



# 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 MMXXIV **JUNE 9, 2024** Number 23

**Sunday Schedule:** 9:45AM - Bible Study | 10:45AM - Worship

~12:00PM — Every 4th Or 5th Sunday— Fellowship Meal

**Wednesday Schedule:** 5:00PM—Bible Study

physical address	—	15340 Main Street, Lytle, TX 78058 (do NOT use for mailing)
mailing address	—	PO Box 668, Lytle, TX 78058
phone	—	==> 726-241-5234 <== <b>NEW NUMBER AS OF 3/22/2024</b>
email	—	lytlechurchofchrist@yahoo.com
website	—	lytlechurchofchrist.org
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.*

## HOW DOES UNDERSTANDING CULTURE HELP US FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION?

We can't escape culture. We can't. Culture has been compared to the air we walk through and that we breathe every day. If that is so, what is the best way to interact with culture as we attempt to fulfill the Great Commission?

And why would this be important? Well, it's important because as we seek to fulfill our mission, culture is the medium of mission. That means a culture-less mission is not possible. Like any message, Gospel proclamation requires a language of transmission — a verbal language, yes, but also a written language, a body language and a societal language. Culture is the very language of life, whether one is a missionary in Africa or eastern Europe, or one is just a regular church member in Lytle. Every single one of us navigates culture in our daily life. The question then becomes, "Are we doing it well?"

As Christians, we have a responsibility to understand culture and how it works, in order that we can contextualize the Gospel. Contextualization is just a big, fancy-speak

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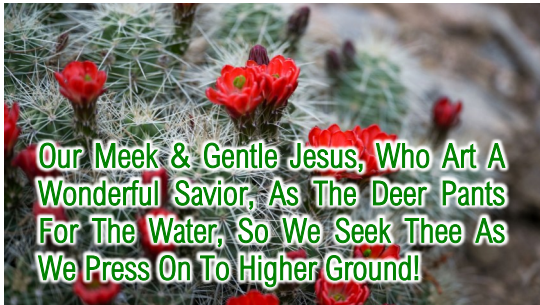
# WELCOME VISITOR!

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 Located On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium.

## ORDER OF SERVICE



**Our Meek & Gentle Jesus, Who Art A Wonderful Savior, As The Deer Pants For The Water, So We Seek Thee As We Press On To Higher Ground!**

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

Song No. 276—Higher Ground  
Not In Song Book—As The Deer

### ● MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER ●

Song No. 454—Jesus, Meek And Gentle  
Song No. 58—A Wonderful Savior  
Not In Song Book—Come, Share The Lord



- LORD'S SUPPER ●
- SERMON — SEE RIGHT COLUMN ●

Invitation Song No. 140—I Hear The Savior Say

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ●

Closing Song No. 358—O To Be Like Thee

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING ●

**GO IN PEACE, DEPARTING TO SERVE IN LOVE**

## SERMON

### ABRAHAM GENESIS 12:1-7



#### ● SERMON SCRIPTURE REFERENCES ●

Genesis 12:1-7; Genesis 28:13; Genesis 14:22;  
Genesis 24:40; Hebrews 11:1; Genesis 21:12;  
James 2:21-22; Genesis 20:11, 17;  
Genesis 12:1-7; Genesis 18:2-8

#### ● SERMON OUTLINE ●

*INTRODUCTION — (1) The Influence Of Abraham In The World | (2) Events In Abraham's Life*

- I. Abraham's Religion
  - A. The God Of Abraham
  - B. "The Lord Before Whom I Walk"
- II. Abraham's Religion In His Personality
  - A. Abrahamic Traits
  - B. Abraham's Faith
  - C. Abraham's Faith Exemplified
- III. Abraham Was Like Us
  - A. He Lied
  - B. We Need To Exercise Care

*CONCLUSION — (1) We All Need A Personal God | (2) What's In Our Hearts? | (3) Abraham Was A Friend Of God | (4) Are We Like Abraham?*

#### ● INVITATION ●

## WED NIGHT STUDY

**5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall (Use Rear Doors)**

Please Join Us When Possible!

— **TBD** [to be determined] —

# "TABLE" FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

— JUNE 30 —

5th Sunday Fellowship - After Morning Worship  
SANDWICHES, CHIPS, DIPS, FRESH VEGGIES/FRUITS, ETC.

— JULY & AUGUST —

• NO FELLOWSHIP MEALS •

THE LADIES HAVE OFF FOR JULY & AUGUST!

