, God did not choose to do it that way! Instead, all of life is a cooperative effort. God has given much of His work to "the church, which is His body" (Ephesians 1:22-23; cf. 1 Timothy 3:15). If the body listens to its head, God's "eternal purpose" shall be accomplished (Ephesians 3:8-11). But what if the church fails to do God's bidding? How much is God depending on YOU, as a member of the body of Christ?

Notice what happens when we refuse to
[continued on page 6]

Are you
working
for (with)
God or for
yourself?



Father, Please Hear Our Prayer

CURRENT CONCERNS

- May The Will Of GOD, The FATHER Of LOVE, HOPE, COMPASSION, GRACE, MERCY, And RIGHTEOUSNESS Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven!
- *People In The U.S.A. And Around The World Who've Been Affected By Natural Disasters*
- Our Local, State & Federal Government Officials, Military, First Responders & Teachers Nourishing & Life-giving Rain
- Coronaviruses, Flues & Other Deadly Sickneses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Countries
- Additional People/Situations For Which To Pray :
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____
 9. _____
 10. _____
 11. _____
 12. _____
 13. _____
 14. _____
 15. _____
 16. _____
 17. _____

ALL FOLLOWING ENTRIES ARE BY DATE ORDER AND ARE ALPHABETICAL BY LAST NAME. A SUPERSCRIPTED NUMBER IN BRACKETS, I.E., ^[1], AT THE END OF AN ENTRY DENOTES HOW MANY WEEKS THE ENTRY HAS BEEN IN THE BULLETIN.

NOVEMBER 23

Renninger, Ruane - Ruane hasn't been feeling all the well lately. Plus, she still has concerns for the health of her canine companion ^[NEW]

◊ Strunk, Billy - He's had a bad cold and is now suffering from a bad cough. ^[NEW]

◊ Vierling, Gene - **Praise To GOD!** Gene's PET scan came back clear and cancer free! ^[NEW]

NOVEMBER 16

◊ Alderman, Roy [Ronda Spicer's brother] - He had surgery Wednesday, October 29 to remove a melanoma from his elbow. **Praise To GOD!** the surgery went well and the biopsies came back negative!!! ^[01]

◊ Sparks, Tim [Tom Woodard's son-in-law] - He had a Barium swallow test Thursday, November 13 and is scheduled for an endoscopy next Friday, November 21. ^[01]

◊ Street, Cris - She's been feeling poorly off and on over the last couple of weeks. ^[01]

◊ Vierling, Carlene - She had a second fall in as many weeks but **Praise To GOD!** she's incurred no serious injury. ^[01]

NOVEMBER 9

◊ Smoot, Tiffany [Smoots' daughter] - She's been diagnosed with a hiatal hernia. Doctors took biopsy(s) of her esophagus and duodenum to determine if there is any damage. She expects the test results in about two weeks. ^[02]

◊ Watkins, Mitchell - His procedure went well on Monday, November 3 but he was called

in to see the doctor Thursday afternoon, November 6, and was informed he has a medium-growing prostate cancer which, **Praise To GOD!** can be monitored for the next five to seven years if I wish to go that route. Mitch is considering a CyberKnife (pinpoint radiation) procedure. ^[02]

NOVEMBER 2

- ◊ Gingerella, Ed [Tom Woodard's friend] - **Praise To GOD!** he's been declared cancer free! ^[03]
- ◊ Lester, Bob [Ruane Renninger's brother] - He has a cancer on his forehead close to his eye. He underwent four hours of treatment Wednesday, October 29. ^[03]
- ◊ Vierling, Scott [Vierling's son] - He's been diagnosed with A-Fib. He's to be scheduled for a series of tests... They've already shocked his heart a couple/few times. ^[03]

