

THE TOWER

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OCTOBER 2010



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

If we were asked the question “Do you want to do the will of God?”, most of us would quickly answer “yes”. We might go on to say that we really want to do God’s will, but sometimes we don’t know what His will is for a particular situation. In this life we are faced with making many decisions. Some of these are moral decisions and normally we know what God wants us to do. Other decisions which have no moral right or wrong are sometimes difficult for us to know what God wants us to do. God does make promises to guide us into doing His will. Perhaps the most familiar promise comes from Proverbs 3:6, “In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.” To acknowledge God is to be aware of His presence and to be in fellowship with Him. We have such a human tendency to live daily depending on our own resources instead of depending on Him. He desires for us to daily “practice the presence of God”, relating all of life’s activities to Him. We maintain fellowship with Him by spending quality time with Him, reading His guidebook on living, and confessing our sins to Him as soon as we are aware of them.

Since there are areas of life where we are uncertain what His will is, it is very important for us to do what we know to be the will of God. Scripture gives us several specific examples of what God’s desire and will is for each of us.

One area of God’s will that we can practice every day is found in I Thessalonians 5:18, “give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” That cannot be more clear, can it? Anyone can choose to give thanks in pleasant circumstances, though even in these we are often forgetful to give Him thanks. But there are other times when we are experiencing physical or emotional pain, financial loss, or other trouble. Then it is more difficult to give thanks. We

can choose to give thanks that God is going to bring good even out of these difficult times. That’s the promise God makes to us in Romans 8:28,29. God causes all things to work together for the good of making us like Jesus in our attitudes, responses, words, and behavior. If we are not consistent in giving thanks which we know is God’s desire, how can we expect Him to show us His will in other areas of life?

Paul tells us in Romans 12:1,2 that the will of God for us is to offer our bodies to Him as a living sacrifice and to stop conforming our attitudes and behavior to the standards of the society we live in. In this passage his reference to our bodies does not just refer to our physical bodies. He wants us to offer our time and energy and plans and finances to Him. We easily call Him “Lord”, but do we recognize His Lordship by giving Him all we have and ever will be? This covers every area of life.

A more specific area of life which God has made His will known is our sexual conduct. I Thessalonians 4:3,4 “It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality, that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable”. To be sanctified is to be set apart for God’s holy use. When we trust Jesus alone for eternal life we are saved from the penalty of our sin because Jesus paid the price for us. He then begins His work in us to make us like Jesus. One aspect of the sanctifying process is obeying and following His standards for sexual conduct. He has given us His Spirit to live within us to aid us in controlling the appetites of our body. All of this is God’s desire and will for our lives.

In addition to these specific areas which He tells us is His will, every directive and command of the Bible is also His will for us.

Though there are areas of life where we are not certain what God’s will is, He wants us to focus on what we do know to be the will of God for us.

DATES TO REMEMBER

REMEMBER, if you are scheduled as a greeter or in the nursery on any given Sunday and find that you cannot serve,, please call Opal Oberholtzer 883.1401 re greeters and Lisa Kirkman 223.5187 re nursery

OCTOBER GREETERS

- 3 Lynda Kwiatkowski and
Opal Oberholtzer
- 10 Wendell and Barb Alleman
- 17 Dave and Linda Martuzzo
- 24 Al and Charlene Davis
- 31 Brian and Toni Marquardt

OCTOBER NURSERY

- 3 Lisa Kirkman and Linda Mudge
- 10 Lisa Kirkman and Linda Mudge
- 17 Kris Paul and Judy Williams
- 24 Dawn Lockwood and Kelli Ewbank
- 31 Lynn Parsons and Silas Kleinau



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Emily Pearson | 17 | Jesse Rose |
| 3 | Mike Marincic | 18 | Norma Weber |
| 4 | Kris Paul | 21 | Larry McKee |
| 5 | Jeanette Michael | 22 | Aaron Whittington |
| 8 | Eric Lockwood | 24 | Matt Marincic |
| 13 | Opal Oberholtzer
Jim Sheldrew | 26 | Jim Michael |
| 16 | Tom Bailey | 27 | Josie Needs |
| | | 29 | Al Davis |
| | | 30 | Joshua Rinehart |

ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Jeff and Sonnie Whittington
- 29 Ken and Mary Hansen

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

MINISTRIES REPORTS

WORSHIP—Jim Michael

The Praise Team has named the coordinator for the months of October and November as Georgia Radtke. Children's Church was led by Janice Hoffman on September 12 and 19. Beginning September 26, Karen Roy will be leading Children's Church through October, beginning a unit on Creation.

