Pastor's Brief

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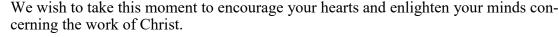
Puzzles

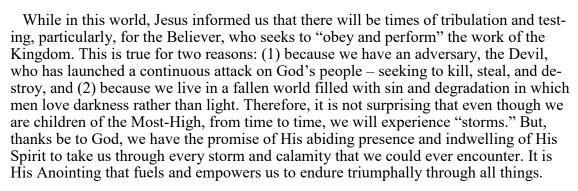
"There Will Be Glory After This"

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. (Romans 8:18, NKJV)

Beloved,

All Praise, Glory, and Honor to God our Father, to the King of Kings, who is the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.





Armed with this knowledge, we have this assurance that no amount of suffering or anguish we endure can compare to the Glory that awaits us. This great Glory is directed towards us on two fronts: First, it is applied to our present situation to remind us that even in the midst of the storm, He is working out all things for our good, and if we faint not, in due season, we will reap the reward, which testifies, "There is Glory After This!" Second, we must never lose sight that our labor in this earth is not in vain. God keeps a record of every good deed performed, every encouraging word spoken, every act of kindness rendered, every tear shed for the work of the Kingdom, and He will pay us richly, far exceeding all that we can ever imagine. "For eye have not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man the things God has prepared for them that loves Him" (1 Corinthains 2:9, NKJV). Yes, Jesus is soon to return and His reward is with Him to pay every man according to what his work shall be. Beloved Rest Assured – "There is Glory After This!"

Pastor Jerry L. and First Lady Alicia Jones

Entrusted and Empowered (YouVersion Online Bible)

SEEDS4H.O.P.E. Corner - Dr. Barbara A. Smith, Christian Education Director

Have you heard the good news? In 2Corinthians 5:17, the apostle Paul writes to the church in Corinth: "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

God created us and called us good, but we were born into a fallen world. A beautiful-yet-broken world. A stunning-yet-sinful world. A world where many would rather choose their own way instead of following and submitting to God. A world where others try to earn their own salvation but fall painfully short.

By the sheer grace of God, He has made a way for sinners through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the One who specializes in making all things new. Paul goes on to say in his letter: "And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him." 2 Corinthians 5:18 NLT

To reconcile, by definition, means to "make peace" or to "restore a relationship." If you've known the love, grace, forgiveness, and redemption of God, who through Christ, reconciled you back to Himself, then you have everything you need to help others receive the same gift.

God has empowered you with the ministry of reconciliation-of restoring others back to Him. This reconciliation can happen anywhere: in coffee shops, in corporate offices, in classrooms, and in kitchens. You can remind a child about the grace that's available to them when they make a mistake. You can remind an adult that they cannot sin so much or so badly they cannot receive the mercy of God. Whenever people need God, He stands ready to be used by you.

God has entrusted and empowered you to shine His light, show His love, and help others be restored back into His arms.

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A Love Letter from Jesus

Author Unknown
Submitted by Sis. Ann Crosby

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day, hoping you would walk and talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day, and a cool breeze to rest you. Then I waited, but you never came. O yes, it hurts me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night, and I longed to touch your brow, so I spilled moonlight upon your pillow and your face...Again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you.

You awakened late this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad, so alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me many times, but I love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breathe it in the color of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need you could ever have.

I want us to spend eternity together in heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really know because I was there, and I want to help you. My Father wants to help you too. He's that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk to me. It is your decision.

I Love You, Your Friend, Jesus



Imitating the Humility of Christ

An excerpt from Rumor of Hope by Ray C. Stedman

Acting with a servant-minded spirit can be a lot easier said than done. Still, God continually gives us opportunities to do so, much like He did with Father Damien.

For years Father Damien lived among lepers sent to isolation on the Kalaupapa Peninsula of the Hawaiian Islands, using his carpentry and medical skills to help alleviate their pain. He humbled himself before them, caring for the living, burying the dead, and encouraging them through prayer and preaching. Yet, much like us, Father Damien understood what humility in service was only because he had been a recipient of its most perfect example, the humility of our Savior.