OCTOBER 26

- ◊ Brown Family - Colton, Abby, and kids ^[04]
- ◊ Brown, Diane Family [Natalia congregation member] - Diane passed sometime the week of August 25th. ^[04]
- ◊ Carlos Flores [Pam Flatequal's neighbor] He's to undergo surgery on Sunday, November 23. ^[04]
- ◊ Gonzalez, Joel [Lea Strunk's daughter, Judith's husband] - He's home recovering from surgery. ^[04]
- ◊ McMeans, Wendell - **Praise To GOD!** He's found employment and is hopeful it works out. He starts early November. ^[04]
- ◊ Persat, Diana [Deborah Smoot's cousin's wife] - She's been released from the hospital but is in kidney failure and on dialysis three times a week. ^[04]
- ◊ Price, Dylan [Tom Woodard's friend, Renee Allsup's son] - He broke his leg (severe compound fracture) while trying to jump a

fence. He's had surgery and two skin grafts. Neither graft has taken so they've laid one leg over the other hoping for a successful graft. If it doesn't work, he may have to have his leg amputated. ^[04]

- ◊ Smith, Betty - She's been feeling poorly off and on lately. ^[04]
- ◊ Spicer, Ronda - **Praise To GOD!** her recovery from surgery has improved enough so that she's begun to drive again. ^[04]
- ◊ Walker, Tony Family [Tiffany Geehan's (Smoot's daughter) good friend's father] - Tony passed into eternity Thursday, October 23, leaving his wife, two daughters and two sons, all longtime residents of Lytle. ^[04]
- ◊ Watkins, Betsy - She's still struggling with Congestive Heart Failure, edema and possible cellulitis (infection of the deep skin layers). She's been put on an antibiotic and still sees home health care twice a week. ^[04]

ONGOING CONCERNS

All Ongoing Concern(s) Below Will Remain For 20 Weeks. Removal Can Be Requested Earlier But Concern(s) Will Automatically Be Removed At The 21st Week. If I Move Someone Off This Ongoing List That You Believe Should Go Back On The Detailed List Above, Please Let Mitch Know.

Alderman, Kelly ^[05]; Andrews, Dale ^[06]; Bridgewater, Larry ^[16]; Brown, Colton Family (Colton, Abby, Phoenix, & Atreas) ^[16]; Brown, Jane ^[11]; Burris, Joyce ^[08]; Cashion, Corina ^[06]; Clendenning, Carol ^[12]; Coughran, Brett ^[11]; Dober, Jerry Family ^[17]; Duncan, Roberta ^[15]; Gabehart, Tom ^[06]; Garay, Mary ^[09]; Gardner, Jim ^[13]; Gardner, Laura ^[14]; Gonzalez, Jackson ^[17]; Greer Family ^[15]; Guzman, Emily ^[14]; Jackson, April ^[11]; Johansen, Charles ^[14]; Keese, Robert ^[11]; Kennedy, Don ^[16]; King, Elizabeth

Grace ^[16]; Lassen, Peter ^[05]; Leininger, Ellie ^[16]; Lett, Dale ^[14]; McMeans, Cody ^[17]; McMicken, Glaze, Ashley Family ^[05]; Montelago, Abe ^[20]; Matthews, Cody ^[19]; McMeans, Wendell ^[15]; Melendey, Max Family ^[19]; Moore, Angie ^[13]; Moore, Michael ^[11]; Rasmussen, Linda ^[05]; Roeder, Gayle ^[14]; Schilling, Gene ^[06]; Segers, Jacob ^[18]; Sisters of Oliver Flores ^[11]; Smith, Jimmie (JD) ^[11]; Smogur, Joyce Family ^[17]; Smoot, Bailey ^[06]; Smoot, Dani'el ^[16]; Smoot, Deborah ^[16]; Smoot, Roger ^[08]; Sprute, Juanita ^[16]; Street, Cris ^[12]; Strunk, Billie ^[09]; Strunk, Lea Family ^[19]; Unknown Last Name, Katheryn ^[07]; Vela, Cheryl ^[17]; Vela, Maeve ^[17]; Vela, Olivia ^[17]; Vierling, Carlene ^[16]; Vierling, Gene ^[08]; Wade, John ^[14]

[continued from page 3]

work with God: "So, I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Therefore, I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads, says the Lord God" (Ezekiel 22:29-31). And again, "When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand" (Ezekiel 33:8).

