



3375 Church Lane
Duluth GA 30096
Rev. Ronald L. Bowens, Pastor



June 16, 2019

June 2019

SUMMER TIME

Vol. 7, Issue 6

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

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JUNE

- 8 Men's Ministry Cookout
- 8 Women's Ministry Meeting
- 10-14 Vacation Bible School
- 16 Father's Day
- 22 Senior's Ministry Meeting
- 30 Youth Church closed

JULY

- 3 No Mid-Week Service or Bible Study
- 4 Holiday – Church office closed
- 7 Youth Church closed
- 20 Annual Back-to-School Event

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

"Exalt the Savior"

"Equip the Saint"

"Evangelize the Sinner"

OBEDIENCE

Obedience in the dictionary can be broken down as simple compliance, dutifulness, respect, discipline, conformity or submissiveness. God's definition of Obedience relates to hearing or hearkening to a higher authority or positioning oneself under someone by submitting to their authority and command.

Because of disobedience, Saul was rejected as king because he failed to utterly destroy the Amalekites, instead, he chose to keep the best of the best for himself and to offer sacrifice to God. God did not want his sacrifice; he wanted his obedience.

I Samuel 15:22 - But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. This means we have to hear, trust, submit and surrender to God and his Word.

Reasons for Obedience:

1. **Jesus calls us to Obedience** – John 14:15, If you love me, you will keep my commandments
2. **Obedience is an Act of Worship** – Our works cannot make us righteous but because of the Grace the Lord has extended to us, obedience should be flowing from our hearts out of gratitude. Romans 12:1 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."
3. **God Rewards Obedience** – Genesis 22:18, "And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me."

(cont'd next page)

(Obedience cont'd)

4. **Obedience to God Proves our Love** – 1st and 2nd John shows that obedience to God demonstrates love for God. “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments”. (1 John 5:2-3) and doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another, just as you heard from the beginning. (2 John 6)
5. **Obedience to God demonstrates our Faith** – When we obey God, we show our trust and faith in Him: And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. (1 John 2:3-6)
6. **Obedience is better than sacrifice** – 1 Samuel 15:22-23, But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams. Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.”
7. **Disobedience leads to sin and death** – the disobedience of Adam brought sin and death into the world but Christ's perfect obedience restores fellowship with God for everyone who believes in Him. Romans 5:19 “For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous” and I Corinthians 15:22 “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”
8. **Through Obedience we experience the Blessings of Holy Living** – Jesus was the only perfect one who walked sinless and in perfect obedience. As we spend more time with God through his Word, Fellowship and Worship, the Holy Spirit will transform us from within as we can grow in holiness. Obedience should be a lifestyle for us. 2 Corinthians 7:1 “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

Submitted by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry

OBEDIENCE
is better than
SACRIFICE

"5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: 6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."
1 John 2:5-6

In the days of Noah
Obedience saved 8 people and disobedience ended the world.
What can we learn from this historical event?

This is love for God: to obey his commands and HIS COMMANDS ARE NOT BURDENSOME
1 John 5:3

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HYMN OF THE MONTH: “TRUST AND OBEY”

The Scriptures for this Song:

Psalm 84

¹¹ For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. ¹² O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Isaiah 50

¹⁰ Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God.

The Story Behind this Song:

This hymn was written by Rev. John H. Sammis, a Presbyterian minister, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, and a successful businessman in Logansport, Indiana. Through his work with the YMCA, he was called to the ministry, attended McCormick and Lane Seminaries, and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1880. After serving congregations in Iowa, Indiana and Minnesota, he joined the faculty of the Los Angeles Bible Institute.

The hymn was inspired in 1886 when the composer of the music, Daniel B. Towner (1850-1919), was the music leader during one of Dwight L. Moody’s famous

revivals. Mr. Moody was conducting a series of meetings in Brockton, Massachusetts, and Mr. Towner had the pleasure of singing for him at one of these meetings.

One night, a young man rose in a testimony meeting and said, “*I am not quite sure, but I am going to trust and I am going to obey.*” Mr. Towner jotted down that sentence and sent with a little story to the Rev. John H. Sammis, who wrote the chorus first, “Trust and Obey, for there’s no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.” After writing the chorus, the hymn and the tune was born.

As in the case with most gospel songs, these lines provided the central theme around which all of the stanzas were written. The text and tune first appeared in the 1887 collection, Hymns Old and New, and the hymn has been included in countless hymnals since then. Methodist hymnals in the United States have carried it since 1897.

This hymn is concerned with the rewards of trusting God’s word and obeying God’s will. The ultimate reward, a heavenly one so common in hymnody, appears in the last stanza when the writer muses that “In fellowship sweet, we will sit at His feet.”

*Submitted by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry Writer*

The Hymn: “Trust and Obey”

1.
When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

2.
Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

3.
Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

4.
But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

5.
Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we’ll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go;
Never fear, only trust and obey.

INSPIRATION FROM THE PSALMS

Written By Evangelist Deloris Williams

Staying Covered From The Heart To The Soul

A HEART COMING UPHILL OUT OF SPIRITUAL POLLUTION



A Davidic Psalm: A Song of the Ascension, Psalm 24:3-4 (KJV)

“Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.”

INSIGHT TO LIVE BY: The environment of ascending upward to the holy hill into that place of Jesus that he himself is qualified to stand. Yet David in this Psalm is asking who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? Who shall stand in his holy place? David is questioning and yet he is unfolding an illustration of the atmosphere of “The Hill of the LORD”, a holy place! David is uttering to the human creatures of GOD that the climb is a spiritual climb; the ascending means that the mortal climber who will ascend has to work from a spiritual mentality, have a surrendered desire to obey, and have a pure heart allowing the Creator to labor in his human being’s total person who desires to live “right,” also meaning HOLY; one who is focused on working, studying, living, having a righteous atmosphere and a pure heart (Matthew 5:8). Only those with a pure heart shall see GOD, then, this Psalm tells us with clean hands, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully under oath. What does this all really mean? OUR CREATOR WANTS OUR LOYALTY!

SPIRITUAL CLEANLINESS TO PHYSICALLY CLEAN: DAVID is uttering a cry not just to the singular creature of the Creator, but also to the CHURCH, AND ALL WHO are her REPRESENTATIVES! This Psalm is a dire, dismal, grim warning, and awakening about dealing with the King of King’s Church! Our Creator requires spiritual characters and behaviors, lifestyles and right motives that will not match up with today’s worldly accomplishments. David is making a battle cry to the atmosphere of the CHURCH which is honesty that should be her HOLY TITLE of her very essence! Holiness isn’t about Degrees, Titles, Ranks. Status does NOT necessarily deem people saved, holy or the chosen. The Degree of GOD is the FIRE and the magnitude of temperature he purifies and protects and covers his people with a pillar of fire in the morning watch (Exodus 14:24): The Creator’s throne is like a fiery flame (Daniel 7:9); GOD answers by fire (1 Kings 18:24); He baptizes with the Holy Ghost and fire (Luke 3:16); His word is preached with fire and like a hammer (Jeremiah 23:29); and He is able to make his angels and ministers a flame of fire (Hebrews 1:7). GOD has ordained His WORD is his presence that can be released into our lives as fire! His fire can melt mountains (Psalm 97:5).

THE GREATEST DEGREE IS BEING (HOT) BOILING HOT! David writes this SACRED song - PSALM, an anthem of praise, performed when the heads of the gates of Jerusalem were lifted up to receive the ark, and those of the Israelites were ceremoniously clean and were alone permitted to accompany it into the court of the tabernacle.

Punishments and severity arose out of handling what was then and (that which is) today in this age (unholy) motives and unclean hands of the CREATOR’s power and his (structured) holiness, a requirement of stewards handling his possessions. By the power of Yahweh, pagan gods fail! The Philistines witnessed the intent heat of GOD! Philistine diviners learned who the True GOD was! This Sovereign Deity secures his possessions and his

(Inspiration from the Psalms cont'd)

people; and the ark stops at Beth Shemesh before finding a more permanent home at Kirath-Jearim. Read the furious Power of GOD over his prized possessions, his sacred name, his vessels, and how thorough his commandments are to be carried out. GOD will avenge those who mishandle his SON's CHURCH as Stewards and Tenants, as such, we all are! 1 Samuel 5 gives us clarity, the seriousness of saved to serve -- NOT REVERENCED! How are you handling the Deity's name above ALL names? How are you doing in the area of Grace and Mercy? How would your hands, hearts, and speech exceed lukewarm examination? If JESUS had to review your walk or talk of being ALL IN by using good measure of who he is and royally reverencing the Majestic one who sent him in whom he JESUS himself reveres and respects, are we an apprentice in his Creation, or an Enemy?

