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| 12-22-19  **“H0W BIG IS YOUR HEART?”****The Grinch stole Christmas****“The heart of man is \_EVIL\_ (Genesis 8:21)****Jonah had a Grinch heart** **\_PREJUDICE\_ shrinks the size of our hearts****“God looks on (\_SEARCHES\_) the heart”** **(1 Samuel 17:6; Jeremiah 17:10)****“Create in me a \_CLEAN\_ heart” (Psalm 51:10)****The heart of God GIVES\_ (John 3:16)****The angels and the shepherds told the story (Luke 2)****The Magi brought gifts:** **Gold – Jesus is KING\_ of KINGS\_** **Frankincense, symbolizing \_PRAYER\_** **Myrrh, an ointment for \_BURIAL\_****The Grinch couldn’t stop Christmas****How big is your heart?** **Is it the size of God’s?** **1 Chronicles 28:9; Proverbs 17:22; Matthew 5:8**   12-15-19  **“JOY TO THE WORLD”** **Psalm 98:1-4****A hymn of praise for God’s \_SALVATION\_\_****Luke 1:26-46, Mary’s response was a hymn of \_JOY\_**·        **She celebrated her \_SALVATION\_\_ (v.47)**·        **She surrendered to God’s \_WORD\_ and \_WAY\_** ·        **She expressed her praise through \_SCRIPTURE\_** ·        **She yielded to the Holy Spirit****APPLICATION:****1.     \_YEILD\_\_****a.     Through spiritual birth** **“The Holy Spirit will come upon you” (Luke 1:35)****John 3:3, “You must be born again”****b.     By the filling of the Spirit** **“The power of the most high will overshadow you”****Ephesians 5:18, Be filled with the Holy Spirit”****2.     \_ABIDE\_\_ in the Word of God****“Be it done to me according to Thy Word”****“She \_BELIEVED\_\_” (Luke 1:45)****Romans 10:17, “Faith comes by hearing the Word of God”****Psalm 119:11, “Thy word have I treasured in my heart** **that I may not sin against Thee”****3.     \_SURRENDER\_\_****“Behold the bondservant of the Lord”** **Romans 12:1, “Present your bodies a living sacrifice”****4.     \_CELEBRATE\_\_****“My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior”****Ephesians 2:8, “By grace you have been saved through faith”****“Joy to the world” [Isaac Watts, 1719]** 12-8-19**GOD HAS A PLAN****Luke 1:1-25****God is REAL and PERSONAL****His plan from the beginning, even before man sinned,****has always been RECONSILING fellowship****We see it unfolding with a COVERING****for the sin of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21)****We see and hear it through the PROPHETIC****words of the Old Testament****We realize the fullness of the plan with the angels’****proclamation, “We bring you good news of great joy****for all people…there is born a Savior,****who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11)****His plan included an interesting side-note’****anointing a FORERUNNER (Luke 1:5-25)****An angel, a MESSENGER from God,****shocked Zachariah with:**1. **An ANSWER to prayer**
2. **A REVELATION of God’s plan**

**APPLICATION**1. **Are we RIGHTEOUS before God?**
2. **Are we READY for the coming of the Lord?**
3. **Why are we SILENT? (“FAITH FREEZE?”)**

    12-1-19 WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?? 1. BIBLE: "INSPIRED by GOD" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)2.  GOD: "In the beginning GOD" (Genesis 1:1)3. FORGIVENESS: "In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Col 1:14)4. JESUS: "Call his name Immanuel God is with us); call him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21)He came "that we might have life abundantly..... eternal" John 10:105. GOD'S WILL:\* Be redeemed (2 Peter 3:9)\* Be sanctified (1 Thess 4:3; Ephesians 4:12)\* Be humble (1 Peter 5:5-6; James 4:6)\* Pray (1 Thes 5:18)\* Think clearly (Phil 4:8)\* Be a Faithful Steward (Mal 3:10; 2 Chor 9:7; Matthew 25:21)\* Follow Jesus' Standard of Living (Matthew 5-7)\* Be a Witness (Acts 1:8)\* Make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20)\* Keep His commandments (John 14:15)\* Love one another (John 14:27: 13:34-35)6. JESUS" RETURN: (Acts 1:9; Matthew 26:64: Revelations 1:8; 19:11-16)  11-24-19“GIVE THANKS” ***1 Thessalonians 5:18*****Gratitude is a Command** ***“God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”*****Gratitude is a Gift** ***“It is good to give thanks to the Lord”*****Ingratitude is a Sin; it started in the garden****Numbers 21****The Israelites were released from captivity, yet they****ungratefully Grumbled****They forgot God’s Grace****God’s response?