[continued from front]

word for the process of adapting a message to a particular culture (or context) so people in that culture are able to understand it. Now, this is an important task for a church that has been told to make disciples of all nations, all groups, all tribes, all kin, all bands, all cultures. That means understanding culture is important because sharing the Gospel with people is important.

Everyone has a culture. You have one. I have one. We all have one. Everybody sees the world through a particular lens.

In other words, everyone has a worldview and exists as part of a particular culture. Our worldview is the foundation of our belief system and impacts how we understand everything around us. Culture is, in one sense, one's worldview come to life as people create language, art, tools, and even social norms. These products of culture then circle back to reinforce or if necessary, adjust a person's worldview. In this way, it is our culture that gives shape to our world and allows us to take in new information and make sense of it.

Unfortunately, like all of creation, culture is marred by the fall. That means everyone's view of the world is really and truly incomplete and twisted. Yes, everyone's! This is where the proclamation of the Gospel becomes central to the Great Commission. The Gospel transforms viewpoint. Once we are redeemed, our worldview is increasingly transformed into a Biblical view, which results in the creation of God-honoring culture and the discernment to reject any culture that does

not honor God. That doesn't mean we shouldn't make an attempt to redeem any Godless culture we run across. Instead, we must remember we are called to proclaim the Gospel to cultures in a way and manner that those who are a part of those cultures can understand.

Brethren, culture runs deep. It is exactly like an iceberg with much more under the surface than above. Understanding this truth is important for two reasons.



First, Christians need to actively learn the culture of others. We should seek to understand how people think, what they feel and how they see the world. This is especially true for local churches in North America that now find themselves living next to Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and scores of other groups, even Catholics and Baptists. Our neighbors are increasingly different than us, and it is our Gospel responsibility to understand them so we can clearly communicate the Good News of Christ.

Second, culture runs very deep in individuals. Our culture subtly influences our foundational beliefs about life, family, faith and society. Often, we are unaware of how much this affects the way we communicate with others – including how we communicate the Gospel.

So, you may be asking yourself, “Mitch, if our culture so affects our communication, how will the Gospel make sense to our neighbors who are different than us?”

Senior professor Sherwood G. Lingenfelter<sup>1</sup> made a claim about culture that may help us understand how we can make sense of the contextual difficulties in sharing the Gospel. He claimed

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<sup>1</sup> Born 1941 — Professor of Anthropology at the school of Intercultural Studies. He is the author of several books: *Ministering Cross-Culturally* [1986]; *Transforming Culture* [1998]; *Leading Cross-Culturally* [2008]



## CURRENT CONCERNS

- May The Will Of GOD, The FATHER Of LOVE, HOPE, COMPASSION, GRACE, MERCY, And RIGHTEOUS Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven!
- *People Affected By Natural Disasters In The U.S.A. And Around The World*
- Our Local, State & Federal Government Officials, Military, First Responders & Teachers
- Nourishing & Life-giving Rain
- Coronaviruses, Flues & Other Deadly Sick-nesses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Coun-tries

**A SUPERSCRIPED NUMBER IN BRACKETS, I.E.,<sup>[1]</sup>, AT THE END OF AN ENTRY DENOTES HOW MANY WEEK(S) THE ENTRY HAS BEEN PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN**

## JUNE 9

**ALL FOLLOWING ENTRIES ARE BY DATE ORDER AND ARE ALPHABETICAL BY LAST NAME**

- ◇ LaFleur, Miranda [Friend of Preston Davis (Tom Woodard's friend)] – She'll be having a procedure(s) to rebuild her brain floor on Wednesday, July 3. *Praise To GOD!* – She recently asked for her mom to obtain a Bible – **REAL-LY COOL!** <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Strunk, Billy – He had to be hospitalized due to unknown causes. Lea said something to the effect that they almost lost him. Even so, he was released from the hospital without a diagnosis on Sunday, June 2. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Torres, Donna [Laura Gardner's son's girlfriend's mother] – She had been doing really well after

her lung surgery but she had to be hospitalized due to her lung filling with fluid and having a temperature. <sup>[NEW]</sup>

