



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

FEBRUARY 02, 2025

Number 06

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

Wednesday Schedule: 4:00PM — Bible Study

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
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| 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 TO HOLD ON TO HOPE — PART 2

Last week we saw that many non-Christian and Christians alike may at some point in their lives ask, "How could a God, who is the embodiment of love, allow suffering?"

We also spoke of the fact that even if you're not going through a hard time right now, just sit back — you will. That's the nature of living in a fallen world. Pain is guaranteed for anyone who takes on the task of living. Some of you are in the furnace of suffering right now. Others of you have just come out of a time of affliction, and the rest of us will be there sooner or later because if you live long enough, you **will** suffer.

Then we spoke of the fact that Romans 8 is truly wonderful because it presents in detail the three major doctrines of the Christian life: (1) Justification which deals with the past — we were saved from the penalty of sin (verses 1-4); (2) Sanctification which deals with the present — we are saved from the power of sin (verses 5-17); and (3) Glorification which deals with the future — we will be saved from the presence of sin (18-30). Before we start with my second point, let's take a look at Romans 8:18-25:

"¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who

[continued on page 3]

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.



Father, We Pray That Every Heart Will Rejoice And Sing Your Wondrous Story Of Our Great Redeemer. We Sing Of Christ To The World Letting All Know That We Have A Wonderful Savior, Hallelujah!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Song No. 10—Let Every Heart Rejoice And Sing

Song No. 118—I Will Sing The Wondrous Story

Song No. 103—I Will Sing Of My Redeemer

• MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •

Song No. 264—Christ For The World We Sing

Song No. 157—Hallelujah! What A Savior



• LORD'S SUPPER •

• SERMON — *SEE RIGHT COLUMN* •

Invitation Song No. 115—O, Thou Fount Of Every . . .

• FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song Not In Book—I Will Sing . . .

• PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •

GO IN PEACE, DEPARTING TO SERVE IN LOVE

SERMON

— COPING WITH SIN —

• SOME SERMON SCRIPTURES •

Romans 3:9-23; 1 John 3:4; Revelation 2:7; Jude 3; 1 John 5:17; 1 John 1:10; Hebrews 3:13; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7

• SERMON OUTLINE •

INTRODUCTION - (1) Grave Consequences Are Attached To Sin | (2) The Cost To Deity Was High | (3) None Escape The Power Of Sin

- I. Attitudes Toward Sin
 - A. Improper Attitudes
 - B. Proper Attitudes
- II. Defining Sin
 - A. Violation Of Conscience
 - B. Knowing And Not Doing
 - C. Transgressing The Law
 - D. Failing To Keep God's Law
- III. Classifications Of Sin
 - A. What Does "Kinds" Mean?
 - B. Classifications
- IV. Nature/Consequences Of Sin
- V. The Remedy For Sin
 - A. The Blood Of Christ
 - B. Contact With His Blood
 - C. Efficaciousness

CONCLUSION (1) Effects Of Understanding The Nature Of Sin | (2) Dedicate Our Life To Overcoming Sin

• INVITATION •



WED NIGHT STUDY

Winter Time: 4 PM In Fellowship Room (Rear Doors)

— Problems The Church Faced Pt. 29 —

"TABLE" FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025 (PROPOSED)

— FEBRUARY 16 —

— MARCH 30 (ANNUAL PICNIC) —

— MAY 25 — JULY 27 —

— SEPTEMBER 28 — NOVEMBER 23 —

— DECEMBER 28 (NEW YEARS "EVE") —

[continued from front]

subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”

Last week we looked at our first point: **Focus on future glory more than your present suffering.** Now our second point:

2. Recognize that the curse on creation will be reversed. Doesn't it seem like our world is out of whack? On a regular basis we hear of floods, earthquakes, heat waves, viruses and more! Verse 19 personifies creation: “For the



creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.” The word “waits” (waiting) refers to “looking forward to the future with expectation.” The phrase “with eager longing” is used seven times in the New Testament, each time referring to the return of Christ. It means, “to stretch out the neck and thrust the head forward.” J.B. Phillips captures this idea well in his paraphrase: “The whole world is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons of God coming into their own.”