THE ANATOMY OF THIS PSALM: This Davidic Psalm has a thematic element meaning the MAIN POINT expressing clarity as David raises a chorus out of this Psalm then and now "The Danger" of trying to put what is **HOLY** into an unclean HOUSE, or a "HOUSE OF THE DEAD of many gods." This Psalm to us today is an application to the Christian's "HOW TO REVERENCE" and focus on discipline-specifics, such as "WHY" and "HOW" we, the pilgrims, must enter the "MESSIAH'S SANCTUARY"! David has accompanied and has led the way for the "Ark of the Covenant," taken up from the house of Obedom, to remain upon the Hill of Zion. David describes the true Israel and envisions the "TRUE REDEEMER," who has opened heaven's gates for the entrance of his elect. Psalms 15:1-5 is a division linked to this "majestic and triumphant" cord as this "Sacred Song of worship" from Israel's lovable singer! The magnifying message of this Psalm emphasizes then a PEOPLE of "devout sincerity" of "The Glory of GOD in Procession to Zion's Hill" and the way the worshippers should approach the "invisible presence" upon the Ark of the Covenant by **FIRE!** Each Sunday, the HOLY SPIRIT will usher in the heavenly fruits by FIRE:

- Healing
- Words of Acknowledgement
- Wisdom
- Understanding
- Impartation of Gifts
- The Spiritual Presence of GOD within the inner-most depths of his TRUE WORSHIP IN SPIRIT and TRUTH with **Fiery** Reverence with **All** attention spans on the "True and Living GOD"
- Deliverance (a "Needed Fruit" of the Church today)
- Experiencing the act of filtering, purging the soiled being willingly to live holy and become a sweet aromatic soul from the depth of the heart! Question: How can the sanctuary possess the fire of the "Antiquity" of "True Reverence" of the Sovereign Power of GOD?

OUR GRADUAL PROGRESSION: "Our Human Growth" involves hearing from GOD -- seeing everything from the perspective of GOD's Sovereignty. Through GOD's "HOLY SPIRIT," daily walking in the spirit is having been learned to discern environments and what inhabits it. **Christian development of the true soldiered disciple is a measured ongoing, steady progression for the rest of our days.** We must open our hearts and be purged, cleansed, and the "**REAL PRODUCT**" to return to "a people sought out by the REVERENCE of TRUTH! Man's motives must be pure, and acknowledging titles don't impress **THE REVEREND WHO WOULDN'T STAY DEAD!** **How do we become a people sought out by the Creator himself and not... a watered-down version?**

REALIZING

**MAN DESERVES NO GLORY... MAN CANNOT SAVE HIM/HER SELF
 MAN WILL DIE ... AND WILL NOT RESSURRECT HIMSELF
 WE ALL MUST ANSWER THE FINAL DESTINATION
 MORTAL MAN MUST ANSWER TO GOD
 AND THEN HE MUST PRAY TO BE COVERED FROM ALL EVIL POWERS AND PRINCIPALITIE**

(Inspiration from the Psalms cont'd)

THEN

Understanding we are being developed by a “sequence of series” in becoming his spirited people IN THE GRIP OF GRACE, PURPOSED TO KEEP MOVING upward toward the prize--daily, following the WORD, not being distracted, but listening to the (voice) of the “SWEET HOLY SPIRIT” and getting to that hill of ascension together on one ACCORD BY WAY OF BEING SUMMONED UPWARD!

NECESSITY OF BEING COVERED: DAVID survived the Assaults in staying focused with the help of the Covenant of PROMISE to be “THE KEPT.” Strange that it may be, some who SAY they love GOD are hitherto or afraid to study the GOD-declaring book of GOD’s character, his personality of what he loves, and observing his temperament of what he hates; YET, they mock his quality of his-spirituality by only focusing on his goodness, grace and mercy! **BUT WE ALSO MUST OBSERVE HIS TEMPERMENT AS A SOVEREIGN GOD OF ANGEL ARMIES, AND WHEN ENRAGED, HE IS A HOLY FIRE against his enemies, that is the quality of his absoluteness and his condition of preserving that which is HOLY!** We live in a “watered down” generation where his sanctuary gives the appearance of “worldliness, agendas having secret motives; the mortal has replaced servanthood with the importance of being known NOT by humility and genuineness, but everyone wants his/her glory by neon entitlements by a form of vanity and divination of self-worth, by status instead of the “MAIN THEME” that David authors GOD’s proprietorship in Psalm 24:1 which reads: *“The Earth is the LORD’s and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein.”* **Fact:** We should commemorate the events in his sanctuary today with the holiness-righteousness of presenting ourselves of the history of his fiery presence in the moving of the Ark from Obed-Edom’s house to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6:10-12). History states this Psalm was a song the first day of the week in the temple. **Question:** How are we in this day honoring the sanctuary with quality praise without emotionalism? But in spirit and truth? Are we properly managing GOD’s sacred temple and sanctuary as the “sole proprietor of the world and all therein”?

INSPIRATION: JEHOVAH THE SAME TODAY AS YESTERDAY! The **testing:** Psalm 24:1-6 tells us who is worthy to join in a worthy celebration. Vanity refers to falsehood, swearing and telling lies under oath to avoid truth of something you are uncomfortable revealing about yourselves (ourselves) (Psalm 24:4). **Without honesty, a relationship is impossible with GOD! GOD cannot speak or hear us if we are building a wall of deceit (Psalm 24:7-10).** This Psalm was set to song in the Temple’s Corporate Worship to usher in the Presence of GOD among them. Those waiting outside would call out to the Temple gates to let the King of Glory come in. From inside, the Priests would ask, who is this King of Glory, and the desiring people outside would respond in unison, “The LORD mighty in battle,” proclaiming the great power and strength. This exchange was then repeated and the Temple gates swung open, symbolizing the people’s desire to have GOD’s presence among them. This Psalm also records children learning a lesson participating with devout participants in worshiping the King of Glory identified also as the LORD of Hosts or the Commander of heaven’s armies, who is the Messiah himself, eternal, holy and mighty (Revelation 19:11-12).

OBSERVATION: What does this Psalm convey to your hearts in this dreadful hour we are living in? How can we call out from the “Temple” today where we worship and get an answer of FIRE? What simple investment can a heart be conditioned with a spiritual quality, earning a passport to the hill of the LORD’s qualifications in verse 4 of this Psalm reading: *“He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.”* **Answer:** Grace can help us change our ATTITUDES... mercy will change our ALTITUDES!

- How can we meet the demands of Verse 5 that reads: *“He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the GOD of Salvation?”* **Answer:** Psalm 25:4, David expressed his desire for guidance. David realized that GOD’s primary steps for any mortal to realize GOD’s guiding system is in his WORD.
- How can we accomplish a testimony of verses 6-9 that we are a generation of them that seek him, that seek the face of GOD? How can we lift up our heads that the King of Glory can come in? Verses 9-10 how can our lives reflect that we are a people who belong to the Spiritual Church of the King of Glory?

(Inspiration from the Psalms cont'd)

Answer: Develop a thirst to seek scriptures. Seek for yourself getting acquainted with (everything) the LORD hates! They are all there in his WORD! Grow yourself by making this project a life changing and intense search of your Creator's own words. Hint: On the go folks--fingertip technology can be a blessing, we can browse on the go! No pew member will be left with a (weak excuse) for not being aware of his/her responsibility to see for yourself what GOD hates and will TEST to see if you are engaging in these things! Honestly, see where you are failing in these areas. Then repent, confess, and change friends, if necessary. It's simple that a child would understand! BELIEVE HIS WORD! Technology can be a blessing, or a curse as time is always of the essence in this busy society. Make time to study at home. You choose your destiny!

CONCLUSION OF THIS MATTER: The Bible is our cure! It is an Eternal Almanac, a Heart regulator, a Spiritual consultant on our Temple attire inside and outside; a Spiritual compass with life's circumstances! Hint: We have to become a romantic of how he has and can bring us through hard times. We have to fall in love as women who he is adorning for his work. He is a best brother for the men who can depend on a BEST FRIEND! This is called Spiritual growth from milk to maturity (spiritual food)! We have to love what GOD loves and hate what he hates, and he "HATES" all SIN! How hungry are you to know that you know you are born again? You are special!

HINTS TO BOAST ABOUT: Trace the works of the Holy Spirit: It is really hard for a normal person to even grasp that they can be like JESUS. We are NOT JESUS, but making it simple. ENGAGE with simple truth of what the blood has done for us. Why live robbed?

JESUS was the greatest blood donor in the world--one drop overturned the Kingdom of HELL for you and me. I am claiming the greatest gift of all time. JESUS bought a legal right for us to ascend to the hill! David died peacefully because surely he ascended unto that hill!

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it (Colossians 2:15 NKJV). So, Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation (Hebrews 9:28 KJV). Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him (Roman 5:9 KJV). In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace (Ephesians 1:7 KJV). Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness, by whose stripes ye were healed (I Peter 2:24 KJV).

Question: In being dead and JESUS rescued us, why would we (fallen) away – go back to a “devil’s hell and help him perform our eulogy, and the demons rejoice at the funeral into an eternal Hell forever?! Why go back to being the “Walking Dead” with the demons writing the eulogy! Don’t think for a “twisted second” this abuse of grace of the “Creator’s Son” will go smoothly at the Judgment!

This let’s us know we need to ask for the Holy Spirit and visit some more great people in the Bible who made that change. Jesus was not wicked or sinful – he only took on our unrighteousness!

THE BLOW OUT BRILLIANCE OF THIS PSALM IS:

**If there was only one drop of the Holy Blood, the Good News would boast:
Where sin increased, grace increased more (Romans 5:20 NIV).**

Can You Just Imagine Rejoicing like David as the King of Kings rejoices with us in Spirit next Sunday, “O Cry Out Ye Gates.” The Holy Spirit Is Trying To Tell Us Something (STAY SPIRITUALLY COVERED HEART AND SOUL)! Check out the Spirit of Caleb in Numbers 14:24 (KJV) and look at the NIV version for more inspirational reading.