The position of Coordinator for Children's Church is still open as is the Coordinator for Ushers. Also, a volunteer is still needed to prepare the elements for communion services. Karen Webster had taken it upon herself to do this, as well as clean up afterwards. Her generous serving in this way is very much appreciated and well wishes are extended to her and Jon Naea now settled in St. Louis. Her address is on bulletin boards in both foyers.

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Bible Quiz



According to the New Testament, John the Baptist introduced two of his followers to Jesus. The men were brothers named Andrew and Simon.

Almost immediately, Jesus accepted the two men as friends and followers. He gave one of them a new name. Jesus said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated _____).

- A. Nicodemus
- B. Matthew
- C. Philip
- D. Peter

Answer: D (See John 1:42)

PADS Shelter Opens Needs Volunteers

PADS shelter opens Friday, October 2. There are a few openings for volunteers.

Sunday, October 3, 7—11 p.m.

Tuesday, October 5 (3 a.m.—Wednesday
Wednesday, October 6—11 p.m.—3 a.m.

Thursday, October 7 —3 a.m.—Friday

Saturday, October 9—3 a.m.—Sunday

Volunteers are also needed for all of the 7-9 a.m. shifts each morning. Contact Kevin Ewbank if you can help with any of the above listed times.

DISCIPLESHIP — Brad Rinehart

Kids' Klub began on Wednesday, September 22 at 3:30. Kids' Klub includes all children in grades K to eight. The church participated in the city's Fall Festival by passing out balloons to the children and magnetic writing pads to the adults. The you Colorado team presented their "Redeemer" mime.

"Wake Up to the Shepherd" program centered around inviting people to church. The event was held at 8:30 on October 3 with serving coffee, juice, donuts, and bagels.

Two weekly Care Groups are currently meeting::
Thursday evening in the home of Ken and Mary

Hansen, and Monday evening in the home of Al and Charlene Davis. Both groups begin at 7 p.m..

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Mary Black announced "Wake Up With the Shepherds" on October 3. Classes were asked to invite to Sunday School those who either have not been coming or do not have a church to attend. The event began at 8:30 a.m. with refreshments and fellowship.

The Sunday School handed out balloons and other items from noon until 4 p.m. during the city's Harvest Fest on October 2. The Colorado team presented their mime entitled, "Resurrection."

YOUTH EVENTS

Upcoming Upper Room Events for October:

Sunday, October 10: Game Night –
High School 6 pm – Midnight
Jr. High 6 pm – 10 pm

Saturday, October 16:

Prayer of Jabez dance Worship Team
will be performing at the L-P Auditorium.

6:30 PM – Free Admission

October 23: YOUTH BLITZ

Pillars of Faith

Because Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses, or thoughts, to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517, many Christians remember that day and the major changes, or Reformation, that resulted. Luther's theses contained three main pillars, which have stood for almost 500 years:

1. *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture Alone) - The Bible is the sole authority in matters of faith, life and conduct. "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16, NRSV).

2. *Sola Fide* (Faith Alone) - Christians are justified, or declared righteous, only through believing in Jesus Christ as Savior. Although morality and good works are important, they alone cannot lead to salvation. "A person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ" (Galatians 2:16, NRSV).

3. *Sola Gratia* (Grace Alone) - Grace is God's unmerited, or undeserved, favor. Salvation is a free gift from our gracious God. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV).



YES, IT CAN !

BULLETIN BLOOPERS

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

If you choose to heave during the Postlude, please do so quietly.

Please welcome Pastor John, a caring individual who loves hurting people.

Church sign: Jesus Saves!
Safeway sign across the street: Safeway saves you more!



FROM THE LIBRARY SHELVES.....

Now What Do I DO? By Dr. John Townsend

I wandered into the library the other day and looking over the titles of new books couldn't help but pull this one off of the shelf. The picture of a cracked egg on the cover put me right into the picture and I knew I had to take the book home and read it. Though Dr. Townsend doesn't apply Murphy's Law here, yet he deals with just how we approach so many "cracked eggs" in our daily lives and how we handle them. Obsessive thoughts about what could go wrong can keep you from thinking rather than acting, he comments. When God wants a good thing to happen to us, we do our own part: We make our plan, we face hard things, and we take our steps. Then, He does His work and though we don't know every molecular step involved, the harvest comes. It's a small book but has a lot to think about. Reading or skimming the pages in this book, the reader can't help but wonder if the author wrote this book with them in mind!

The Bible gives some clear commandments concerning excellence . In I Cor. 14:12 we are exhorted to "strive to excel in building up the church." In 2 Cor 8:7 we are to excel in giving to the Lord's work. In Phil 1:10 we are to approve what is excellent rather than what is merely good.