Notice all of creation is longing “for the revealing of the sons of God.” Creation itself is straining to see the coming restoration when Christians will be made complete at the “revealing,” which refers to the return of Christ. This is one of three words which refer to the Second Coming, along with “appearing” and “coming.” I know that I am challenged by what Martin Luther said: “We

ought to be living as if Jesus died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back this afternoon.”

While creation care is important and we should be good stewards of the earth God has given to us, this passage gives us three truths to hold on to.

Creation has been cursed in the past. In verse 20 we read: “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it...” When Adam sinned, all of creation was put under a curse as stated in Genesis 3:17-18: “And to Adam he said, ‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I com-

manded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you.” Genesis 5:29 adds, “Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed.”

All creation suffers the backwash of Adam's sin. As a result, disappointment, decay, disease, disorder, and death reign.

But, praise to God, the curse will be reversed in the future! Let's go back and pick up the last two words of verse 20 because they go with verse 21: “...in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.” When Christ returns, creation's corruption will be turned around and Paradise will be restored. Our freedom will mean creation's freedom as we see in 2 Peter 3:13: “But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”

Next, we see that Creation is groaning in the present. We see this in verse 22: “For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.” I don't know if this is true, but I think we can all hear Creation groan-

[continued on page 6]



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 – Hurricanes Helena in NC & Milton in FL*
- Our Local, State & Federal Government Officials, Military, First Responders & Teachers
- Nourishing & Life-giving Rain
- Coronaviruses, Flues & Other Deadly Sicknesses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Countries

ADDITIONAL PEOPLE FOR WHOM & SITUATIONS FOR WHICH TO PRAY:

1. _____
2. _____
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19. _____

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

FEBRUARY 2

- ◇ Fintel, Rick & Pam – Both have been struggling with the flu. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Holguin, Jeremy [11-year-old grandson of a friend of Troy & Mandy Smoot] Since his transfer to Texas Children's Hospital in Houston his encephalitis (brain swelling) seems to be doing better and he is definitely improving, *Praise To GOD!* ^[NEW]
- ◇ Laban, James [Roger Smoot's cousin-in-law] – He spent a little time in the hospital with pneumonia but has been released and is improving. ^[NEW]
- ◇ McClellan, Tom [Congregational friend] – After looking for employment for awhile, he just landed a job, *Praise To GOD!* ^[NEW]
- ◇ Smoot Family – *Praise To GOD!* Everybody is doing much better, getting over the flu and other ailments. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Cris Street – She's been suffering from a sinus infection. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Vierling, Carlene – She received a steroid shot Monday, January 27 which has relieved her pain so she's doing better. She was to revisit the doctor Thursday, January 30. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Waddell, Julie [Betty Smith's niece] – Her double mastectomy surgery went well but surgery lasted from 11:00AM to 11:30PM. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Watkins, Mitch – His back is still hurting... a lot! ^[NEW]

JANUARY 26

- ◇ Brown, Jovelle [J.D. Brown's spouse] – She has been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer which has spread to her pancreas. ^[01]
- ◇ Burkholder, Tom [Laura Gardner's nephew] – He's been diagnosed with B-cell lymphoma

(blood cancer). Cancer has also been found in both his kidneys, his bladder and his brain. ^[01]

- ◇ Strunk, Billy & Lea – Billy, as he deals with Lea's illness. Lea met with an oncologist who had some blood taken for tests. She's to have a biopsy of a nodule found on her lung sometime in February. Right now, she's now at home as the infection seems to have been checked, **Praise To GOD!** Plus, she's starting to do a little walking on her own! ^[01]
- ◇ Thomas, Ashton [Tom Woodard's great niece's daughter] – She is doing really well and healing nicely from the cyst removal procedure. ^[01]