### ADDITIONAL PEOPLE FOR WHOM & SITUATIONS FOR WHICH TO PRAY:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

## JUNE 2

- ◇ Flatequal, Pam – She arrived safely to Tennessee, *Praise To GOD!* <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ McMeans, Velma [Wendell McMeans' mom] – She fell while gardening. She was able to get up but injured her neck and is in severe pain. She's to have an MRI because she's still in quite a bit of pain. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ McMeans, Justin [McMeans' son] – His boss at work intervened after Justin lost his job, allowing him to return, *Praise To GOD!* <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Orr, Dan – He was admitted to the hospital due to chest pains, several tests were run and everything came back okay so, he was subsequently released. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Smoot, Deborah – She's to have cataracts surgery July 2 for preop clearance and July 12 for the actual surgery on one of her eyes. Afterwards (2 weeks) she'll have her other eye done. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Strunk, Lea – She's been diagnosed with Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD), the cause of her feet issues. She's been put on a new med to make the interior of her arteries "slick." <sup>[NEW]</sup>

## MAY 26

- ◇ Misty–Last Name Unknown [Pam Flatequal's friend] –She's been involved in a Johnson & Johnson law suit due to cancer she's had. Unfortunately, a recent body scan showed that she has 10 brain tumors. <sup>[1]</sup>
- ◇ Street, Brian [Laura Gardner's Son] – He's developed a serious ulcer. It will be expensive to treat, it is unfortunate but he doesn't have insurance. <sup>[1]</sup>

## MAY 19

- ◇ Flatequal, Fletcher [Pam Flatequal's son] – His left ear now looks good... somehow... and no long needs surgery at this time, but... his right ear may be in need of a surgery (he's already had one surgery on that ear) <sup>[2]</sup>
- ◇ Lloyd-Brown, Family [Ronda Spicer's daughter-in-law's mother] – Linda Lloyd passed into eternity Thursday, May 16. <sup>[2]</sup>

## MAY 12

- ◇ Brown, Tina & Gardner, Sterling [Her: Ronda's granddaughter; Him: Gardner's grandson] – They're now engaged! Congratulations! <sup>[3]</sup>

## MAY 5

- ◇ Gibbon, Tucker [Bill Ragsdale's (Deborah Smoot's brother-in-law) son's grandson] – Tucker, a newborn, will have to have several procedures to correct some health issues. <sup>[4]</sup>
- ◇ Gail Kuehler's Sister [Gail is one of the Art Club members] – Sister passed into eternity. <sup>[4]</sup>

## APRIL 21

- ◇ Bentley, Sage [Wife of an administrator at the school where Tom subs] She had an emergency hospital visit for unknown reasons. <sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ French, Missae – She's back home from her hospitalization Wednesday, April 10 and subsequent convalescence with her daughter. <sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Gardner, Jim – He is starting a series of weekly dental procedures, each taking about 2 hours, the first of four was Tuesday, April 23. <sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Montalvo, Louie [Laura Gardner's son's best

friend] – He's back in the hospital with suspected heart issues. <sup>[5]</sup>

- ◇ Renninger, Ruane – She's in the process of scheduling some heart tests. <sup>[5]</sup>

## APRIL 14

- ◇ Spicer, Ronda – Her doctor told her that her knees are bone-on-bone. As her doctor no longer performs surgeries, she's to receive steroid shots for now to see if they'll work before being referred to an orthopedic surgeon. <sup>[6]</sup>

## ONGOING

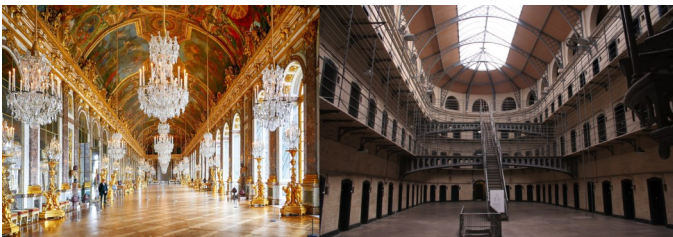
**NOTE: If You Know Of Anyone Below Who Should Be Placed Back On The Active Detailed List, Please Let Mitch Know.**