One evening, Father Damien filled a basin with boiling water, preparing to wash his feet. It was his custom to mix hot and cold water to a bearable temperature before putting his feet in the basin. That night, he forgot the cold water, but when he put his feet in the boiled water, he felt no pain.

After twelve years living among the lepers, Father Damien had taken their disease into himself. The following Sunday, he stood before his congregation in the simple wooden church he had built and began his sermon with the words, "We lepers." Four years later, he was dead at the age of forty-nine.

The life of Father Damien reminds us of the One who came among us while we were isolated and condemned by sin, castaways without any hope. He came as a carpenter, a healer, and a teacher. He encouraged us with His prayers and preaching. And in the end, He took our disease into Himself, giving His for life for us.

As we glimpse something of the awful penalty that Jesus paid on our behalf, may we understand that we are not merely witnessing the tragic martyrdom of a religious idealist. We are watching as a ransom payment is made for our souls.

Jesus Said, I Am

Author Unknown
Submitted by Sis. Lena Smith
President of the Floral Club

In the Gospel of John, Jesus makes seven statements beginning with the words I am. Each of these "I am" proclamations furthers our understanding of Jesus' ministry in the world. Jesus said. I am

The Bread of Life- John 6:35
The Light of the World- John 8:12
The Gate- John 10:9
The Good Shepherd- John 10:11
The Resurrection and the Life- John 11:25
The Way the Truth and the Life- John 14:6
The True Vine- John 15:1

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Greetings from the Pastor's Aide Committee Mary Crosby, President

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you Pastor Aide for a job well done. The Pastor's 19th anniversary was one of the best ones yet. May 25th will be Family and Friends Day. We look forward to the fellowship with our sister church, Dr. Lillie Cannon-Bryant and Cumberland Union.

Thank you, Zion Wall Church Family and Friends, for all you do to help us bless our Pastor.



Dr. Barbara Smith plays with the African Drum Circle at the Durham Senior Center.

The Health Benefits of Walking 20 Minutes a Day

Walking is often considered one of the most underrated forms of exercise, but it can be an effective healthenhancing activity. It's simple, free, and one of the easiest ways to become more active, lose weight, and become healthier. Here are five compelling benefits of incorporating just a 20-minute walk into your daily routine.

Enhancing Cardiovascular Health

Walking for just 20 minutes a day can significantly improve your cardiovascular health. Regular walking has been shown to reduce your risk of heart disease and stroke. It strengthens the heart, lowers blood pressure, and improves cholesterol levels, collectively enhancing heart health.

Boosting Mental Wellbeing

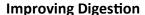
Mental health is as important as physical health, and walking has profound benefits for our minds too. A daily 20-minute walk can help alleviate symptoms of depression and anxiety. It boosts mood by releasing endorphins, the body's natural feel-good hormones, promoting a sense of calm and wellbeing.

Aiding Weight Management

Walking is an accessible and low-impact way to aid in weight management. A brisk 20-minute walk can burn up to 100 calories. It also increases metabolism, helping you burn more calories even when at rest. Over time, this can contribute to weight loss and healthier body composition.

Strengthening Bones and Muscles

Regular walking helps strengthen bones and muscles, reducing the risk of osteoporosis and frailty in later life. It can also improve balance and coordination, reducing the likelihood of falls in older adults. This weight-bearing exercise stimulates bone formation and helps maintain joint health.



A post-meal stroll can do wonders for your digestion. It aids in the breakdown of food and absorption of nutrients, leading to better metabolic health. Walking after eating can help regulate blood sugar levels and reduce uncomfortable bloating or indigestion.

Morning Light Benefits

There's even a specific time of day that provides the most benefit from walking – the morning! Getting light into our eyes within an hour of waking helps to keep our circadian rhythms balanced and healthy. Morning light exposure helps regulate melatonin production, which can improve your sleep quality that night.

