

Add To Your Perseverance Godliness...

*“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, **to perseverance godliness**, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* 2 Peter 1:5-8

As we resume our examination of this beautiful text, we are encouraged to add the characteristic of godliness to our Christian lives. As we have seen previously, perseverance helps to build character, faith, and strength within us as we struggle with and overcome the challenges and hardships of life. The stronger and more faithful we become, the more we begin to take on the image and attributes of God, thus adding godliness to our lives.

We sometimes struggle with the concept of godliness, understanding that we cannot be like God who is perfect in all His ways. Furthermore, we often shrink back even at the idea of emulating God, thinking it inappropriate and arrogant to consider ourselves capable of being like God in any way. Yet, the Scriptures tell us that we are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27) and that we are to strive to be like Him in every way that we can and to the degree that we can with our human limitations. For example, we are to be holy as He is holy (1 Peter 1:15-16); we are to love as He loves (1 John 4:7-11); we are to forgive as He forgives (Ephesians 4:32). You see, a life of godliness is not a life of perfection and transcendence in which we place ourselves in a place of equality with God. Only God is God and, as we are reminded in the Scriptures, His ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9). Rather, a life of godliness is one that is lived in humble submission to His will and with a constant striving to draw near to Him by taking on those traits and characteristics that He desires for us and that He, Himself, displays. It is the life of a child trying to be like his father, lacking the strength, maturity, and wisdom to imitate him perfectly, but striving to follow in his footsteps anyway. A godly life allows us to focus the light of our lives squarely on God so that the world sees Him through the imperfect and flawed reflection of our lives. May God help us to continually strive to live lives of godliness to His glory and praise.

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
John Denney Education
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*

For the last several weeks we have been considering things to be thankful for. I hope that taking the time to “count our blessings” together has been beneficial to you. I know it has been an encouragement to me.

This week I want us to consider the idea of being thankful for being trusted to be a steward of all the blessings of God. Think about it, God considered you worthy to bless you with incredible gifts because He is giving you a chance to be a steward of those things! What an awesome responsibility. On the most basic level, a steward is one who handles all of the affairs of his Master. We are stewards of God’s blessings to us on the earth.

One of the most incredible things that we get to be stewards of is the souls of our children. What an incredible responsibility God has

given us when he allowed us to become parents and direct precious souls toward eternity. We have Deuteronomy 6 in the Old Testament to remind us of our great responsibility as parents. Deuteronomy 6 talks about the importance of impressing the Word of God upon our children. As parents we try to teach our children many things, and they are good things, but there is nothing more important we can teach our children than God’s word. While I realize that at a certain point in all of our children’s lives they will become accountable to God, we have a responsibility to give them the firm foundation to start from. Consider Proverbs 22:6 *“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”* Parents, what a blessing it is to have a part in the journey toward heaven

that our children are on! Do not take the opportunity to be a good steward of our children for granted for the time passes ever so quickly!

Another thing God allows us to be stewards over is our physical blessings which are many. God gives us talents and abilities so we can use them to earn a living, provide for our families, and do things which bring glory to His name! Just like in the parable of the talents found in Matthew 25, there is a day coming when the Master will return for us and an account of our stewardship will be required of us. May each of us live in such a way as to have been a good steward of God’s blessings on earth!

What a tremendous responsibility and blessing it is to be a steward for God. I am thankful for it and I hope you are as well!

The “Come And See Class”—*Nathan Adams*

There is no man in history like Jesus Christ. He is the only unique Son of God (John 1:18; 3:16; 1 John 4:9). His life has impacted countless numbers of people over the past nearly 2000 years. Millions upon millions of people have dedicated their lives to being like Him and millions upon millions have vehemently opposed Him and His followers. There is no one person who has impacted history more than our Lord.

Why should one listen to Jesus? What makes Him so special? What was it about His life that attracts and repels people of all demographics? There are no short substantive answers to these questions.

Jesus is one of a kind because He was God in flesh living and dying for humanity. Yet, grasping that, is a difficult subject. The Lord is unique because He lived sinless in His life. Peter tells us that Jesus left us an example to follow (1 Peter 2:21), but we will fail to follow that example if

we do not dedicate ourselves to seeing the life He lived. The teachings of Jesus are powerful and deep. They have the capability of fundamentally changing us when we learn and live them in our lives.

In John 1:45-46, Philip came to Nathaniel and told him that he had found the Messiah. Nathaniel doubted Philip’s claim because Jesus was from Nazareth and the scriptures did not prophesy concerning the Messiah being from there. Philip simply responded by telling him to “come and see.” Nathaniel had a legitimate reason from scripture to reject Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah. Yet, there was more for him to learn. His objection would be clarified in the fact that Jesus was born in the prophesied city of Bethlehem (Matthew 2:5-6). The power of Jesus that he saw when he came before Him was what would cause him to say, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel” (John 1:49). John wrote his gospel account so that you and I (like

Nathaniel) could come and see the power of Jesus in order to believe and have life in His name (John 20:30-31).

