



# 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

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2023**

Number 37

**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)
mailing address	—	PO Box 668, Lytle, TX 78058
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email	—	lytlechurchofchrist@yahoo.com
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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.*

## POOR RELIGIOUS LEADERS & THEIR THREE GREATEST DESIRES

There are three desires that bad religious leaders have: (1) attention, (2) position and (3) possessions. We need to beware of people who have an inordinate desire of these things. In stark contrast, we need to behold Jesus Christ — the ultimate religious leader.

*The first desire of a bad religious leader is ATTENTION.* In his teaching, Jesus said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces. . ." (Mark 12:38).

The scribes of first century Israel were the religious experts in Old Testament Law. They hand-copied it, memorized it, taught it, wrote about it, and settled disputes about it. They were sort of like a cross between a Seminary professor and a Bible commentary writer. Beyond that, they functioned as lawyers and governing leaders. So, why would

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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

**What A Glorious King We Have In  
God Our Father And Such A  
Wonderful Friend In His Son,  
Jesus The Christ!**

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

Song No. 116—O Worship The King

Song No. 80—The Lily Of The Valley

Song No. 163—When My Love To Christ Grows Weak

- LORD'S SUPPER •

Song No. 196—There's Not A Friend

Song No. 416—What A Friend We Have In Jesus

- MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •
- SERMON — *SEE RIGHT COLUMN* •

Invitation Song No. 198—Thou, My Everlasting . . .

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song Not In Song Book—Wonderful Jesus!

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •
- DEPART TO SERVE IN LOVE •

## SERMON

— THE PROBLEM & ITS SOLUTION —



### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Galatians 5:16-26; Romans 8:7; Romans 8:2-4;  
Matthew 5:28; John 16:33; 2 Timothy 2:11;  
Romans 8:9; Titus 2:2; Romans 6:2; Revelation 3:17

### SERMON OUTLINE:

#### INTRODUCTION & REVIEW

- I. Lusts Of The Flesh (5:16-21)
  - A. The Answer: Obedience To God (vv.16-18)
    1. The Flesh Fights For Dominance (v.16)
    2. The Flesh Is Contrary To The Spirit (v.17a)
    3. The Flesh Causes Disobedience (v.17b)
    4. The Flesh Fails To Keep The Law (v.18)
  - B. The Works Of The Flesh (vv.19-21a)
  - C. The judgment of living by the flesh (v.21b)
- II. The Fruit Of The Spirit (5:22-26)
  - A. Believers Bear God's Nature (vv.22-23)
  - B. Believers Bear A Crucified Flesh (v.24)
  - C. Believers Walk In Christ (v.25)
  - D. Believers Avoid Super-Spirituality And Envy (v.26)

#### CLOSING & INVITATION

## WED NIGHT STUDY

SEPTEMBER 13 @ 5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us If At All Possible!

(Use Rear Doors)

— 1 Thessalonians 4:11-15 —



— SEPTEMBER 24 —

4th Sunday Potluck & Games — After Morning Worship  
THEME: TAIL GATE FAVORITES!

— OCTOBER 29 —

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal — After Morning Worship  
THEME: FALL FIESTA POTLUCK!

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Jesus tell us to beware of them?

First off, Jesus says that the scribes “like to walk around in long robes.” Scribes would wear certain robes when they did their work. They wore special robes reserved for top-tier, elite people. But there were two problems with the way the scribes related to their robes:

1. They **LIKED** to walk around in their robes. The scribes loved to walk around in their robes and be seen in said robes. That was their desire.

2. They liked to **WALK AROUND** in their robes. This, in my mind, indicates that they just weren't wearing their robes for their work; their scribal duties. It's quite possible they were walking around town in their fancy robes so that the people would see them and give them the attention they craved — as it says, “greetings in the marketplaces.” The scribes liked getting attention — not necessarily honoring God and serving the people.

***The second desire of a bad religious leader is POSITION.*** Jesus tells us to beware of the scribes, who “have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts . . .” (Mark 12:39).

Seating then and now is a clear indicator of social status in ours and theirs cultures. In the first century, the best seats, the most important seats were those that were closest to the front and higher than the rest. Similarly, at feasts, there were specific places of honor and the scribes, being so important (at least in their minds), enjoyed this prominent seating

Jesus, of course, sees right through the scribes. He knows they don't care to honor God and serve the people in their roles — they wanted attention and position.

