

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
John Fix

Scripture Reading:
David Bansemer
John 18:33-38

Prayer:
Thom Steger

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
What is Truth?

Closing Prayer:
Jim Stubblefield

Wednesday, February 26

Song Leader:
David Bansemer

Invitation:
Jim Stubblefield

Prayer:
Alex Bansemer

Lord's Supper Preparation
February: Long
March: Fix

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Jim Barton

Scripture Reading:
Max Lawrence
1 Timothy 3:14-16

Prayer:
Wayne Baker

Lord's Supper:
Andrew Durham
Bill Duryea
Chevis Webb
Bailey Steger

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
*The Pillar and Support of
the Truth*

Announcements:
Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:
Alex Bansemer

Usher for This Week:
Louis Long

creekview *BULLETIN*

How Sweet, How Heavenly

There is no better place to be on earth than in the assembly of God's people to worship our Father in heaven, encourage one another, and study from God's holy word. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!" (Ps. 133:1).

To Our Visitors:

We are encouraged by your presence with us and your interest in the things of God. We welcome you into our assemblies today and always. It is our goal to always do the will of our Father who is in heaven (Matt. 7:21).

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Rejoice in the Lord Always

In Philippians 4:4, the Scripture presents a challenge for Christians. The apostle Paul wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" How can we rejoice always when this world is filled with so much trouble? If "the whole world lies in the power of the evil one" (1John 5:19), then how can we be happy about it?

Look again at Philippians 4:4 and notice that it says to rejoice "in the Lord." We are not to be happy about all the trouble in the world, but we are to be happy to be in the Lord. When we are in Jesus, our happiness does not depend on the conditions of the world around us. In fact, our joy in Jesus defies the trouble of the world "because greater is He who is in [us] than he who is in the world" (1John 4:4).

We have joy in Jesus because He gives us the hope of escaping this world. As the Scripture says in 1John 5:5, "Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" As this world becomes darker, our hope in Jesus only shines brighter. When this world brings us sorrow and pain, our minds must turn away from it and look to Jesus in heaven. "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth" (Col. 3:2). We will get out of this place, and we will overcome its trouble through faith in Christ (1John 5:4).

The apostle Paul gives us a great example of rejoicing in the Lord despite trouble in the world. When he wrote Philippians 4:4, he was imprisoned in Rome (Phil. 1:7, 12-14), yet his circumstances did not steal his joy in Jesus. This is because he looked beyond his circumstances and saw the reward of serving the Lord. He explained this mindset on another occasion in 2Corinthians 4:16-18:

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

By no means did Paul enjoy being persecuted, but he rejoiced because he knew the proof of his faith would be richly rewarded.

Like Paul, all Christians should rejoice in the Lord despite the hardships and sorrows of life. The apostle Peter wrote to Christians who were being persecuted, but his words are also valid for those who suffer the ordinary trials of this world. Consider his message in 1Peter 1:6-9:

⁶In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even

though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ⁸and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Regardless of whether you have been grieved because of sickness, loss of loved ones, your own sins, the sins of others, or any other reason, you can always find a reason to rejoice when you are in the Lord.

Of course, the key to such unshakeable joy is being in Jesus. It is found when one is "baptized into Christ" (Gal. 3:27). Like the Ethiopian who "went on his way rejoicing" when he arose from the water of baptism (Acts 8:39), you can do the same. That is because you know that as long as "you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard" (Col. 1:23), you will overcome this world in Jesus. So then, "rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- Next Sunday in the 11AM hour, we will have our monthly song service.
- Please remember the Steger family's pending adoption. The expected due date is March 6.
- Keep the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Noah White. Also remember Jody Baize, Alta Lanius, Wayne Wright, Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry, and the Clemens family.

reading plan

Sunday - Romans 15-16
Monday - Genesis 28-31
Tuesday - Judges 12-16
Wednesday - Psalms 21-23
Thursday - Job 15-16
Friday - Isaiah 40-44
Saturday - Matthew 20-22

meetings

Eastside (Bowling Green) –
March 15-18