

MESSINGER

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 18

APRIL 30, 2017

In the Beginning, God Created...

This season of the year, maybe more than any other, reminds us of the creative power of God as we watch the earth come to life once again. The Bible reminds us that *“every house is built by someone but the builder of all things is God”* (Hebrews 3:4). And what a beautiful “house” God has built for us in this world! As we witness the greening of the earth, the blooming of the trees and flowers, and the renewing of nature in springtime, we are certainly made to stand in awe of the wisdom and power of God as seen through His creation.

The first five words of the Bible, “In the beginning, God created” lay the foundation upon which the remainder of the Scriptures builds. To create means “to cause to come into being, to originate.” Truly, everything that we have and enjoy in this world was created by God and continues to exist through His will. Not only did God speak this physical world into existence but so many of the things that make life bearable and give us spiritual hope were created by Him as well. For instance, God created love (1 John 4:7-8), family (Genesis 2:21-24), the church (Matthew 16:18), and salvation (Hebrews 5:9). What an awesome God we serve!

But have you considered the idea that God is still creating? No, I don’t mean physical things for the Bible tells us that, at the end of the sixth day of creation, the earth and all that was in it was “finished” (Genesis 2:1). That is to say that the creation process of the physical elements of this world were completed and concluded. But, in other ways, God continues to create in your life and mine. Consider these things that God continues to create:

- **Blessings.** God brings blessings into our lives each day in many different ways. From answered prayers to providential care, God blesses us daily with every good thing (James 1:17).
- **Opportunities.** God, through His wisdom and power, gives us opportunities each day to learn, grow, serve, love, forgive, influence, and do good (Galatians 6:10).
- **Renewal.** God, through Christ, is able to create in us renewal—renewal from sin, discouragement, complacency, and a troubled spirit (Isaiah 40:31).

Why not thank God today for all that He has created and continues to create in your life!

Rusty

To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



Chase Park Church of Christ

Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit

Nathan Adams..... Outreach

Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

Elders

John Denney

Curtis Hill

Sam Kachelman

Dennis Lawson

Greg Parker

Barry Todd

Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico

Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico

Slava Savkovsky Ukraine

Barton Kizer..... Peru

Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

If I took a poll of the congregation and asked how many enjoy being chastened, it is very unlikely the majority would say they find it enjoyable. As a rule, we generally do not look forward to discipline or punishment, even in the situations where we know we deserve it.

I want you to imagine for a minute what it might be like if we were never chastened. What if when we made mistakes and did the things that were bad for us, there was no consequence to follow those actions? At first, that might sound like a good deal for us. The idea of avoiding consequences for bad decisions sounds very palatable. The fact is, we need consequences. Consequences are what help us to see and understand the negative effects of our mistakes and bad

decisions. If it wasn't for being chastened and or corrected when we make our bad decisions, we might continue in a detrimental pattern for long periods of time. It is through being corrected that we can find our focus.

The writer of Proverbs reminds us that one of the ways God shows His love for us is by chastening us when we go astray. Consider Proverbs 3:11, *"My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor detest His correction; For whom the Lord loves He corrects. Just as a father the son in whom He delights."*

As parents we understand that the reason we correct our children is we want to keep them from getting themselves into bad decisions. When we see they are heading down a dangerous road, because we love

them, we correct them. The same is true with God! God loves us, therefore, He wants what is best for us. God uses His word to correct the things in our lives that need correcting.

What is your attitude toward correction? If our attitude is right, chastening/correction is a beautiful thing. If we will take the correction of the Lord and of people with wisdom we can avoid future heartbreaks in our lives. Rejection of correction often times shows a lack of spiritual maturity.

What a blessing it is to accept correction from our Lord who loves us and wants the best for us. How much better might your life on earth be if we looked at the chastisement of our Lord as a blessing.