78 Seeds of Faith

MORTGAGE ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN



THREE KEYS TO THE SEED OF FAITH CAMPAIGN:

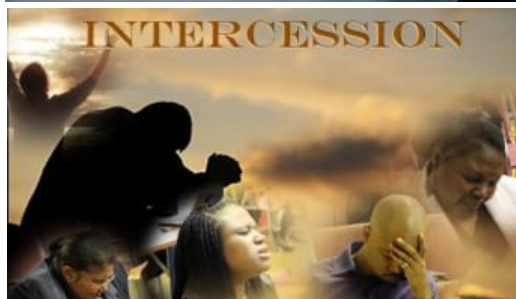
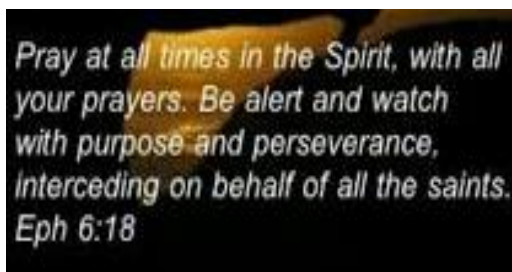
- 1. Recognize that God is your Source** - Philippians 4:19 says, *"My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."* God will use many different instruments to supply our needs—but He alone is the Source, and He alone cannot fail.
- 2. Give first, so that it may be given back to you** - Luke 6:38 says, *"Give, and it will be given to you."* We must first plant a Seed of Faith so that God can multiply it back to meet our needs. Jesus is talking about giving in the deepest sense of the word—the giving of ourselves to God. This includes anything we can give: love, time, patience, forgiveness, finances, and our prayers. Please note that our giving reflects our Trust in God.
- 3. Expect a miracle** - Mark 11:24 says, *"Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."* The moment we ask God for something—the moment we do our part and plant our Seed of Faith—we should believe God that the answer is on its way. It's important to expect our miracle so we can recognize it and reach out to take it when it comes.

How This Campaign Will Work: Over the next 78 weeks, we are asking every member and friends to sow a seed of \$26 over and above your tithes and offerings. If you are not able to give \$26, give what you can, and if you are able to give more than \$26, please do so. If you are blessed to give \$260 or \$2,600 per week, be obedient to God.

We are asking you to please utilize the blue envelopes located on the back of the pews. Using the blue envelopes will help our Finance Ministry greatly. This allows them to track and account for your seed offerings. So please each Sunday for 78 weeks, give God something to work with. No matter how little you think you have, sow it in Joy and in Faith, knowing you are Sowing Seeds so you, your family, our church, each ministry and our community may reap miracles from the seeds that are sown.

Remember – God is Our Source – Give so that it can be Given Back to You and Expect a Miracle! Thank you and God Bless!

Prayer List



Remember with prayer, calls and visitations

Bro. James Agee
Bro. Willie Benton
Min. Karen Blacknell
Rev. Kenneth Blacknell
Bro. Julius Brogdon
Sis. Joyce Brooks
Sis. Sherie Brown
Bro. Tyler Caldwell
Sis. Pearl Coles
Sis. Nekka Dean
Sis. Doris Doyle
Sis. Everlene Fisher
Sis. Barbara Hall

Sis. Crystal Ingram
Bro. Willie L. Harris
Sis. Charlotte Hayes
Bro. Leroy Hurt
Sis. Mary L. Jones
Bro. Patrick Jones
Miss Quincie Joyner
Bro. Dennis Kimmey
Sis. Mabel Lawrence
Bro. Edwin Logan
The Manget Family
Sis. Sylvia Marrow
Sis. Roxanne Motley

Evg. Valerie Montaque
Sis. Khuyen Nguyen
The Palmer Family
Sis. Gloria Peters
Bro. Garvin Potts
Sis. Carrie Rawls
Sis. Peggy Rogers
Bro. Benny Rollins
Dea. Clarence Slaughter
Bro. Antone Smith
Sis. Latisha Smith
Sis. Valerie Smith

Bro. Xavier Stephens
Sis. Tiffany Stovall
Bro. Julian Sydnor
Sis. April Walker
Sis. Mabel Thomas
Rev. Dwight Wilkerson
Min. Floyd Williams
Dea. Clendon Wilson
Sis. Sadie Wilson
Bro. Victor Winston, Jr.
Bro. Donald Wood



OUTREACH MINISTRY - "One Body Saved To Serve"

Sis. Diane McGhee, Ministry Leader

OUTREACH CENTER HOURS:

Mondays & Saturdays: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesdays: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

"THE FRIENDSHIP MARKET"

Fruit and Produce

The "Friendship Market" food distribution project needs more **MALE VOLUNTEERS** between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. If you can volunteer for any hours during that time, please contact Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232 or by email: dianaymcghee@bellsouth.net.

Wednesdays: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Fridays: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturdays: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Items will be distributed in the **Fellowship Hall** on Fridays and from the **Outreach Center** on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED



The FBC Outreach Ministry offers a Care Community to support foster care parents and information on becoming a foster parent. We also offer training to members who wish to become Care Community volunteers. Please contact Venda Young at 219-688-1365 or Linda Milton at LBmilton1@charter.net for more information.



Did you know that the Outreach Ministry hosts a **MID-WEEK** worship service every Wednesday at noon in the Fellowship Hall? Join us!!



Save the
Date!

THE FBC ANNUAL
"BACK-TO-SCHOOL" EVENT
SPONSORED BY THE OUTREACH
MINISTRY

WILL BE HELD

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2019

**Backpacks filled with school supplies will be
distributed in the Fellowship Hall from**

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

*****First come, First-Served*****

For more information, please contact:

**Angela Campbell at 914-441-4821 or
Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232**



VISION TO LEARN

FREE vision screenings, eye exams and if necessary glasses for your child.

**Screenings will take place at the following
GWINNETT COUNTY LIBRARY FACILITIES:**

Lilburn Branch	Monday, July 15 th
Centerville Branch	Tuesday, July 16 th
Lawrenceville Branch	Thursday, July 18 th
Norcross Branch	Tuesday, July 23 rd
Buford Branch	Wednesday, July 24 th
Snellville Branch	Friday, August 2 nd

SPACE IS LIMITED. NO WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED. YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER VIA EMAIL OR AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 770-978-5154.



GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

HEALTH MINISTRY

Sis. Vickie Perry, RSN/BSN, Ministry Leader



June is Men's Health Month. On average, men die five years younger than women, and die at higher rates from nine of the top 10 causes of death. Men are also less likely than women to be insured. All of this impacts their ability to be involved fathers, supportive partners, and engaged community members.

Most of the factors that contribute to men's shorter, less healthy lives are preventable. And that prevention starts with seeing a healthcare provider on a regular basis. Adult men in the United States visit primary care providers at lower rates than adult women. Establishing baselines for

factors such as blood pressure, cholesterol, weight, and PSA (a screening test for prostate cancer risk)—and monitoring how they change over time—will enable the provider to catch potentially dangerous conditions early, when they're still treatable. You can download a helpful chart of recommended screenings at www.healthfinder.gov.

Encourage him to get physical. The benefits of physical activity on health outcomes are extensive, and many people find it difficult to get motivated for physical activity on their own. Rather than simply telling your dad to exercise and then hoping that he will, do it with him. Join a recreation league at your local community center, sign up for group personal training sessions to get fit together, or simply make a routine out of regular walks. Simple, yes, but not always easy.

Let him know you care. One reason men disregard their own health is that they're too busy taking care of everyone else. What they don't realize, however, is that if they die early, they'll be hurting the very people they've worked so hard to protect. So remind him that you and your other family members love him and need him to be alive and healthy for as long as possible.





THE FLC GYM & FITNESS CENTER

Hours of Operation
Mornings **Monday-Friday 9:00am-Noon**



FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH HONORING OUR GRADUATES CLASS OF 2019

Alumni:

Duluth High School

Parent(s):

Thaddeus & Sherly Bell, Sr.

Future Plan:Morehouse or Preparatory
School**Major(s):**

Biology



Jonathan F. Bell

Favorite Scripture:

For I know the thoughts that I think
toward you, saith the Lord,
thoughts of peace, and not of evil,
to give you an expected end.
Jeremiah 29:11 KJV

Alumni:

Gainesville High School

Parent(s):

Brenda Commodore

Future Plan:

Paine College

Major(s):

Zoology



Tyler Commodore

Favorite Scripture:

“But this I say, He which soweth
sparingly shall reap also sparingly;
and he which soweth bountifully
shall reap also bountifully. Every
man according as he purposeth in his
heart, so let him give; not grudgingly,
or of necessity: for God loveth a
cheerful giver. And God is able to
make all grace abound toward you;
that ye, always having all sufficiency
in all things, may abound to every
good work.”

