

# *Los Altos Church of Christ*

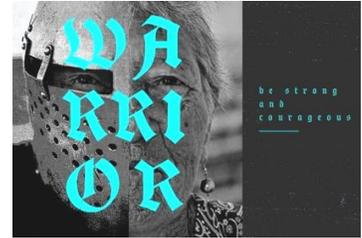
*"...being of the same mind, maintaining the same love,  
united in spirit, intent on one purpose." Philippians 2:2*

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## **This Sunday...Warrior...Perseverance**

Has there ever been a time in your lifetime where you've needed perseverance more than you do today? We have been through a long season of isolation and separation. Though vaccines look close there are still more days ahead where we will need to persevere. This week Ashley Woolridge teaches from Joshua 6, a chapter he calls a playbook on perseverance for our lives.



**Ray Collins** passed away last weekend. Ray was one of the original 40 or so souls who came together on July 1, 1979 to form Los Altos. He and Sue would open their home to the church on the Sunday evenings we couldn't meet at the lodge. Sue said he had been suffering with Alzheimer's for the past few years. Now he is whole again with his Lord.

**Thanksgiving update**...A non-profit group called Partners of Parks will be providing take out Thanksgiving meals for the seniors next Wednesday. The people at the Senior Center who we normally work with thought the best way we could help would be to make a contribution to Partners of Parks. If you would like to give to that effort then send a check made out to Los Altos to the Lashower's address.

**PRAYERS** *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7*

- John Harper went into the hospital on Saturday with a severe case of pneumonia and signs of sepsis. He has tested negative for Covid. Please pray for him and Jennifer.
- Pray for Terry (Rosique) Benson whose husband passed away.
- Mitch Wilburn, pastor of the Park Church of Christ, has been hospitalized over a month with Covid. His wife, Shannon, had it too but she is over it. Mitch's pre-existing conditions have made him a high risk.
- Praise that vaccines for the Covid virus are on the horizon.

**Continue to pray** that the Lord watch over our members during this time...Roger Townsend...Tim's heart condition...Berry...Don...Jeff's mother...Blake... Jene's hand...Christine's mother...Bill Spivey ... Allen Sawyers...The Britton Family ... Barbara... Sadie Smith... Gwen and her son Caleb... Emmy Creswick... Jene's friend, Jim Thorpe... Lu...City of Children... Healing Hands International... Japhet's work in Zimbabwe...and New Hope Uganda.

A Different Time  
By Tom Norvell

An Old Testament wisdom book says: “*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.*” The writer expands that thought by listing life’s cycles, and that change is inevitable.

We know change is inevitable, don’t we? We’ve all experienced the expected changes in life. When we become an adult, we share specific changes. Choosing to marry or not marry brings definite changes. Having a child changes just about everything. Then, navigating the stages our children go through brings change that never seems to end.

Change is a part of living. The changes we have experienced in the last nine months have surpassed anything we could have imagined or can comprehend. Life is very different than what we knew a relatively short time ago.

The way we shop is different.

The way we eat is different.

The way we travel is different.

Healthcare is different.

The way we communicate is different.

How we celebrate holidays is different.

The way we worship is different.

The way we do our jobs is different.

The way we engage in the education process is different.

The way we vote is different.

The way we exercise and enjoy sporting events is different. (The Master’s in November.)

The way we experience death and grief is different.

We are learning to change how we handle change. Let me offer this counsel on piloting these forced changes.

***Accept the fact that life is different.*** Regardless of how we feel about it, life is different. The world is different. Almost everything is different.

***If possible, try to stay focused on the present.*** Try not to dwell too long on the way it was or what may or may not be in the future. Try to accept the fact that these changes have occurred. Acceptance is key.

***As often as you can, pause, close your eyes, take a deep breath, and think about the things that have not changed.*** God is still God. People need respect, kindness, gentleness, mercy, and love. You always have the opportunity and ability to show them respect, kindness, gentleness, understanding, and love. We have changed by the changes, but you are still you. Keep being you.

Today will bring more changes, and you can help others adjust. You can offer a listening ear or a kind word. You can give a gentle touch and be a comforting presence.

There is a time for everything, and now is the time for you to change a life. But one thing doesn’t change. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever! (Heb 13:8)