Paul's Farewell—*Nathan Adams*

My family and I are saddened that today is our last Sunday as members of the family at Chase Park. We have been truly blessed to be a part of this loving and kind congregation. So many of you have loved and encouraged us. We are thankful to God for you and will carry your love in our hearts always. At these times, I am often at a loss for adequate words. However, I think that the apostle Paul had the right words on such occasions of leaving brethren that he loved. He understood like David (2 Samuel 12:23), that the length of any separation for children of God is determined by our faithfulness. Therefore, Paul's final words were always to encourage faithfulness. I believe that is a worthy model.

As Paul was traveling to Jerusalem before his imprisonment, in Acts 20, he stopped to say farewell to the elders of Ephesus. Paul had worked with this congregation for three years. There was clearly a strong bond between Paul and this church. In his farewell, he admonished these

elders to guard the flock (v. 28), work hard, and help the weak remembering the words of Jesus, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* (v. 35) We often speak of those words in reference to our contribution; Paul used them in reference to our giving of service to others. All that they needed to do could be found in only one place and Paul ultimately pointed them in that direction by saying, *"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified"* (v. 32).

Some years later in Paul's farewell to his precious Timothy in 2 Timothy 4, he told Timothy to *"Preach the word..."* (v. 2) Paul always encouraged people to engage in God's word through both the strengthening of their own life through study and the lives of others by teaching. Paul concludes by stating that he had fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith (v. 7). He was not bragging, he was

encouraging Timothy to remember the power of faithfulness during our times of separation. It was his faithfulness that would enable him to receive the crown of righteousness given by Jesus (v. 8). Paul is not just talking about his reward, he goes on to say that the crown of righteousness will be given to *"all those who have loved His appearing."* Paul is telling Timothy, through faith we can be in the same place and with the same reward one day.

I had an elder in North Carolina who would never say goodbye to another Christian, he said that there are no goodbyes between faithful Christians—only *"See you later."* There is much truth in the reality that the longest faithful Christians can be truly separated is for this short vapor of life. I pray that each of you will devote yourself fully to God's word and live faithfully to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Then we can say with full assurance, *"See you later."*

News Of Interest

Sick

Regency Healthcare and Rehab

Anne Fults

Huntsville Hospital

Bob Phillips

Home: Dwight Steele

Birth Announcement

Ben and **Hope Kachelman** are the parents of a son, **Braxton Donald**, born Monday, April 25. Braxton weighed 7 lbs., 5 ozs. The proud grandparents are **Sam** and **Cindy Kachelman**.

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Lynn Crawford** and **Angie McGee** and their families in the recent death of their grandmother, **Lola Moon**.

Sympathy (continued)

Sympathy also to **Mark Rowe** in the death of his uncle, **Ival Rowe**, in Springfield, MO.

We also express sympathy to the family of **Edith Buchanan** in her death.

Special Contribution Today

For The "Chase Servants United Appeal Fund"

This fund supports all of our benevolence work.

Goal: \$25,000.00

There will be two collections, one for our regular weekly contribution and a separate one for benevolence. Checks should be made out to "**Chase Servants United Appeal Fund**."

Pantry Item

Canned Corn.

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Rusty Hills** and **Young Men**

Song Leader: **Young Men**

Baby Shower

The congregation is invited to a baby shower today, 1:30—3:30 p.m., fellowship hall, honoring **Chad** and **Megan Ennis** who are expecting a girl, **Maddie Elizabeth**. They are registered at Babies R Us, Target, and Amazon.

Children's Ministry Devotional

Today, after p.m. worship. Fellowship hall/dining room.

\$Financial Peace Class\$

Tomorrow, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, May 3. Cooks will prepare lunch.

Area-Wide Singing At Chase Park

Friday, May 12, 7:00—9:00 p.m. Will have sign-up sheets for food.

5th Sunday Singing tonight 5:00 p.m.

Thank You

"We want to thank you for your many cards and prayers on Patricia's behalf. Thank you also for the beautiful flowers you sent for her funeral. In Christian love,"

The family of Patricia Irwin

Library Book Donations

John Denney has recently donated several of his personal books to our Library. Two of these books which are about the family are listed below:

Family Shock; Keeping Families Strong In The Midst Of Earthshaking Change, written by Gary Collins, a licensed psychologist and Christian Counselor. In this highly recommended book, real families share their stories and the author uses fifty Christian leaders to write related articles throughout the book to offer biblically based, practical advice to families.