2 Corinthians 9: 6-8 KJV

Alumni:

Lanier High School

Parent(s):Angela Brown
&
Kayode Afoniwo**Future Plan:**

University of North Georgia

Major(s):

Psychology (Art Therapy)



Angelica Cummings

Favorite Quote:

"I am a Jamaican Beauty, with a
war in my heart...I have my
coldness from the north and my
sweetness from the south! I AM
ME!" -

~ Unknown (Aka Me) ~

(High School Graduates cont'd)

Alumni:
Duluth High School

Parent(s):
Shevonne Meeks

Future Plan:
United States Air Force



Jaylen Centez Curry

Favorite Scripture:
No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.
Isaiah 54:17

Alumni:
Collins Hill High School

Parent(s):
Anthony Maxwell
&
Monique Stroman

Future Plan:
U. S. Army



Kayla Maxwell

Favorite Scripture:
My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment
1 John 3:18-23

Alumni:
Peachtree Ridge High School

Parent(s):
Vincent & Marcia Mullins

Future Plan:
Spelman College

Major(s):
Biology (Pre-Med Track)



Brooklynn Mullins

Favorite Scripture:
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.
Psalm:46:5 KJV

(High School Graduates cont'd)

Alumni:

Brookwood High School

Parent(s):

Orlando & Andrian Oldham

Future Plan:

Albany State University

Major(s):

Liberal Arts



Kiara Denise Oldham

Favorite Scripture:

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28 KJV

Alumni:

Peachtree Ridge High School

Parent(s):

Calneh & Latasha Richardson

Future Plan:

North Carolina A&T State University

Major(s):

Electrical Engineering



Calneh S. Richardson, Jr

Favorite Scripture:

Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.
Proverbs 4:26 KJV

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.
Jeremiah 29:13 KJV

Alumni:

Mountain View High School

Parent(s):

Erichka Shadburn
&
Derrick Rogers

Future Plan:

Georgia Gwinnett College

Major(s):

Physical Therapy



Kayla Shadburn

Favorite Scripture:

“But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.”
Philippians 3:13 KJV

(High School Graduates cont'd)

Alumni:
Lanier High School

Parent(s):
Kevin & Karen Hayes

Future Plan:
University of Pikeville

Major(s):
Nursing



Favorite Scripture:
For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
Jeremiah 29:11 KJV

Charles (Trey) Short



2019 COLLEGE GRADUATE



Matthew (JoJoe) Abakah, III

Alumni:

Georgia Southern University

Bachelor's Degree(s):

Electrical Engineering



Kelly Ramsey

Alumni:

Ashford University

Bachelor's Degree(s):

Education



Katelynn Kennedy

Alumni:

University of Georgia

Bachelor's Degree(s):

Major: Arts in Entertainment and Media
Studies and Sociology

Minor: Human Development and Family
Science

Master's Degree(s):

Arts in Nonprofit Management and
Leadership



Yolunda Haynes

Alumni:

Northcentral University

Master's Degree(s):

Human Resources Management

**CONGRATULATIONS
FROM YOUR FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY!**

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Sis. Cheryl Alford, Ministry Leader

May 12, 2019 - This month's fellowship was led by Sis. Vickie Chambers who asked if any of our sisters had a scripture to share. Five sisters volunteered: Evg. Kimberly Rogers... Jeremiah 29:11; Geraldine Powell... Psalm 119:133, Gerry Wright... Psalm 23; Mother Dorothy Blagmon... Proverbs 3:5, 6 and Mary Blackburn... 1 Kings 2:3.

Dranita Morrow, our Resident Musical Technician, shared that she was guided by the Holy Spirit to bring scriptures and music about "feet." She shared Matthew 15:20 and 18:29, Mark 7:25 and John 12:3 and 13:5. She then played two beautiful songs, "Forever at Your Feet" by Tasha Cobbs and "Nothing Else" by Cody Carnes.

Birthday shout outs were extended to Vickie Chambers, May 16th and Kindell May, May 3rd. Also acknowledged were the wedding anniversaries of Kimberly Rogers, 21 years and Gail Newton, 37 years.

In keeping with our commitment to share the ministry's purpose, Cynthia Urquhart was asked to lead the women in the reading of the Covenant followed by a liturgical expression dedicated to mothers and performed by Evg. Kimberly Rogers. Her song of choice for this was "Destiny" by Tina Campbell.

Three women were invited to share a discourse on Mothers in the Bible. Provided below is a summary of what was shared.

Min. Nicole Walker - "Eve" - the first mother.

Genesis 2:19-22 - She was the first woman to live on earth. She was complete and perfect, created out of Adam and without sin. She was also the first to be tempted by Satan. She was also the first to see the divine prophecy of the cross. Read Genesis 3:15. From her story, we learn that we have a choice. We can put on the whole armor of God to protect ourselves from the wiles of the devil (Ephesians 6:11).

Sis. Debbie Bowens - "Virgin Mary" - the second mother.

The closest thing to God's love is a mother's love. She disciplines. She is a godly model for her children. Not to be overlooked, some women fulfill the role of spiritual mothers, step mothers and adopted mothers. Mary was highly favored; prophecy was given concerning her in Isaiah 7:14. She was a woman of faith. Luke 1:45 says she believed and trusted God completely. She also had great courage. Her calling required great suffering. She was not only at the birth of her Son but at His death and His resurrection.

Sis. Kelly Wilson - "Elizabeth" - the third mother.

Though she was older, she birthed a special son filled with the Holy Spirit whose name was John, the Baptizer. We can surmise from her that everything happens in God's timing and He is faithful.

After having been enlightened concerning these three significant Mothers in the Bible, the women played the game, Kahoot, in which they competed in answering 20 biblical questions. It was lots of fun and resulted in three winners: Gail Newton, Kelly Wilson and DL Whaley.

As usual, our fellowship continued with physical nourishment and ended in prayer. We continue to encourage all of our sisters to visit Creative Learning activities which take place in the Heritage House beginning at 11:30 am following our monthly Women's fellowship.

Article comments were provided by Sis. Gerri Wright and Sis. Harriett Hairston.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS

A Note From the Editor: The Good Friday Services held on April 19, 2019 on The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ did not make it in the Easter edition of the newsletter, but these words of Jesus Christ are just as relevant today as it was then and the seven ministers who preached them during the Good Friday services did so with much power and conviction that it must be printed nonetheless. Paulette Tapp



Rev. Garfield Garner
Associate Minister
Moderator

Among the seven preachers who preached on one of the last words or sayings of Jesus Christ included three that are new to Friendship. They are Min. James Cottingham, Rev. Clyde Connery and Rev. Artis Johnson. The preaching of all seven preachers as well as the music was anointed and dynamic.

“The sayings of Jesus Christ on the cross (also called the *Seven Last Words from the Cross*) are seven expressions said by Jesus during His crucifixion, according to Wikipedia. Traditionally, the sayings have been called "Words." They are gathered from the four Gospels. Three of the sayings appear only in the Gospel of Luke and three only in the Gospel of John. The other saying appears in both the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Mark when Jesus cries out to God, the Father. In Luke, he forgives his killers, reassures the penitent thief, and commends his Spirit to the Father. In John, He speaks to His mother, says he thirsts, and declares the end of his earthly life.

Editor's note: Traditionally, the seven sayings are called words of:

1. Forgiveness
2. Salvation

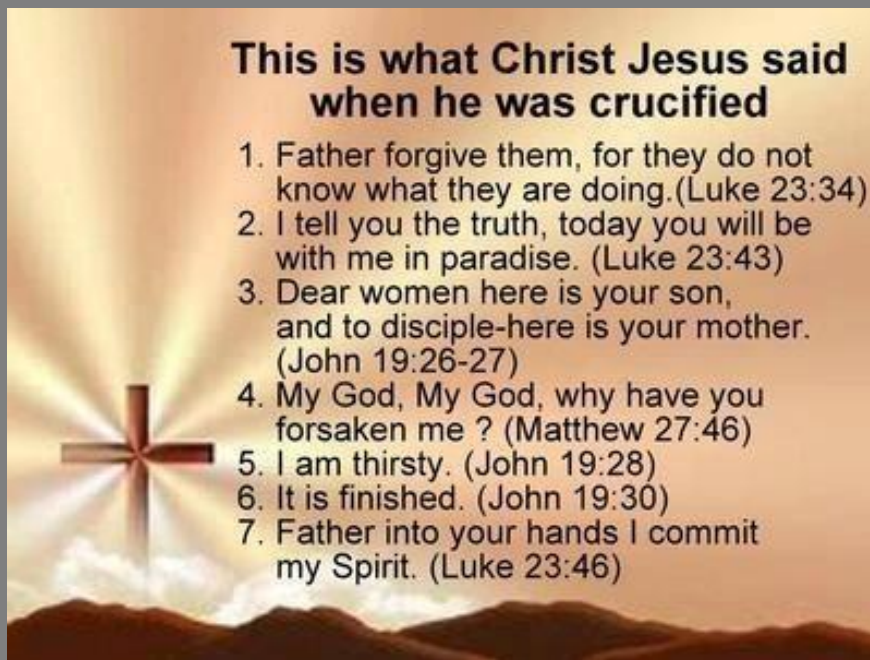
3. Relationship
4. Abandonment

5. Distress
6. Triumph and

7. Reunion

This is what Christ Jesus said when he was crucified

1. Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. (Luke 23:34)
2. I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:43)
3. Dear women here is your son, and to disciple-here is your mother. (John 19:26-27)
4. My God, My God, why have you forsaken me ? (Matthew 27:46)
5. I am thirsty. (John 19:28)
6. It is finished. (John 19:30)
7. Father into your hands I commit my Spirit. (Luke 23:46)



(Seven Last Words cont'd)



First Words

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they doeth." Luke 23:34

Min. Nicole Walker

There was an American television sitcom that originated on ABC from September 22, 1989 to May 9, 1997, before moving to CBS from September 19, 1997 to July 17, 1998. Called "*Family Matters*." There is one character who I believe will always be in the hearts and minds of America and will always be remembered by "Did I do that?" Steve Urkel would cause one disaster after another for the Winslow's and then want to know if it was His fault. Knowing very well that he had played some part in causing the problem.