I am very excited to introduce the “Come and See” Class that begins Wednesday night, December 7. This class will better enable us to also “come and see” Jesus’ power and ministry through a detailed study of His life as recorded in the four gospel accounts. The class will continue throughout 2017. The classes will be videoed and placed on our website for those who may not be able to attend. Each student will receive a “Come and See” Study Guide which will include a harmony of the gospel accounts and other study material. This will be available in both paper and PDF. **In order to adequately prepare materials, I ask that you sign up for the class at the Hospitality Desk.** There is more information on our website. You are invited to “Come and See” so that the life of Jesus can change you in amazing ways.

News Of Interest

Sick

Huntsville Hospital: Barry Todd, No visitors/phone calls

HealthSouth Rehab: Louise Merryman

Home

Curtis Hill, Dwight Steele, Martha Norris, and Libby Lewter

Sympathy

To Ellie Brake in the death of his mother, Eva Brake. Funeral November 21, 1:00 p.m., Blue Spring Road Church of Christ.

Memberships

Welcome **Jerry** and **Melissa Wilhoite** to our Chase Park family! They previously worshipped with the Mayfair congregation. Jerry is a retired business owner of North Alabama Court Consultants, LLC, and Melissa is a Technical Specialist with nLogic, sub-contractor of NAS, Arnold AFB, Tennessee. Be sure and meet Jerry and Melissa.

Memberships (continued)

Dan, Rachel, Katie, Isaiah, and **Ethan** are coming back home to us from the Mayfair congregation. They worshipped with us when we were at Parkway. Dan is an engineer with TSC; Rachel is a homemaker; Katie is in 9th grade; Isaiah is in 5th grade; and Ethan is 2 years old. Please add Dan, Rachel, and Katie to your directory. We are happy to have this family back with us!

Pantry Items

Peanut Butter and Jelly



Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Andrew Lamica**

Song Leader: **Stephen Trammell**

Hospital Visitation

Team #3 (**Jerry Johnston**), please pick up your assignments today after evening worship.

4th—6th Grade Devotional

Today after p.m. service, fellowship hall/dining room.

Balance Class

Tuesday, November 22, 1:30 p.m.

Super Seniors

Will not meet Wednesday, November 23; will meet Wednesday, November 30, and go out to eat.

Thanks Singing

Wednesday, November 23. Everyone will meet in the auditorium.

Church Offices Closed

Thursday and Friday, November 24, 25, for Thanksgiving holiday.

Thank You

“Thanks to our Chase Park friends and classes for all the cards, calls, food, and prayers we received during my recent knee replacement surgery and recovery. We want to commend you for your caring and servant attitude. May God continue to bless each of you. To God be the glory. In Christian love,”

Max and Colene Horst

“Thank you, Chase Park, for the Sunday worship service you make available to those who are permanently and temporarily confined to Regency Retirement Village. I am home now and able to go to worship services. Thank you John Adams, Jean Denney, and Ruth King for all your encouragement. Thanks to Little Lights for your beautiful singing. In Christian love,”

Jimmie Newman
(sister of Mary Milam)

December 2016 Birthdays

1	Shonika McCreless	18	Paul Brumlow
2	Greg Cothren	19	Barbara Edwards
	Mary Anne Smith		Jack Lambrecht
4	Danny Benson	20	Tommy Christopher
	Robbie Norman		Megan Ennis
5	Gayle Cothren	21	Matt Cantrell
6	Edith Buchanan		Joy Wharton
	Glen Parker	22	Claudette Rives
7	Dena Hutchison	23	Aidan Lambrecht
9	Connie Hendrixson	24	Pat Clark
	Janet Lawson	26	Billie Carmack
10	Jessica Peacock	27	Dennis Lawson
11	Hollye Corder		Candis McCall
12	Christina Johnston		Sarah Breeden
15	Peggy Champion		Debbie Christopher
	Brayden McCarver	28	Jeff Fults
	Alicia Steele		Deborah Adams
16	Sara-Olivia Johnston	29	Marie Bishop
17	Joyce Gray	31	Jim MacLean



Weekly Bible Reading

Reading for November 20 – November 26: **1 John 1-5**

The apostle John is often called “the apostle of love” because of his emphasis on love in his writings. Especially in his gospel and in this first epistle, John emphasizes four different loves that we as Christians need to pay special attention to in our lives: God’s love for us, our love for God, our love for others, and the danger and inappropriateness of our love for the world. The place that each of these loves occupies in our lives will have a profound effect on our eternity. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *Why do you think that it is so important to God that we love one another?*
- *Why do you think that God is so adamant that we not love the world or its things?*

VERSES TO REMEMBER:

1 John 2:15-16

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world.”

Statistics

Sunday, November 13, 2016

AM Worship	349
Month Average	364
Bible Class	NC
PM Worship	225
Wed., Nov. 16 Bible Classes.....	NC
Regency Ret. Worship	NC
Offering.....	\$19,231.34
Budget.....	\$18,300
Average ‘16	\$18,772
Over Budget for year	+\$21,696
Building Fund	\$50,765.06

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

<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>
(Lesson 1 Link)
The Bible—God’s Holy Word

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