I hope this short study has impressed upon your minds the importance of working with God. If you are neglecting your obligations, I encourage you to repent - while you still can! **END**

SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

ECCLESIASTES 3:12-13

¹² I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, ¹³ and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.

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

²⁷ Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.

- Philippians 1:27

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Cathy Vierling	Nov 9	Birthday
Hannah Vierling	Nov 11	Birthday
Betty Smith	Nov 13	Birthday
Corina Cashion	Dec 3	Birthday
Abby Vierling	Dec 11	Birthday
Roger & Deborah Smoot	Dec 21	Anniversary
Joey & Gaylia Dzielzanowski	Dec 29	Anniversary



If Your Special Day Is Between Today And December 31st And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Watkins Know!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

----- Church Stuff ----- Church Stuff ----- Church Stuff -----		
Generally - 4 th Or 5 th Sun, Every Other Sun	Table Fellowship Potluck Lunch - Approximately Noon To Two	
Every Thursday	Sewing Sisters (ALL Ladies Welcome!) – Meet In The Fellowship Room From Noon To 2 For Fellowship And To Sew/Craft Stuff For The Needy And Elderly	
Sun - Nov 30	In Search Of The Lord's Way – <i>The Gospel & Salvation</i>	
Sun - Dec 7	In Search Of The Lord's Way – <i>The Church Of Christ</i>	
Sun - Dec 14	In Search Of The Lord's Way – <i>Battle For Your Soul</i>	
Sun - Dec 21	In Search Of The Lord's Way – <i>Jesus & His Promises</i>	
TODAY	Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal After Morning Worship	
----- Non-Church Stuff ----- Non-Church Stuff ----- Non-Church Stuff -----		
Every Tue	Lytle Friendship Art Club – Meets In The Fellowship Room At 9:30AM	
Every 3 RD Mon	VFW Auxiliary – Fellowship Room At 6:30PM	
Sun - Nov 23	National ¹ Cashew And ² Expresso Days And Eat A Cranberry Day	
Mon - Nov 24	Celebrate Your Unique Talent Day & National Sardines Day	
Tue - Nov 25	International Day For The Elimination Of Violence Against Women & National Parfait Day	
Wed - Nov 26	Good Grief Day & International Cake Day & National Jukebox Day	
Thu - Nov 27	THANKSGIVING & National Bavarian Cream Pie Day & Record Your Family History For Posteria Day	
Fri - Nov 28	Maize Day & Native American Heritage Day & National French Toast Day & National Day Of Listening	
Sat - Nov 29	Square Dancing Day & National Lemon Cream Pie Day	
Sun - Nov 23	Day Of Remembrance For All Victims Of Chemical Warfare & National ¹ Mason Jar And ² Mousse Days	

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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 For Edification —



THE BIBLE IN “90” —

Read The Entire Bible Through In “90” Days (88 Plus Two Grace Days) = 4 Times Thru This Year!

SUN — Nov 23 — Isa 66:19 - Jer 10:13

MON — Nov 24 — Jer 10:14 - Jer 23:8

TUE — Nov 25 — Jer 23:9 - Jer 33:22

WED — Nov 26 — Jer 33:23 - Jer 47:7

THU — Nov 27 — Jer 48:1 - Lam 1:22

FRI — Nov 28 — Lam 2:1 - Eze 12:20

SAT — Nov 29 — Eze 12:21 - Eze 23:39

Isa = Isaiah | Jer = Jeremiah
Lam = Lamentations | Eze = Ezekiel

WANT TO BE

Part Of This Local Family Of Christ Jesus?

To be identified with our Congregation (aka “place membership”): Please fill out a Visitor’s Card, making sure to check the box on front that says, “Wish To Serve In This Congregation.” Please place the completed card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

MEMORIZE Scripture —

Scripture Verses About Working For/With God

Colossians 3:23 — ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

1 Corinthians 15:58 — ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Ephesians 2:10 — ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Philippians 2:14-15 — ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

Galatians 6:9 — ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Luke 16:10 — ¹⁰ He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.