So how is it that Jesus can say, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do?" How did they not know what they were doing? Why do you have to be forgiven for something you didn't know you were doing? Our Savior was not asking the Father to forgive them of their actions, He was asking forgiveness of their lack of knowledge. They

knew what they were doing, they just didn't know or understand who they were doing it to.

There is a saying "You can't see the forest for the trees." I never really understood what that meant, but now "I've lived a little." Sometimes you are so close to a situation, that even though you may know the right thing to do, you still make the wrong choice. The Gentiles and Jews were killing the Son of God and the Messiah of Israel. The most innocent and loving man that ever existed. For this ignorance they were guilty and in need of forgiveness.

Our Savior stopped suffering. Took the focus off what he was going through to lift up the very ones that were sending him through. He took the time to pray. How often have you and I put behind us the hurt, agony, the suffering that we're going through, to pray for the ones that are causing us so much pain. How often have we had to or should have uttered "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

Jesus is praying and asking the Father, to open their eyes and help them to see their sin, repent and be forgiven. And the Father answered his prayer. Luke 23:47 - 'Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, certainly this was a righteous man It looks like the thief wasn't the only one that was saved that day.'

I am so glad that we serve a prayer hearing God, a God of mercy and grace, and a God of love, compassion and forgiveness. For I know that I too have been one of them who needed to be forgiven for my ignorance. One of "them" who needed to be forgiven for my hatred, my malicious words and behavior, my selfish thoughts and actions. One of "them" who wanted to be forgiven but wouldn't forgive. And for one of them who should have done good, but didn't.

My prayer for each of us is that we all strive to have a more intimate knowledge of our Savior and friend. That we will be workman that won't be ashamed and can rightly divide the Word of Truth. "*For in these last and evil day's we need a Bible, in times like these be not idle. Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the solid rock. This rock is Jesus, He's the one. This rock is Jesus, the only one.*" We need to be workman that won't be ashamed and can rightly divide the Word of Truth so that we will no longer be counted as one of "them."

Father, forgive them for they
know not what they do.

(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Second Words

"Jesus said unto him, verily I say unto thee, today thou shalt be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43

Rev. Eugene Graves

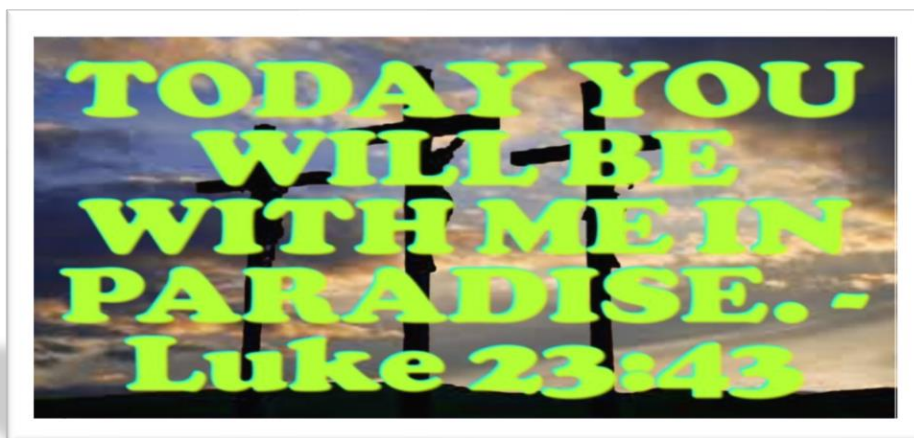
The Second Last Saying in Luke 23:43 - *"Jesus said unto him, verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise."*

No man is beyond hope of redemption in whose soul still lingers from fear of God. And as he spoke, faith rose in his soul and he blurted out his appeal, *"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."* It was a plea that did not fall on deaf ears. The response was immediate, *"Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."* It was more than immortality that Jesus promised the penitent thief. He promised the honored place of a companion of the garden in the courts of heaven. *"You will be with me"* said Jesus.

This Word from the Cross teaches some wonderful truths. It illustrates that the way of salvation is wondrously simple. The devil has

blinded the eyes of men and women to thinking that it is hard to be saved, difficult to come to Christ and to become a Christian, but this clearly isn't true. The man was saved simply by asking the Lord to save him. In the words of his request, there's the implication that he felt and confessed his need of salvation; he believed the Lord could and would save him and he committed himself to the Lord and trusted him to save him.

Synopsis: Luke 's purpose was to show that Jesus was the forgiving Messiah even as He died. We may think that time is on our side before we commit ourselves, but beware, the next moment is promised to no one. Someone once said that the story of the dying thief was recorded so that no one need despair, and also as a dire warning to presume to God's mercy by delaying trusting in Christ. It's then we, too, can look up to God and say *"Lord, remember me."* **There's salvation in the Cross!**



(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Third Words

“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, woman, behold, thy son. Then he said to the disciple, behold thy mother.” John 19:26-27

Min. Monique Stroman

by God and man. She watched Him throughout His ministry.

Now, here was her Son, hanging on the cross. Jesus saw His mother's love. There's nothing like a mother's love.... and Mary loved her Son like any mother loves her child. However, her Son was paying the price for the sins of the world. Jesus was innocent, yet He was carrying out salvation's plan. She stood there, seeing Him battered and bruised. He had been mocked and spat upon; He was bleeding from the crown of thorns pushed into His head and skull, but there she stood. He had been scourged, beaten with a whip made of several leather strips that had pieces of bone and lead attached at the end. His flesh was torn from His body, blood running from His wounds, but there she stood. He was crucified on the cross, nails driven through His hands and feet, in great pain and agony, full of blood... but there she stood. All His disciples except one had left Him, but she hadn't left. This was a mother's love.

Jesus also saw the disciple whom He loved. He saw the love of His dear friend; we know him as John, son of Zebedee. He, too, was chosen. John, and his brother James, were among some of the first disciples that Jesus had chosen to follow Him and was one of the three disciples who had an especially close relationship with Jesus.

Jesus saw two people who loved Him so much. He had to feel the pain they were feeling. He was about to leave them and return to the Father. Mary was likely a widow by now. Although he had brothers and sisters, they didn't believe in Him yet. Who would care for His mother? Who would care for His friend?

Both Mary and John were experiencing great pain and hurt watching her beloved Son, his dear friend and their Savior, dying a tortuous death. Jesus thought about them and the grief and the heartbreak they were going through. He thought about their mutual need for care and their love for Him, and He took the time to lovingly and unselfishly provide for them. Jesus gave them something that they didn't ask for, but He knew they would need. He created a new, family relationship for them in which, in their grief, they could comfort and care for one another.

Jesus was on a mission of love. He stated His own purpose in **John 3:16**. He came to give His life to purchase our salvation. He yielded to the will of His Father and was obedient to death on the cross. Those who believe in Him have eternal life and a renewed, restored relationship with the Father.

Everything that happened so far had been to fulfill what the prophets had foretold about Him and to fulfill the very words He had spoken about Himself. That is, everything up until this moment. This moment was not mentioned or recorded in prophecy. This moment was an act of love.

Mary was chosen by God to be Jesus' mother. She gave birth to the Savior, as foretold by the Angel in **Luke 1**. She pondered in her heart all the words spoken by the shepherds and wise men about Jesus. She watched Jesus grow strong in spirit, increasing in wisdom and stature and favor

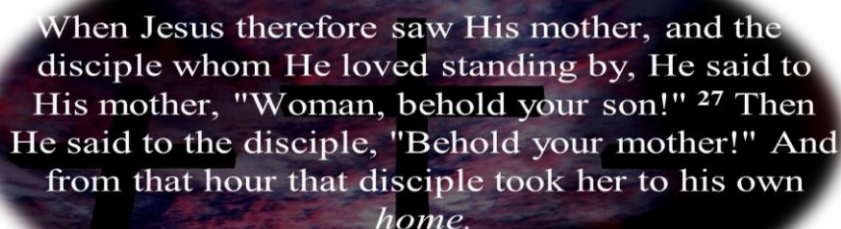
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(Seven Last Words cont'd)

Here, in this moment, we see our Savior's heart. God is love, and love and its actions flow out of Him. He is our example for every area of our lives. In the midst of His tremendous suffering, in the midst of unimaginable pain, in the midst of fulfilling salvation's plan... Jesus paused for an act of love.