In the book, *Building A Healthy Family*, the author, Bill Flatt, Ed.D., explores many of the elements that are required to develop a good home. Some of the elements discussed are commitment, emotional maturity, spiritual development, humor, communication, and self-esteem. Each chapter contains exercises to help build your family and grow personally.

Congratulations to all of our Lads to Leaders Participants!

Bible Bowl Written Test

Addy Benson
Austin Benson
Trenton Benson
Ben Blankenship—**High Scorer**
Drew Blankenship
Austin Boudreaux
Lukas Boudreaux
Kaelee Clark—**High Scorer**
Parker Clark—**High Scorer**
Blake Gustin
Gregory McCreless
Anna Sims—**High Scorer**
Caleb Sims—**High Scorer**
Erin Sims—**High Scorer**
Bryson Trammell
Cari Beth Walker
Gavin Weeks
Kaylee Weeks

Pearls Test

Anna Sims—**High Scorer**
Caleb Sims—**High Scorer**
Erin Sims—**High Scorer**

Know the Books

Addy Benson—**Level 1, Gold**
Drew Blankenship—**Level 2, Bronze**
Hayden Heady—**Level 2, Gold**
Hadley Husband—**Level 2, Gold**
Harden Husband—**Level 1, Gold**
JaneClaire Lamica—**Level 2, Gold**
Rossin Lamica—**Level 1, Gold**
Silas Lamica—**Level 2, Gold**
Titus Lamica—**Level 1, Gold**
Claire McDonald—**Level 1, Gold**
Kelsey Olbricht—**Level 1, Gold**
Anna Sims—**Level 2, Gold**
Caleb Sims—**Level 2, Gold**
Erin Sims—**Level 2, Gold**

Year-Round Bible Reading

Ben Blankenship—**Bronze**
Drew Blankenship—**Bronze**
Ashlynn Chrisco—**Bronze**
Kaelee Clark—**Bronze**
Parker Clark—**Bronze**
Hayden Heady—**Bronze**
Ally Hills—**Bronze**
Hadley Husband—**Bronze**
Caleb Sims—**Bronze**

Good Samaritan

Drew Blankenship—**Bronze**
Ashlynn Chrisco—**Bronze**
Kaelee Clark—**Silver**
Parker Clark—**Silver**
Hayden Heady—**Bronze**
Ally Hills—**Gold**
Ashley Hills—**Gold**
Hadley Husband—**Bronze**
JaneClaire Lamica—**Gold**
Rossin Lamica—**Gold**
Silas Lamica—**Gold**
Claire McDonald—**Silver**
Abby Rosenblum—**Gold**
Anna Sims—**Silver**
Caleb Sims—**Silver**
Erin Sims—**Silver**

Centurion of Scripture

Ashlynn Chrisco—**Bronze**
Anna Sims—**Gold**
Caleb Sims—**Gold**
Erin Sims—**Gold**

More to come next week!

Statistics

Sunday, April 23, 2017

AM Worship	349
Month Average	381
Bible Class	312
PM Worship	248
Wed., Apr. 26 Bible Classes	252
Regency Ret. Worship NC	
Offering	\$17,995.56
Budget	\$18,000
Average '17	\$18,038
Above Budget for year	+\$639
Building Fund	\$125.00

Services

Sunday

Worship..... 9:00 a.m.
Bible Class 10:15 a.m.
Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Super Seniors 10:00 a.m.
Bible Class 6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

<https://www.epcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

(Lesson 1 Link)

The Bible—God's Holy Word

MESSENGER is published weekly by the Chase Park Church of Christ, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E.; Huntsville, AL 35811; (256) 852-3801. Send address changes to Messenger, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E.; Huntsville, AL 35811