Take the first step today toward better health with a simple 20-minute walk. From Bradham Chiropractor Newsletter



Mother and Women's Day 2025



Mother Catherine Smith



Janice Elliott-Ingram



Mary Autry



Sandra Crosby, Cellia McKoy, Joyce Tippett and Joan Lewis



Diane Hart, Bridgett Bell, Uretha Brown, Stephanie Colvin and Crystal Jones



Elder Frances Harvey, Mother Lois Murphy, First Lady Alicia Jones and Elder Jerry Jones



Mother Murphy presented Eldress Daisy McLeod, the guest speaker, a floral arrangement. The red flower represents the Blood of Jesus, and the purple flower represents the royalty of God.



Dr. Barbara Smith



Mary Ann Crosby and Mother Lucille McNeill

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Coming Up Next Quarter June, July, August 2025

"Sacred Altars and Holy Gifts"

The summer quarter continues to explore spiritual themes around worship, sacrifice, and offerings.

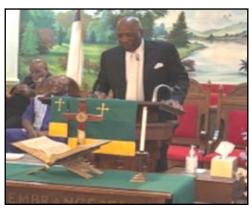
Unit 1, "The Genesis of Altars and Sacrifices," has lessons all from Genesis. From the narratives of Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, this unit examines the building of altars and offering of sacrifices before the Sinai Covenant.

Unit 2, "Jesus and the Temple," explores several sections of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John to examine the ways that Jesus fulfills the meaning of temple. Jesus attended temple festivals, acted dramatically to rid the temple of corruption, and finally redefined "temple" to mean His own body, which was destroyed but rebuilt in three days. Through Jesus, God's people continue to have access to God, even once the physical temple is gone.

Unit 3, "Christians and Sacrifice," brings the study to a conclusion by exploring what it means to offer sacrifices in the new covenant. The letters of Romans, 1 Corinthians, Ephesians, Hebrews, and 1 Peter all show that Christians-individually and as the churchare a new temple, filled by the Holy Spirit.

Lessons come from Echoes Adult Comprehensive Bible Study Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith, Sunday School Superintendent

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Deacon James Smith was the guest speaker at Pleasant Grove FWB.

"12 Ways To Be A Blessing To Your Church"

Author Kate McVeigh
Submitted by Dr. Barbara Smith

(Passages in this section come directly from the above book).

- 1. Do Not Ask What Your Church Can Do for You, but What You Can Do for Your Church
- 2. Pray Daily for Your Pastor
- 3. Bless Your Pastor on Special Occasions
- 4. Get Involved in the Helps Ministry
- 5. Follow Through With Commitments

I would encourage you to really pray before making a major commitment. Make sure you count up the cost before taking the leap. Many people commit to serving in an area before really praying and thinking it through. They get excited about helping and do great at first, but they often don't continue to be faithful.

On the other hand, sometimes people never commit to anything, and they even use God as an excuse. They'll say, "Well, I don't feel led." Here is an idea that might help you and your church out. Why not tell your leader that you could help out temporarily to address an immediate need? In the meantime, you could be praying about making a long-term commitment.

Make sure you count the cost before taking the leap. Once you do commit...you need to keep your word. Sometimes we don't realize what we put other people through when we don't keep our word.

Note: See previous newsletters for Ways 1-4.



UPCOMING EVENTS

June

1st-5th- Hampton's Ministers' Institute

7th- Young People's Fellowship @Kinston

14th- Deacon Fellowship @ CFA

15th- Fathers/Men's Day

19th– Juneteenth

21st - Annual Sunday School Convention @CFA

22nd- Male Chorus Fest @CFA

28-29th- District Union

July

4th- Pastor Jones' Birthday/

Independence Day

25th- Quarterly Conference

26th- Christian Education Program @ CFA

27th- Holy Communion

August

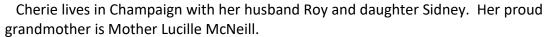
Annual Missionary Month 2nd-Annual YPCL Convention @CFA 17th- Ushers' Anniversary 30th-31st- District Union



Awards and Recognitions

Dr. Cherie Avent received the 2025 College of Education's Spitze-Mather Faculty Award for Excellence. The purpose of the award is to recognize faculty in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for excellence in teaching, research and/or applied programs that are connected to the education of or promotion of family life issues. Cherie is an Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology at the university.