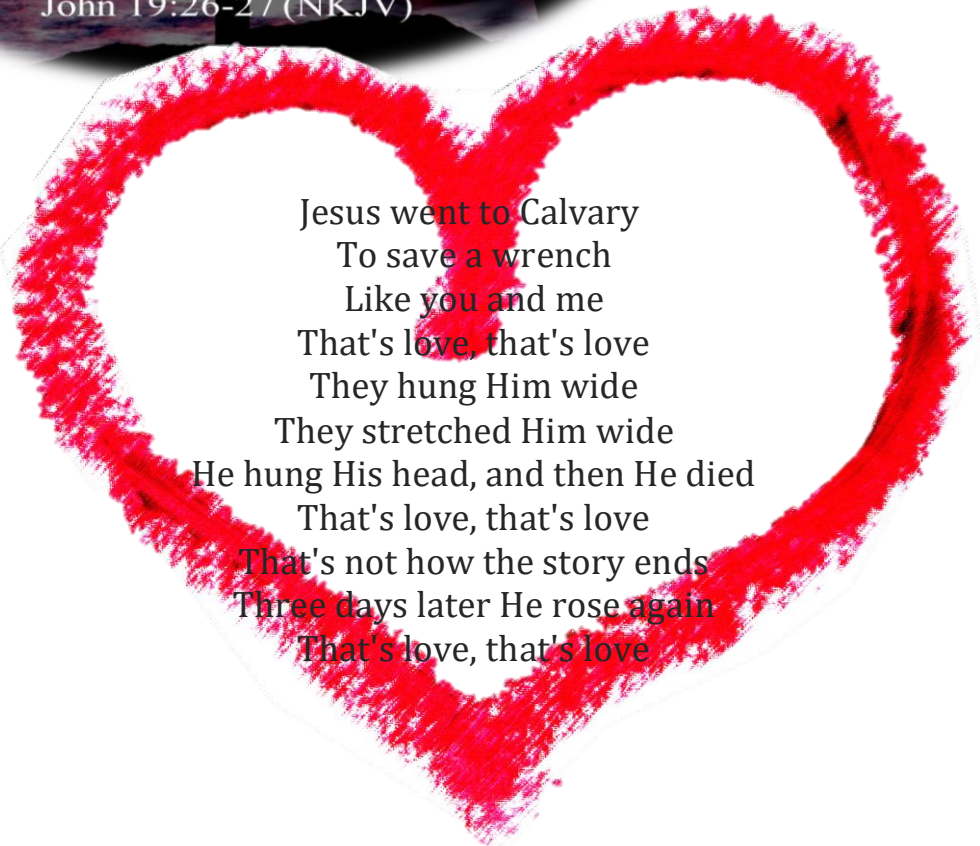
Oh, how great is His love! His understanding is past finding out! We can be sure that no matter what may be going on, the Lord sees us and will always meet our needs. Also, sometimes in our times of suffering, He will cause us to be a blessing to someone else. In those painful moments in our lives, we may feel like we have nothing to give because we are hurting. If, by faith, we have Him in our hearts, we have something to give, even in our pain. We have the love of Jesus and the comfort of the Holy Spirit (**John 13:34,35; 2 Corinthians 1:3,4**). May we always be instruments of His great love!

Don't only look at all that Jesus endured on His way to death, but instead look at why He had that kind of day. And remember He did it all for you and for me. We are saved because of what He did on that day. "**There's No Greater Love**" and here's why...



When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

John 19:26-27 (NKJV)



Jesus went to Calvary
To save a wrench
Like you and me
That's love, that's love
They hung Him wide
They stretched Him wide
He hung His head, and then He died
That's love, that's love
That's not how the story ends
Three days later He rose again
That's love, that's love

(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Fourth Words

"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46

Min. James Cottingham

A Cry from the Cross - *"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"* Matthew 27:46

Jesus experienced great suffering at the hands of man at Calvary. His suffering was not equivalent to the feeling of being forsaken by God, Jesus felt as if God had abandoned him, or deserted him in this time of suffering.

About the ninth hour, 3:00 pm, Jesus cried out, "My God, My God why hast thou forsaken me?" Jesus' questioning God was not because he didn't know why he felt forsaken, but because he felt as if God did not answer his Prayer.

In our lives, we often feel as if God doesn't hear or answer our prayers. When death or suffering comes, we question God and feel just as Jesus did.

Jesus did not cry out for the pain he suffered at the hands of man. Jesus never cried while being beaten, or spat upon. Not even when nailed to the cross, but when the weight of our sin was placed on him, he cried out! Jesus who knew no sin, took all of our sins upon himself and the thought of God turning away from him (because God could not look upon sin) was heavier than the punishment he received on our behalf.

Jesus could have saved his own life, but God's plan being fulfilled was the plan for his life on earth. Jesus could have denied being the son of God, but he would not have fulfilled the plan if he folded under the pressure.

Jesus felt forsaken because:

- God Turned
- God Didn't Answer
- God allowed the weight of our sin to fall on him.



(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Fifth Words

Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scriptures might be fulfilled said, "I thirst." John 19:28

Evg. Kimberly Rogers

"What are you thirsty for?"

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scriptures might be fulfilled, saith, "I thirst." (John 19:28)

"I thirst" is the fifth powerful words Jesus spoke while on the cross. Jesus was a human being. He was God in the flesh and HE was thirsty. After long hours of excruciating horrific pain from the hands of mankind, Jesus was thirsty. He was not only thirsty physically, but He had a spiritual thirst to please God. He came to fulfill the will of God who sent Him. Are you thirsty to please God like Jesus? Are you thirsty for God? Ask yourself, "What am I thirsty for?"

As a non-believer, do I thirst to go to Heaven or do I even care? As a believer, do I thirst for the

things of God? Do I thirst to encounter God or am I content with going through the motions called 'religion'? Do I thirst for an outpouring of the Holy Ghost? Do I thirst to be filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 19:2)? Do I thirst for the presence of God or ore for His presents? For the Blessor or His blessings? For the Creator or His creations? Do I thirst for the good book (Bible) or for more of Facebook? If we as the Body of Christ are not thirsty for God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, will our children and the world be thirsty for the things of God? Jesus accomplished His God-given mission? Will you? What are you thirsty for? (Matthew 5:6)

Only the pure in heart shall see God!



(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Sixth Words

He said,
"It is finished." John 19:30

Rev. Clyde Conerly

"Hang in There." Jesus, in this final moment makes a contradicting and confusing statement. John the one disciple who was not afraid to be with Jesus, stood at the foot of the cross, heard Jesus cry out, "It is Finished". Could he be suffering from blood loss from the spikes in his hands and feet, thus not thinking clearly? Could he be exhausted from being beaten? Could he have sleep anxiety from the lack of sleep? Is Jesus talking from exhaustion, anxiety, or loss of focus? To the contrary these three words spoken by our Lord is powerful and life changing. This word "Finished" in Greek is *Te-le'-o (teleō)*. This was not a statement that He has succumbed, conceded, surrendered, or that it was over. There are some valuable lessons in this one statement.

Number one Jesus teaches us that we need to learn to "Preach to Yourself in the midst of Pain." To the Sanhedrin council consisting of the Pharisees and Sadducees, to the rulers of the synagogue and Satan it

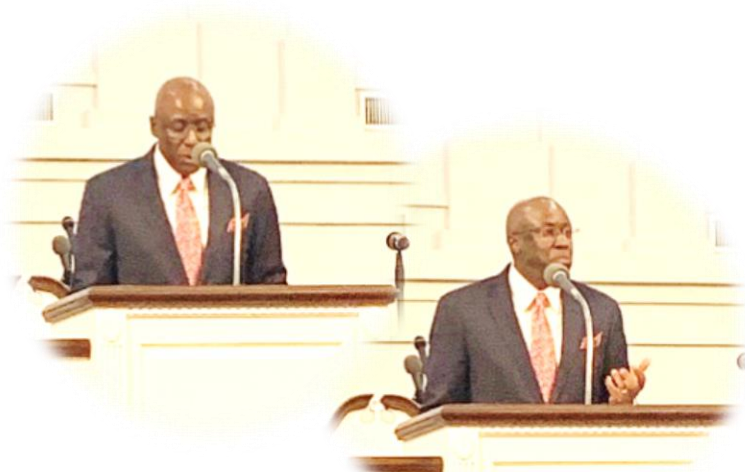
was what they wanted to hear. "It is finished" to them means that they have won. But they have totally missed his statement. The one thing they did not do to Jesus was shut up his mouth. They nailed him to the cross but they did not tape up his mouth. By now they should have known that in every situation that Jesus gets in he always uses His words. What Jesus teaches us here, is that you need to learn how to preach to your situation and encourage yourself. The Bible says, "The Power of life in death are in the power of the Tongue."

Secondly, Jesus teaches us when he says it is finish, that "God will position you for your purpose." It looked like defeat to the Sanhedrin council and Satan but this is right where God wanted him to be. He teaches us that although you are experiencing pain does not mean that Satan and your enemies have the upper hand. As a matter of fact, pain and purpose go hand and hand. Pain and purpose are interwoven together. Pain often is the verifier that you are fulfilling your purpose.

My Third and final point that Jesus teaches us is that your "Pain is not Permanent." Some commentators believe that when Jesus said, "IT is finished" that this was a war cry. They say this is a "victory shout"! I believe that Jesus was looking beyond his death; Jesus was looking beyond the three days in the grave. In fact, Jesus saw his Sunday morning position. He saw that all of us would be saved by His sacrifice. He saw us all in heaven, while on that cross. Let me encourage you with this thought, "God will never allow your story to end with your demise." Jesus is proof that God will not allow you to go through always and He will not allow you to be defeated. Three days later, Jesus stood up declaring all power is in his hands. The same power that helped Jesus hang in there is the same power that can help you hang in there!