Alderman, Roy <sup>[6]</sup>; Barron, Pat Family <sup>[10]</sup>; Bippert, Cheryl <sup>[25]</sup>; Bippert, Ernest Family <sup>[25]</sup>; Boldt, Sandy <sup>[25]</sup>; Bonin, Danny <sup>[7]</sup>; Bonin, Donna <sup>[7]</sup>; Bridgewater, Rebecca <sup>[8]</sup>; Brown, Hunter <sup>[15]</sup>; Brown, Stephanie <sup>[16]</sup>; Burris, Cody, Spouse & New Baby Hayes <sup>[20]</sup>; Burris, Gloria <sup>[13]</sup>; Burris, Joyce <sup>[10]</sup>; Vela Cheryl's granddaughter Olivia <sup>[10]</sup>; Corren, Jan <sup>[20]</sup>; Delaney, Sophie <sup>[21]</sup>; Green, Marvin <sup>[22]</sup>; Green, Sonia <sup>[18]</sup>; Haby, Casey <sup>[8]</sup>; Lopez, Emily <sup>[12]</sup>; McLay, Carla <sup>[15]</sup>; McLay, Gary <sup>[15]</sup>; Norris, David Family <sup>[20]</sup>; Parra, Rudy <sup>[7]</sup>; Reilly, Mike Family <sup>[16]</sup>; Shaw, Nancy <sup>[22]</sup>; Slaughter, Ron <sup>[7]</sup>; Smith, Bessie Family <sup>[19]</sup>; Smith, Zachary Family <sup>[19]</sup>; Smoot, Bailey <sup>[8]</sup>; Smoot, Cody & Emily <sup>[13]</sup>; Smoot, Dan'iel <sup>[8]</sup>; Smoot, Jeremy <sup>[7]</sup>; Smoot, Randy <sup>[12]</sup>; Sparks, Janice <sup>[9]</sup>; Turnbow, Elaine <sup>[23]</sup>; Turnbow, Gary <sup>[23]</sup>; Vela, John & Cheryl <sup>[8]</sup>; Villarreal, Douglas <sup>[12]</sup>; Vierling, Gene <sup>[6]</sup>; Watkins, Betsy <sup>[6]</sup>; Watkins, Mitch <sup>[8]</sup>; Welsby, Chris <sup>[17]</sup>



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that culture is a palace and a prison – simultaneously. He said, “Culture is a palace when there



are no other contesting voices around us, when we can live fairly comfortable, ordered lives in the context of our own cultural system. When everyone in the room thinks the same way, that room can feel pretty comfortable. Shared culture reinforces our views, and it allows us to pat ourselves on the back for feeling the way we do. In this regard, culture is a palace that makes us confident and comfortable in our views.”

This aspect of culture is not always bad. This experience of feeling reinforced is why time with family is meaningful (most of the time) or why we love going to football games with thousands of other people cheering on our team. It’s exactly why we might think that southern food is the best food, and going home to, say Tennessee or Mississippi or North Carolina is a joy (again, most of the time). This reinforcement produces a sense of identity, and it solidifies the values our culture expects.

Lingenfelter continues: “However, when we are pushed into relationships that are outside the boundaries of our culture, that culture becomes a prison to us. We are blind to other ways of seeing and doing things, and we assume that our way is the only way that is appropriate and best. So, we become frustrated and angry with those who insist on breaking our rules, and we attempt to enforce our rules on them. When no one in the room thinks the same way as us, we experience something altogether different. Culture, in this sense starts to feel like a prison. When everything around us is from a different culture, we cease to understand what is happening. The symbols, the communications, the values, and the way of life

## MINI SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

### PSALM 150

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament! <sup>2</sup> Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His excellent greatness! ... <sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

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

all have different meaning. We are trapped in our inability to communicate effectively. In this experience, we assume certain “bedrock truths” only to discover that everyone else disagrees. When we are ignorant of the walls created by culture, we fail to communicate across them effectively.”

Again, you may be wondering why it matters.

First, we should realize that we are bound by our culture. Our way of viewing the world colors our understanding of everything around us which means we have blind spots, and knowing that should change how we approach the most important things in our life as a Christ follower. So, let’s try to peel back the curtain on our culture. Are there any unbiblical presuppositions from our culture that’s influencing our worldview?

Second, see our need to understand other cultures. Local churches in North America should take seriously the unprecedented opportunity to do cross-cultural ministry in our own communities. Do you have a neighbor from a different faith tradition, or someone from a different country of origin? These people need to know the Gospel, and perhaps God placed them there so you can share it with them. To do that, we must get better at learning other cultures. Only when we

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# ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS









Rick & Pam Fintel	June 1	Anniversary
Tom & Pat Woodard	June 10	Anniversary
Lea Strunk	June 27	Birthday
Wendell & Melanie McMeans	July 20	Anniversary
Pam Fintel	July 27	Birthday

*If Your Special Day Is Between Today's Date And July 31, 2024  
And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Church Stuff