In 2023, Cherie received the 40 Under 40 Award for young professionals in the Champaign-Urbana area for individuals who demonstrated leadership, innovation, and community involvement.





A Line in the Sand

James Merritt, 52 weeks Through The Bible 2016 Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith

One of the promises God made to the nation of Israel was to bless them if they obeyed him and punish them if they rebelled. A host of prophets warned the rebellious nation, but they didn't repent. Thus, Jerusalem was conquered by the pagan nation of Babylon, which was ruled by a famous king named Nebuchadnezzar.

The Babylonians practiced some ruthless intimidation tactics. From taking away a country's idols, thus making them feel powerless, to brainwashing the best and brightest of the conquered nations young men, these warriors were clever and calculated. It could make you feel helpless and hopeless, as if you were out of options.

One young man didn't just look for options; he created them. Daniel was one of the young Hebrew men who was given a full scholarship to the University of Babylon. He was given a Babylonian name and Babylonian clothes. He learned the language, read the books, and was offered the buffets. The goal was to make him think, act, and live like a Babylonian.



But Daniel did something unexpected, something we all must do if we are going to follow God and not the world. He drew a line in the sand. When Daniel was asked to eat the king's food and drink the king's wine, a trip wire was crossed that alerted Daniel to a line he should not cross. But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself (Daniel 1:8)

In the Middle Eastern culture when you sat down to eat a meal, particularly with a ruler or a king, it was a sign of covenant commitment. You were pledging loyalty to the king, to submit to and share his life. But the only one Daniel was going to submit to was God, and he wanted to make that clear. Never cross a line that God has drawn. The world will tempt you, but when you stay on the God side, you will stay on the good side. To do that, follow Daniel's footsteps.

An Unexpected Promotion

Deacon William David Murphy, the son of Deacon Willie and Mother Lois Murphy was appointed Assistant Superintendent to the newly elected Superintendent of the Sunflower School System in Mississippi.

He is a 2001 graduate of Triton High School where he was elected as "The Most Likely to Succeed" male student. Going to Wake Forest University on a full scholarship, he graduated in 2005.

William decided to go to Mississippi to teach for two years in the Teach America Program. He taught elementary students but then became a principal for several years and then began working in the system office until last March. It is told that the new superintendent had heard about this young man. He talked to William and named him Assistant Superintendent!

William received his master's degree from Delta State University and is now working on his dissertation for his Doctorate at Delta State.

He is married to Shequeta Wares and they have three sons—Liam, Lyndon and Logan.

Birthday Bouquets to Each of You!

June

9th- Elder Joseph Crosby 12th-Larry Smith

15th – Joyce Tippette

20th- Charles McNeill



Rose

July

4th- Elder Jerry Jones Lena Smith

8th- Howard Bell

12th-Sheneiza Bobbitt

25th- Mother Veronica Smith

26th- Uretha Brown

29th—Gary Elliott



Water Lily

August

8th-Ann Robinson

9th- Mother Lois Murphy

12th– Ceilia McKoy

20th- Mother Catherine Smith



Gladiolus

congraturations



Newlyweds Mr. and Mrs. Terry Williams



Pastor Jones' 19th Anniversary



Pastor Jones and Sis. Ann Crosby

Pastor Jones with siblings and nephew.

51st Holy Week Services







Elder Fred McNeill's Installation Service



Bishop John McDowell and Pastor Fred McNeill







Bible Wordsearch 🖔



Wordsearch 276 Matt. 19:15-30

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The Rich Man & The Kingdom

BROTHERS CAMEL CHILDREN ENTER **ETERNAL** GIVE HANDS FATHER FOLLOW HARD GLORIOUS HONOR HEAVEN INHERIT JUDGING ISRAFI **JESUS** MOTHER KFPT NEEDLE PERFECT I FFT POSSIBLE LIFF RECEIVE PFTFR RENEWAL RICH SISTERS SAKE TEACHER SAVED THRONE SFII TIMES TREASURE WEALTH TRUTH

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT: http://biblewordgames.com

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