JANUARY 19

- ◇ Moved to later date. ^[02]

JANUARY 12

- ◇ All The People Affected By The California Wildfires ^[03]
- ◇ Brubaker, Donna [Lady Taking Care Of Carol Vierling's house in Indiana] – She learned she needs hip replacement surgery very soon. Pre-op procedures started Thursday, January 8. ^[03]
- ◇ Burris, Joyce – She felt good enough to be with us last Sunday, **Praise To GOD!** David and Tanya brought her. ^[03]
- ◇ Guzman, Emily [Tom Woodard's hair "stylist"] – She has cancer and has been given about 18 months to live whether she has treatment or no. She's elected not to have any treatments. ^[03]
- ◇ Harpo, Charlotte [Tom Woodard's football official friend, Charlie's wife] – She is suffering from either dementia or Alzheimer's ^[03]
- ◇ LaFleur, Miranda [Tom Woodard's friend Preston's friend] – She is now awaiting cosmetic surgery to correct some things after her skull injury and brain surgery. ^[03]
- ◇ Mass Killing and Injury of those people in New Orleans who were mowed down by a man in a truck. ^[03]
- ◇ May, Doug [Member of the Natalia congregation] – He has brain cancer. ^[03]

JANUARY 5

- ◇ All moved To February 2 ^[04]

ONGOING CONCERNS

NOTE: All Concern(s) Above Remain On The Active Detailed List Until Room Is Needed For Newer Concern(s) At Which Time The Concern(s) Which Are Oldest Will Be Moved To This Ongoing List. If I Move Someone To This Ongoing List That You Believe Should Go Back On The Active Detailed List, Please Let Mitch Know. **All Concern(s) Below Will Remain On This Ongoing List For 26 Weeks. Removal Can Be Requested Earlier But Concern(s) Will Be Automatically Removed At The 27th Week.**

Alderson, Yolanda ^[19]; Attwood Family ^[13]; Baron, Russ ^[19]; Boaz, Jenson ^[08]; Bonin, Donna ^[19]; Brown, Colton & Abby ^[11]; Brown, Charlie & Diane ^[12]; Brown, Norman ^[17]; Capshaw, Mike ^[07]; Cardwell, Aubrey ^[13]; Chant Family ^[17]; Cook, Karen ^[19]; Crump, Megan Family ^[25]; Dadd, Jaime ^[25]; Davis, Randy ^[13]; Duncan, Roberta ^[21]; Felts, Barbara ^[21]; Fintel, Rick ^[23]; Flatequal Family ^[19]; Flatequal, Jessie Jr. ^[09]; Flatequal, Loren ^[21]; Garcia, Kara ^[17]; Glaze, Deanna ^[15]; Harpo, Charlotte ^[14]; LaFleur, Miranda ^[13]; Last Name Unknown, Auggie ^[5]; Maldonado, Michael ^[10]; McMeans, Melanie ^[17]; McMeans, Velma ^[17]; McMeans, Wendell ^[17]; Neill, Mason ^[21]; Orr-Burris Families ^[19]; Para, Rudy ^[13]; Ramirez, Arilio Family ^[21]; Renninger, Ruane ^[21]; Renteria, Robert ^[19]; Richmond, Craig Family ^[20]; Roeder, Gary ^[08]; Shaw, Nancy Family ^[08]; Smith, Betty ^[08]; Smoot, Dan'iel ^[15]; Street, Jenna Family ^[10]; Street-Olszewski, Zade Cole ^[10]; Strunk, Billy ^[23]; Vierling, Hannah ^[17]; Voight, Wayne Family ^[11]; Walker, Tony ^[08]; Weitzel, Michelle ^[19]; Woodard, Sue ^[06]



[continued from page 3]

ing if we take into account everything that is going on with the earth today: excess warming, excess freezing, volcanos erupting, earthquakes quaking, viruses and bacterium attacking and so much more. I wonder if this is simply Creation crying out for redemption? The word “groaning” means “to sigh with affliction” and was used to describe straining and moaning under a heavy burden. As a guy, I won’t pretend to understand the “pains of childbirth,” but it also may represent all the **stuff** the world is going through right now. Hosea 4:3 says, “Therefore the land mourns,



and all who dwell in it languish, and also the beasts of the field and the birds of the heavens, and even the fish of the sea are taken away.”