4th OR 5th Sundays	 <p><b>"Table" Fellowship Potluck Lunch –</b>  <i>After Worship From Approximately 12:00PM To 2:00PM</i>              Either The 4th Sunday Or 5th Sunday Of Every Month (Except When On Hiatus)</p>
Every Thursday	 <p><b>Sewing Sisters (All Ladies Welcome!) –</b> 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–Jun 16	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – Foolishness –</b> for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Jun 23	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – The Truth –</b> for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Jun 30	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – The "Musts" Of Christianity –</b> searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Jul 7	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – One Another –</b> for channel: searchtv.com</p>

## Non-Church Stuff

Every Tuesday	 <p><b>Lytle Friendship Art Club –</b> Fellowship Room From 9:30AM To 1:00PM              Plus, Every 2nd Tuesday Of Each Month, The Club Meets For A Business Meeting, Lunch &amp; Demonstration(s)</p>
3rd Mondays	 <p><b>VFW Auxiliary –</b> Fellowship Room @ 6:00PM</p>
Sun–Jun 9	<b><sup>1</sup>Race Unity And <sup>2</sup>Donald Duck Days   National Strawberry-Rhubarb Pie Day</b>
Tue–Jun 11	<b>National <sup>1</sup>German Cake And <sup>2</sup>Pizza Margherita And <sup>3</sup>Corn-On-The-Cob Days</b>
Fri–Jun 14	<b>Acapella Concert–The Vocal Union @ Kings Crossing CoC–6PM</b> [see front hall bulletin board] <b>Army's 249th Birthday   Flag Day   National Strawberry Shortcake Day</b>
Sun–Jun 16	<b>National <sup>1</sup>Fudge And <sup>2</sup>Tortilla And <sup>3</sup>Turkey Lovers And <sup>4</sup>Cannoli Days</b>
Fri Sat Sun– Sep 27-29	<b>Women Of Joy Conference @ San Antonio – Theme: <i>He Must Become Greater; And I Must Become Less</i>   Early Bird Rate: \$129 For Entire Conference [womenofjoy.org]</b>

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understand their culture can we communicate appropriately and bridge the cultural barrier.

As some people may wonder if I'm rejecting absolute truth when I speak of contextualization, I'd like to set the record straight – No. I do **not** reject the concept of absolute truth – Nope. Nada. Not at all. Just because people see truths differently does not mean truths do not exist.

The Gospel is true for every culture. The words of God to man stand as words for every people in every place and in every time, until Jesus returns for His own. The salvation offered by Christ is the **exclusive means** of restored relationship with our Heavenly Father, regardless of one's background. The Gospel never changes. But how we communicate the Gospel might. Every message has a medium through which it passes. The Gospel is always passed to people in cultural forms, so we must be sure that we are passing it on well. Our goal is to share an unchanging Gospel in a way people can understand! **E**

## DAILY Bible Reading For Edification —



### Chronological — Date Order — Biblical Events When Believed To Have Occurred

SUN	Jun 9 - Prov 19-21
MON	Jun 10 - Prov 22-24
TUE	Jun 11 - 1 Kgs 5-6, 2 Chr 2-3
WED	Jun 12 - 1 Kgs 7, 2 Chr 4
THU	Jun 13 - 1 Kgs 8, 2 Chr 5
FRI	Jun 14 - 2 Chr 6-7, Ps 136
SAT	Jun 15 - Ps 134, Ps 146-150

Prov = Proverbs | Kgs = Kings  
Chr = Chronicles | Ps = Psalms

## 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 —

### SCRIPTURE VERSES FROM PSALMS

136 – <sup>1</sup>Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. <sup>2</sup>Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! for His mercy endures forever. <sup>3</sup>Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever: <sup>4</sup>to Him who alone does great wonders, for His mercy endures forever; <sup>5</sup>to Him who by wisdom made the heavens, for His mercy endures forever; <sup>6</sup>to Him who laid out the earth above the waters, for His mercy endures forever; <sup>7</sup>to Him who made great lights, for His mercy endures forever – <sup>8</sup>the sun to rule by day, for His mercy endures forever; <sup>9</sup>the moon and stars to rule by night, for His mercy endures forever.

146 – <sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord, O my soul! <sup>2</sup>While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. <sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes, nor in a [son of man] [human being], in whom there is no help [salvation]. <sup>4</sup>His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; in that very day his plans perish.

147 – <sup>1</sup>Praise [Hallelujah] the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.