***The third desire of a bad religious leader is POSSESSIONS.*** Here Jesus warns to beware of the scribes “who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers.” (Mark 12:40a). So, Jesus points out that the scribes like possessions and verse 40 conjures vivid imagery in our minds, describing them eating up the resources of widows — one of the most vulnerable groups of people.

They were using their position to take advantage of others.

Then to cover over their true character, they worded pretend prayers. They didn't like honoring God and serving people — they liked possessions, even going so far as to use people to their own advantage.

Jesus' conclusion couldn't be clearer when he states at the end of verse 40b: “They will receive the greater condemnation.”

Brethren, we all desire attention, position and possessions. Yes, we've been forgiven and transformed by Jesus Christ, but our remnant sinature still clings to us as closely as a speed skater's skin-tight uniform. Everyone of us has sinful desires: we all desire to have attention, be in the best position and have more possessions so, yes, religious leaders are not the only ones.

But in light of what Jesus is teaching here, we need to hold each other and our religious leaders accountable. We have to be watchful because we don't want to follow a religious leader whose primary desires are for attention, position and possessions because if they go off track, so will we.

A more prime application of all this is regarding religious leaders that we don't know personally. There are religious leaders on television, radio, podcasts and bookstores — so many ways for us to be influenced by preachers whom we'll never meet. And we need to watch out for them. We

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## AUGUST 20

- ◇ Buchheit, Dan [Spouse of Art Club member] — He's not doing well (he had brain surgery some time ago). He's lost a lot of weight; he's taller than Wendell and is now weighing in at 120 pounds. Prayers for him and his wife Mary (his primary caregiver).<sup>[4]</sup>
- ◇ Burris, Joyce — She's going to have to have weekly shots in her eye for her macular degeneration.<sup>[4]</sup>
- ◇ Stroud, Brenna [Fintel's granddaughter] — Due to a medical condition know as PUPPP (Pruritic Urticarial Papules and Plaques of Pregnancy), a severe but benign inflammatory skin disorder which can occur in the third trimester, she was induced and gave birth to baby Faith Stroud (see below).<sup>[4]</sup>
- ◇ Stroud, Faith [Fintel's newest great granddaughter] — She was born (induced) to Brenna and dad on Thursday, August 17 at 12:27 in the morning. She weighed eight pounds, four ounces and was 20 inches long. Congratulations Rick and Pam! Baby & mom are doing well except for Brenna's PUPPP (see above)<sup>[4]</sup>

## AUGUST 13

- ◇ Barron, Pat [Laura Gardner's sister-in-law] — She underwent another heart ablation Wednesday, August 9. She is also suffering from stage 4 kidney cancer.<sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Hoover, Herb [Pat Barron, Laura Gardner's nephew] — He passed into eternity earlier this past week from heart failure (He'd had heart issues for awhile).<sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Shelton, Judy — She's having several health issues and has undergone several tests and is awaiting results plus she was to undergo several more tests this past week.<sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Smith, Philip [Betty Smith's son] — He was involved in an auto accident in which his truck was totaled. **Praise GOD!** He suffered nothing serious, mostly bruises.<sup>[5]</sup>
- ◇ Watkins, Betsy — She's still at home receiving

care for her severe edema to both legs among other health issues.<sup>[5]</sup>

- ◇ Watkins, Mitchell — He's been going through a lot with taking care of Betsy, dealing with the aftermath of his father's passing and trying to perform plumbing work with a recalcitrant toilet among other "stuff."<sup>[5]</sup>

## AUGUST 6 & PRIOR

**[ALL NAMES FROM 9 WEEKS AGO & PRIOR HAVE BEEN MOVED TO ONGOING PRAYER LIST & WILL APPEAR ON NEXT MONTHLY PRAYER LIST PRINTOUT (1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)]**

- ◇ Brock, Jim [Pat Woodard's brother-in-law] — He left respite care due to being uncooperative... He had been placed in respite care due to his dementia and Alzheimer's.<sup>[6]</sup>
- ◇ Clemetson, Allie [Melanie McMeans' great niece] — **Praise GOD!** She'll require no skin grafts after receiving 2nd and 3rd degree gasoline burns on her legs at a bonfire.<sup>[6]</sup>
- ◇ Fintel, Pam — She's been dealing with tonsillitis. The first round of medications didn't help — she's now on some different meds.<sup>[8]</sup>
- ◇ Lester, Kathy [Ruane Renninger's sister-in-law] — She was in an accident and suffered six broken ribs.<sup>[8]</sup>
- ◇ Orr, Myrna [Dan Orr's mother] — **Praise GOD!** She's doing well after her heart procedure on Friday, July 14.<sup>[8]</sup>
- ◇ Renninger, Ruane — A great big hole in the road ran into Ruane's car causing it to stall. She sat on the side of the road for a spell before she got it started again. Gene Vierling is supposed to check the vehicle over but so far it seems to be fine. She also continues to heal from her recent fall.<sup>[7]</sup>
- ◇ Sparks, Janice [Tom Woodard's daughter] — She saw her cardiologist on Monday, July 10th for low blood pressure issues. She's on some new meds or adjusted old ones.<sup>[8]</sup>
- ◇ Vierling, Carlene — **Praise GOD!** All scans and tests have come back negative.<sup>[8]</sup>

# SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

Mark 12:38-40

<sup>38</sup> Then He said to them in His teaching, “Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces,<sup>39</sup> the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts,<sup>40</sup> who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.”

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



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need to beware of those people who show signs of an inordinate desire for attention, position and possessions.

We, all, must beware of bad religious leaders, but on a more positive note, Thank God — behold Jesus Christ — the ultimate religious leader! He is nothing like the scribes!

First, Jesus did not desire attention. Isaiah says of him, “he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him” (Isaiah 53:2). In other words, Jesus didn’t come in a robe of “look at me; I’m important.” He came in humble appearance, giving attention to the people He was serving.

Second, Jesus did not desire position. Paul tells us that Jesus, “who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:6-7). Jesus didn’t desire position — he gave it away. He gave up his position so that he could lift us up!

Third, Jesus did not desire possessions. Luke recounts that Jesus said, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head” (Luke 9:58).

So, brethren, let’s follow Jesus. Let’s follow religious leaders who are like Jesus. And let’s try our best to become like Jesus!

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<sup>1</sup> In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.” <sup>2</sup> For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. <sup>3</sup> Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the house-tops.” — Luke 12:1-3

# ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



Ruane Renninger	September 5	Birthday
Roger Smoot	September 8	Birthday
Ronda Spicer	September 19	Birthday
Billy & Lea Strunk	October 8	Anniversary
Jim & Laura Gardner	October 10	Anniversary

*If Your Special Day Is Between Today's Date And October 10, 2023,  
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>            Every 4th Sunday Of <b>Every</b> Month EXCEPT For Months With a 5th Sunday</p>
Every Monday	 <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–Sep 17	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>The Kingdom Of God</i> –</b> for channel: <a href="https://searchtv.com">searchtv.com</a></p>
Sun–Sep 24	 <p><b>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>The Epistle Of Joy</i> –</b> for channel: <a href="https://searchtv.com">searchtv.com</a></p>
Sun–Sep 24	 <p><b>4th Sunday Fellowship Meal &amp; Games Play After Morning Worship</b>            Theme: Tail Gate Favorites</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>
4th Tuesdays	 <p><b>Quail Creek Ranches Property Owners Association (QCRSPOA) –</b>            Fellowship Room @ 6:30PM</p>
Sun–Sep 10	<b>National Grandparents Day   National Hot Dog Day</b>
Mon–Sep 11	<b>National Day Of Service &amp; Remembrance   Patriot Day              National Emergency Responders AND Remember Freedom Days</b>
Wed–Sep 13	<b>Fortune Cookie Day   International Chocolate Day   National Peanut Day</b>
Sun–Sep 17	<b>Constitution &amp; Citizenship Day   National Apple Dumpling &amp; Monte            Cristo Days   National Wife Appreciation Day</b>



# 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](http://video.wvbs.org/spotlight)

## DAILY Bible Reading —



Immersive —  
Through OT Once & NT Three Times

SUN	Isa 25; Isa 26; Mrk 7; Mrk 8
MON	Isa 27; Isa 28; Mrk 9; Mrk 10
TUE	Isa 29; Isa 30; Mrk 11; Mrk 12
WED	Isa 31; Isa 32; Mrk 13; Mrk 14
THU	Isa 33; Isa 34; Mrk 15; Mrk 16
FRI	Isa 35; Isa 36; Luk 1; Luk 2
SAT	Isa 37; Isa 38; Luk 3; Luk 4

# 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 MARK

**Mark 7:1-7** — <sup>1</sup> Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault. <sup>3</sup> For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches.

<sup>5</sup> Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He answered and said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. <sup>7</sup> And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

**Mark 11:25-26** — <sup>25</sup> “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. <sup>26</sup> But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”