So, to get through your groaning, focus on the glory to come!

Next week we’ll look at my third point: **Wait with hope and patience while you groan inwardly.**

PART 3 CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

ACTS 4:18-21

¹⁸ So they [the Sanhedrin] called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. ²⁰ For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.” ²¹ So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, since they all glorified God for what had been done.

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



¹ In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” ⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Acts 6:1-7

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Billy Strunk | January 26 | Birthday |
| Jim Gardner | January 30 | Birthday |
| Rick Fintel | February 16 | Birthday |
| Pam Flatequal | February 22 | Birthday |
| Mitch & Betsy Watkins | February 22 | Anniversary |

*If Your Special Day Is Between Today's Date And February 28, 2025
And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Church Stuff Church Stuff Church Stuff

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 4th OR 5th Sundays |  "Table" Fellowship Potluck Lunch — <i>After Worship From Approximately 12:00PM To 2:00PM</i> Either The 4th Sunday Or 5th Sunday Of Every Other Month (Except When On Hiatus) |
| Every Thursday |  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. |
| Sun—Feb 9 |  IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY — <i>Healthy Christianity</i> |
| Sun—Feb 16 |  IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY — <i>The Greatest Love</i> |
| Sun—Feb 23 |  IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY — <i>Our Words</i> |
| Sun—Mar 2 |  IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY — <i>Forgiveness Of Sins</i> |
| Sun—Mar 9 |  IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY — <i>True Knowledge</i> |

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|------------------|---|
| Every Tuesday |  Lytle Friendship Art Club — Fellowship Room At 9:30AM. On Every 2nd Tuesday Of The Month, The Club Meets For A Business Meeting, A Lunch & A Demonstration(s) |
| 3rd Mondays |  VFW Auxiliary — Fellowship Room @ 6:00PM |
| Sun—Feb 2 | Ground Hog Day & National Hedgehog Day & Treaty Of Guadalupe Hidalgo |
| Mon—Feb 3 |  National ¹Golden Retriever And ²Carrot Cake Days |
| Tue—Feb 4 |  World Cancer Day & Rosa Parks Day |
| Wed—Feb 5 | World Nutella Day & National ¹Chocolate Fondue And ²Singing Days |
| Thu—Feb 6 |  National ¹Frozen Yogurt And ²Chopsticks Days |
| Fri—Feb 7 |  Rose Day & National ¹Fettuccine Alfredo And ²Wear Red Days |
| Sun—Feb 9 |  Chocolate Day & Super Bowl Sunday & National Pizza Day  |

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 | Feb 2 – 2 Chr 23:16 - 2 Chr 35:15 |
| MON | Feb 3 – 2 Chr 35:16 - Ezra 10:44 |
| TUE | Feb 4 – Neh 1:1 - Neh 13:14 |
| WED | Feb 5 – Neh 13:15 - Job 7:21 |
| THU | Feb 6 – Job 8:1 - Job 24:25 |
| FRI | Feb 7 – Job 25:1 - Job 41:34 |
| SAT | Feb 8 – Job 42:1 - Ps 24:10 |

Chr = Chronicles / Neh = Nehemiah
Ps = Psalms

WANT TO BE

Part Of This Local Family Of Christ?

To be identified with our Congregation (aka "place membership"): 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 In Sections —

SCRIPTURE VERSES FROM ACTS 3

¹⁷ "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer.

¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰ and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you — even Jesus. ²¹ Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

²² For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. ²³ Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from their people.' ²⁴ "Indeed, beginning with Samuel, all the prophets who have spoken have foretold these days.

²⁵ And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.' ²⁶ When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