(Seven Last Words cont'd)



Seventh Words

"Father, into thy hands I commit
my spirit." Luke 23:46

Rev. Artis Johnson

"It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last" (Luke 23:44-46).

The perfect sacrifice, Jesus the Christ who had been hanging on that old rugged cross for hours, in his torment and incalculable pain, having taken time to forgive those who nailed His hands and His feet; demonstrates that He is interminably in the salvation business through His salvific declaration to the thief; shows forth His incomparable love and affection for His mother and beloved disciple by entrusting her care to John; reminds us and all of eternity in His anguish that there is no pain like being separated from the Father, His Father, God

Almighty; provides us a perpetual portrait of His humanity while maintaining the dignity of His deity as He suffers; and even in his anguish He declares that His earthly work is finished so that we, you and I, can live our lives with purpose, focus, obedience all the while be willing to suffer sometimes to achieve God's purposes. Christ final act of obedience pays the world's sin debt in full in the Greek teleios (complete unconditional payment) and Jesus says Father, into thy hand I commit my spirit!"

The Lamb of God is now content. This was a word about the blessing of surrendering to God.





I was the first African American flight attendant when I joined Mohawk Airlines in 1958. Prior to becoming a flight stewardess, as they were called in my day, I was a registered nurse and earned my nursing degree in 1955 from Bellevue School of Nursing in New York City. After being a nurse for several years, I wanted to break the color barrier for flight stewardesses. Back in those days, stewardesses

were hired based on their physical attributes: beauty, height and weight. I first applied to Trans World Airlines (TWA), but was denied. I immediately filed a complaint against the airline with the New York State Commission on Discrimination. I then applied for Mohawk Airlines after hearing about their interest in hiring minorities. I was selected 1 out of 800 black applicants and was hired in December 1957. Then on February 11, 1958, I made history again when I flew on a flight from Ithaca to NYC. Three months later, I paved the way for Margaret Grant, who went on to become the first African American flight stewardess for a major airline. After marrying my husband, I was forced to resign from Mohawk six months after making history due to their policy of stewardess remaining single. After my aviation career ended, I moved to Barbados and founded the country's first professional nursing journal. This venture was the start of my participation in civil rights. I moved back to New York 1977 to continue my nursing career and co-founded The Institute for Inter Racial Harmony. This institution developed a test to measure racist attitudes known as the Racism Quotient. I authored a book The Little Black Book: Black Male Survival in America in 1985 to help black males succeed in a racist society. I was formally recognized by the New York State Assembly in 2008 for breaking the color barrier in aviation. Do you know who I am? #BlackHistoryMonthTrivia #WhoAmI #MomentInBlackHistory #MoreThanJustAMonth.

National Black Anthem

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
 Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
 Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,
 Sing a song full of hope that the present has brought us;
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
 Let us march on till victory won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
 Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
 Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
 We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
 We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
 Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
 Where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
 Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
 Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
 Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
 True to our God, true to our native land.



ANSWER: Ruth Carol Taylor

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN) TO ATTEND YOUTH CHURCH AT: <https://www.kidcheck.com/>



FBC YOUTH MINISTRY

gifted.

MIND+BODY+SPIRIT

FELLOWSHIP HALL

NURSERY - 5TH GRADE

7:30 AM & 11:00 AM SERVICES



As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace
1 Peter 4: 10

TEEN MINISTRY



HERITAGE CHURCH

AGES 12 TO 19 (MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL)

7:30 AM & 11:00 AM SERVICES



News & Other Important Information

Senior's Ministry - The Seniors will meet on Saturday, June 22, 2019, at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will confirm our calendar of events for the remainder of 2019. If you are 55+ years old and looking for a ministry to be a part of, come join us!

Creative Learning - Merry Christmas!!! Creative Learning will have its 3rd Annual Christmas in July Extravaganza July 13, 2019. The event will be in the Family Life Center from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm. Come out and participate in various activities with lots of fun and fellowship!!! A light lunch will be served. For more information, contact Pat Malone at 770-329-1006 or by email at p52grammy@aol.com.

Youth Ministry - It's finally here! Our Youth Ministry has implemented new software called "KidCheck" that we will use to check our children in and out of Youth Church, the Nursery, Bible Study, and all Youth-Related activities. The KidCheck tool helps us manage the risk and security inherent in caring for our children while their parents/guardians attend worship services and other Church activities. It is imperative that parents accompany their children to Youth Church in order to check children in and out! The only check in and check out location is at the Youth Church location. We cannot be responsible for children whose parents do not check their children in and out! The process is very simple, and it only takes a few short minutes to register yourself and your child(ren). Visit <https://www.kidcheck.com/> to access the Secure Children's Check-In Portal. Let us know if you have any questions and thanks in advance for your support!

Veterans Round Table - July 10th at 1:00 pm. Meet with experts on Veterans resources. Discuss your needs and get real help on filing VA claims, medical care, housing, and job resources. Newly discharged or senior retirees welcome! For more information, please email cwalker@ging.org. Buford Sugar Hill Branch of the Gwinnett County Library, 2100 Buford Highway, Buford.

Transportation Ministry - Interested in being a driver? Dial 404-643-0755. Need a ride to the church? Dial 770-622-2797 and leave a message.

Lost and Found - If you have lost items and would like to check the Lost and Found, you may contact the church office Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. If you find a lost item, please see one of the ushers after any Sunday service, or contact the church office.

Online Giving
now available

Go to fbcduluth.org and click on "Giving"

From your phone, text to: [fbcduluth](http://fbcduluth.org) to
73256



Join the Census Bureau and earn money while helping your community - The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the nation, including Gwinnett County, to assist with the 2020 Census count.

Jobs include census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff, and supervisory staff. To be eligible, you must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number, and be a U.S. citizen. The Census Bureau offers up to \$20 per hour for census takers, competitive wages, flexible hours, weekly paychecks, and paid training.

The U.S. Constitution requires a head count of the country every 10 years. The census results are used by government and the private sector for multiple purposes, including:

- Redistricting at the national, state, and local level
- Distributing billions of dollars in federal and state funds
- Analyzing local economic and demographic trends
- Planning investments and local risks
- Land use planning
- Planning transportation projects
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, or children

To learn more about job details and how to apply, visit 2020census.gov/jobs.

REGISTRATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Register early at your child's new school - Our friends at Gwinnett County Public Schools asked us to share a reminder that if you're new to Gwinnett and need to register your child for school or if your child is changing schools due to a move, summer is the best time to register.

All Gwinnett County Public Schools locations will register students **from 9:00am to 4:00pm on July 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, and 25**. Use "[School Look-up](#)" if you're unsure which school your child will attend. Start [registration online](#), then go to the school to submit required records and information to complete registration on designated days. The school year starts Monday, August 5.

CHECK IT OUT

Summer reading at the library - Studies show that children and teens who stop reading over the summer months can drop up to a full grade level in reading ability. Join the Summer Reading Program at your library to help your child improve their reading skills and discourage the summer slide.

To participate in the program, track the time you spend reading or complete some of our summer challenges to earn rewards. The more time you spend reading, the more prizes you can win. This year, prizes include tickets to a Gwinnett Stripers game, plush robots, free books, and free kids' meals from Texas Roadhouse. There are also prize drawings for telescopes, drones, gift cards to Dave and Buster's and the movies for kids and teens, and a personal story time for our youngest readers. Sign up now through August 12.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Stay water safe throughout the summer - Drowning accounts for a third of all fatal accidents for children 4 or younger. SafeKids Gwinnett and Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services suggest the following pool safety rules to keep everyone safe during summer:

- Never take your eyes off children in and around water
- Tag-team responsibility for watching kids in water
- Replace missing or broken drain covers
- Learn to swim or wear an approved floatation device
- Learn CPR and basic water rescue skills
- Designate a "Water Watcher", a responsible adult who is in charge of watching children while they are in or near water

To learn more, visit www.safekids.org, call 678.518.4845, or email fireprograms@gwinnettcountry.com.

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

S - Solstice
U - Unbusy
M - Mellow
M - My time
E - Enjoyable
R - Reap



Summer is the favorite season for many of us. School is out, it's vacation time and many of us gather together for family reunions, graduations, weddings, and outdoor cooking (barbeques) with family and friends. Summer is a time to kick back and relax, to bask in the sun and take in the rays. For many, summer is seen as the "happy" season.

What if our favorite season lasted all year round? What if there was only one season? God created all the seasons because we need each of them for various reasons. Just like the spiritual seasons in our lives, each one is needed.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."
Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

Summer is the time to reap what you planted during your spiritual spring. In our Spring article of "Signs of the Season," we encouraged you to "spring clean" those areas in your life that needed it and look for areas to renew. You should now be able to reflect on that renewal (reaping the harvest of that renewal).

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:6

Remember, as you go about enjoying all the joys and splendor of summer – take time to stay cool. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, keep your skin protected with sunscreen, and keep activities at healthy levels as to not over exert yourself. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

*Submitted by Christine Smith
Communications Ministry*

Best to Leave Fireworks to the Experts



Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades and fireworks displays. But along with all the festivities are plenty of visits to emergency rooms – especially during July.

In 2017, at least eight people died and about 12,900 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. And while the majority of these incidents were due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, homemade or other illegal fireworks or explosives, thousands were from less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers.

More fires are reported on July 4 than any other day of the year, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Each year, fireworks cause on average 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires and nearly 17,000 other fires resulting in thousands of injuries.

The National Safety Council advises everyone to stay away from all consumer fireworks and to only enjoy fireworks at a public display conducted by professionals. Following are some fireworks that are legal for consumers to purchase and use in some states. But just because they are legal doesn't mean they're safe.

Sparklers - Every year, young children can be found along parade routes and at festivals with sparklers in hand, but they are a lot more dangerous than most people think. Parents don't realize they burn at about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and many children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet.

Bottle Rockets - These small rockets are attached to a stick, lit by a fuse and typically fired from a bottle. Teens have been known to have bottle rocket wars, firing them at one another and causing chest, head and eye injuries.

Firecrackers - Firecrackers are designed to explode on the ground. They are often linked together by one long fuse and explode in a series. They are designed to be very noisy, but they also can cause burns and other serious injuries.

Roman Candles - Roman candles eject multiple exploding shells from a tube the user holds in his or her hand. There have been numerous reports of children losing fingers, severe burns and other injuries, which are sometimes caused when the device gets jammed.

Two Words About M-Class Fireworks - Just don't. You hear them go off every year: M-80s, M-100s, even M-250s. The unmistakable explosions associated with these devices can rattle the windows of homes for blocks. They are produced illegally and without quality control, have short fuses and cause hundreds of extremely severe injuries each year.

If They're Legal - If fireworks are legal to buy where you live and you choose to use them, be sure to follow the following safety tips:

- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
- Never ignite devices in a container
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire

Better yet, grab a blanket and a patch of lawn, kick back and let the experts handle the show.

Source: NSC Monthly News – June 2019

COME JOIN US

Every Wednesday Night for:

Intercessory Prayer

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

PRAYER
changes things

Worship Service & Bible Study

7:30 pm.



FOR THOSE GRIEVING
THE LOSS OF
A LOVED ONE

GRIEF  SHARE



GriefShare Ministry Leader

Minister Karen L. Blacknell

678-896-1441

Karen83052@gmail.com

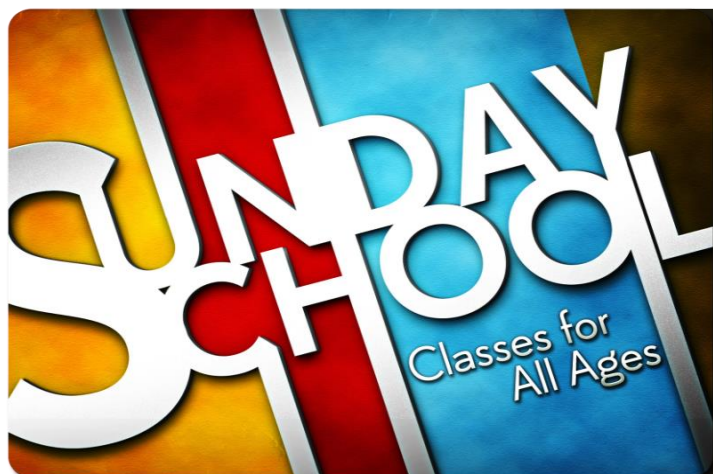
Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, a child, family member or friend.

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. The support group is led by caring people who have experienced grief themselves and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

The GriefShare Ministry has received the necessary GriefShare training to be able to provide a warm, caring and comfortable environment to those experiencing the pain of grief. Training is key for effective ministry. GriefShare provides ongoing training to the support group in order to continue to build and maintain a strong leadership team.

GriefShare's is a 13-week class that takes place at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday in the Family Life Center in Room 234. Each participant will need to register to attend this class. The workbooks are \$15.

The GriefShare Ministry support group members are: Minister Karen L. Blacknell, Rev. Kenneth M. Blacknell, Rev. Garfield Garner, Minister Amelia Brown, Minister Barbara Williams, Sis. Sandra Williams, Sis. Linda Berry, Sis. HaLynn Brown, Mother Gerald Baker, Mother Dorothy Blagmon, Sis. Tyesaha Peak-Lane, Sis. Tradenia Hill, Sis. Cortney Garner, Sis. Hyacinth Chung and Evangelist Deloris Williams.



Bro. Dorian Rogers,
Superintendent
 4integrityauto@gmail.com
 770-309-6245

CLASSES LOCATED IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER (FLC):

Class	Room	Class	Room
Men's Class	131	In Teens (High School)	217
Survival Kit	135	Jesus and Me (Middle School)	219
Women's Class	139	CONN3CT (College age 19-29)	220
Basic Bible Study	208	IGNITE! (Singles and Young Adults 29 & Older)	221
New Member's Class	209	Marriage Class	233
MasterLife 1: "The Disciple's Cross"	130	Single Parenting	220
MasterLife 2: "The Disciple's Personality"	210	GriefShare	234
MasterLife 3: "The Disciple's Victory"	211	Note: All Adult classes are combined on the 5th Sundays and meet in the Sanctuary	
MasterLife 4: "The Disciple's Mission"	213		

CLASSES LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE MAIN BUILDING:

- The Nursery (3 months-2 years old)
- Beginner's (3-4 year olds)
- Primary (K-2nd Grade)
- Juniors (3rd-5th Grade)



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

WEEKLY

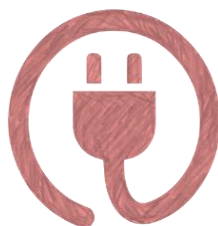
Worship Services	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Sanctuary
Teen Church	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Heritage Church
Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 am	Family Life Center
Sunday School (Youth)	Sunday	9:45 am	Lower Level Main Building
New Members' Class	Sunday	9:45 am	Room 209 Family Life Center
God's Calling & Purpose for Your Life	Monday	7:00 pm	Fellowship Hall
Deacon's Meeting	Tuesday (1st & 3rd)	7:00 pm	Room 232 Family Life Center
Mid-Week Service	Wednesday	12:00 noon	Heritage Church
Intercessory Prayer	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Sunday School Teachers	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Lower Level Main Building
Adult Bible Study	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Youth Church Bible Study	Wednesday	7:45 pm	Lower Level Main Building
Marriage Class	Thursday	7:00 pm	Room 201 Lower Level Main Bldg
Recovery Ministry	7 days a week – 24 hours a day		Contact: Tim Sanford @ 678-598-1120

MONTHLY

Education Ministry	2nd Monday	7:00 pm	Room 303 Lower Level Main Bldg
Usher Ministry	1st Tuesday	7:00 pm	Room 135 Family Life Center
Men's Ministry	1st Saturday	7:30 am	TBA Monthly
Media Ministry	1st Saturday	9:30 am	Room 130 Family Life Center
Mother's Ministry	1st Saturday	9:30 am	Room 135 Family Life Center
Minister's Meeting	1st Saturday	3:00 pm	Room 232 Family Life Center
Women's Ministry	2nd Saturday	8:45 am	Fellowship Hall
Money Matters	2nd Saturday	11:30 am	Fellowship Hall
Male Chorus Preparation	2nd & 4th Saturday	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Health Ministry	2nd Saturday	11:00 am	Room 303 Lower Level Main Bldg
Outreach Ministry	3rd Saturday	9:00 am	Fellowship Hall
Shepherd's Care Ministry	3rd Saturday	10:00 am	Room 202 Lower Level Main Bldg
Communication's Ministry	3rd Saturday	11:00 am	Room 135 Family Life Center
Marriage Ministry	3rd Saturday	5:00 pm	Room 239 Family Life Center
Seniors Ministry	4th Saturday	11:00 am	Fellowship Hall
Singles Ministry	4th Saturday	12:30 pm	Lower Level – Heritage Church
Prison Ministry			
Gospel Choir Preparation	Tuesday before 1st & 3rd Sunday	7:00 pm	
Youth Choir Preparation	Tuesday before 2nd & 4th Sunday	6:45 pm	

SPECIAL MONTHLY SERVICES

Holy Communion	1st Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Sanctuary
Baptism	3rd Sunday	11:00 am	Sanctuary
Baby Dedications	4th Sunday	7:30 & 11:00am	Sanctuary



Get plugged in and start serving today. Your gifts, talent, skills and time are needed.



CHURCH ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

3375 Church Lane, Duluth GA 30096
 Contact: Rita Bowens, Office Manager @ 770-497-8227
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00am-5:00pm
 Email: fbcduluth@att.net
 Website: www.fbcduluth.org

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 Rev. Garfield Garner
 Rev. Eugene Graves
 Min. Shurron Green
 Rev. Timothy Twyman
 Min. Floyd Williams
 Rev. Stan Williams
 Rev. Alton Wilson

FBC MINISTERS OF EVANGELISM

Min. Karen Blacknell
 Min. Amelia Brown
 Evg. Geneva Burse
 Evg. Karen DeLee
 Min. Roslyn Long
 Evg. Valerie Montaque
 Evg. Ruthell Morris
 Evg. Kimberly Rogers
 Min. Monique Stroman
 Min. Nicole Walker
 Min. Barbara Williams
 Evg. Deloris Williams

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Friendship Baptist Church has a newly-enhanced website to provide greater communication across all FBC Ministries. Improvements are ongoing. Feedback can be provided to the Communications Ministry at tag49llm@aol.com.

SUBSCRIBE today at: www.fbcduluth.org.

Articles for the next newsletter are due the 1st Friday of the month. **NEXT DUE DATE: JULY 5, 2019.**