** **Ingratitude invites Serpents into our lives****The people Confess their ingratitude****Then God gave them the cure for ingratitude (v.9)****Jesus said, *“As Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness,*** ***even so the Son of Man must be lifted up; that whoever*** ***believes may in Him have eternal life” (John 3:14-15)*** ***“Give thanks IN EVERYTHING” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)******“Always giving thanks for ALL things” (Ephesians 5:20)******“Enter His gates with thanksgiving” (Psalm 100)*****1.      Because He is God (vs.1-3)** **2.      Because He is Good (vs.4-5)****Have you given Jesus your thanks?****1.      For eternal life****2.      For gifts yet to be revealed (*Philippians 4:6*)**    11-17-19    **FRIENDS** **Mark 2:1-12****“A friend \_LOVES\_ at all times” (Proverbs 17:17)****Greatest love? (John 15:13-17)****A crowd of \_SEEKERS\_\_, \_\_SCOFFERS\_\_ and \_SPECTATORS\_\_\_** **Jesus “speaking the \_\_Word\_\_ to them” (v.2).****Four unnamed men showed up with a Friend\_ in need,**  **and \_Faith\_ in Jesus****Jesus surprised the scoffers when He said to the paralytic,**  **“Your sins are forgiven” (v.5). The scoffers called Him**  **a \_Blasphemer\_\_, declaring,**  **“Who can forgive sins but God alone?” (v.7).****The moment raises two important questions:****1.     Easier to rely on your own reasoning, or trust God?****2.     More important, healing the body or the \_Soul\_?****“In order that you may know that the Son of God has**  **authority on earth to forgive sins (He said to the paralytic),** **rise, take up your pallet and go home” (vs.10-11).****Both cases reveal \_\_Healing\_\_ (spiritual and physical).**  **In either case, we should:****1.     “Arise” – show evidence of faith and fact** **2.     “Take up pallet” – leave previous condition behind****3.     “Walk” – move forward****Friends? “What a friend we have in Jesus”**   **11-10-19  Chris Moore  - Grateful - Thankful** **11-3-19 Tony Cleaver** The Prodigal Son Luke 15.11-32 1. THE YOUNGER SON DECIDES TO LEAVE HOME (15.11-12)2. THE YOUNGER SON GOES TO THE FAR COUNTRY (15.13-19)3. THE YOUNGER SON CONFESSES TO HIS FATHER (15.20-21)4. THE FATEHR WELCOMES THE YOUNGER SON HOME (15.22-24)5. THE OLDER SON LEARNS OF THE RETURN (15.25-27)6. THE OLDER SON BECOMES ANGRY (15.28-30)7. THE FATHER REASONS WITH THE OLDER SON (15.31-32)Question –Which son was lost? The parable of the prodigal son is one of the greatest love stories ever told - a story filled with mercy and grace.Discover how God, our loving Father, is waiting for us to repent and come to him!   10-27-19 **WHAT SHOULD I DO?****Who to ask? Siri, Google, FB, friends, experts…? GOD?** **Be careful about trusting the \_WORLD\_** **(Luke 16:8; Romans 1:18,24)****The world \_Deceives\_(Joshua 9)**  **The Gibeonites “acted \_craftily\_” (v.4), so he** **“made a \_covenant\_ with them” (v.15)** **OOPS, did he not hear God? (Exodus 23:32)** **Problem: “The men of Israel did not “ask for the**  **\_counsel\_ (guidance) of the Lord” (Joshua 9:14)****How can we get guidance from God?** **“Faith comes by hearing the \_word\_ of God”** **(Romans 10:17)****1.      A \_spoken\_ Word (*rama*: “breath”)****2.      A \_written\_ Word (*logos*: “revealed”)****3.      Listening (Prayer)****Joshua…** **Believed what he saw (1 Samuel 16:7)** **Ignored his first \_impression\_ (v.7); thus,** **He had to \_compromise\_**  **He was drawn into a \_conflict\_****Making a costly commitment to the world…****1.      Gives the enemy a point of \_attack\_ (10:3-4)****2.      Redirects your \_attention\_\_ (10:6)****3.      Diminishes valuable \_resources\_\_** **More importantly, he did not**  **\_Obey\_\_ God’s word (Exodus 23:32)**  10-20-19  **“LIVE BY FAITH”** **Habakkuk 2:4**·        **RIGHTEOUSNESS** **Romans 1:17, “The \_\_justified\_\_ will live by faith”****JUSTIFIED: Just as if I’d never sinned****Righteousness is God’s gift in Jesus Christ****How do we receive righteousness? By \_Faith\_\_****“God is the one who justifies” (Romans 8:33)****“The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ** **Is for all who believe” (Romans 3:22)****“Pursue righteousness” (1 Timothy 6:11)****Paul, “I’m not ashamed of the gospel, because it’s the**  **\_\_power\_\_ of God for the salvation of everyone**  **who believes. It is a righteousness that is by faith** **“The righteous will never be shaken” (Proverbs 10:30)**·        **FAITH** **Hebrews 10:38, “The righteous will live by \_\_Faith\_\_”****Faith is believing God and \_Acting\_\_ upon that belief.** **Hebrews 11 – heroes of faith**·        **LIFE** **Galatians 3:11, “The righteous will \_Live\_\_ by faith”****Paul’s ministry in Galatia****We are “saved by \_Grace\_\_ through faith” (Ephesians 2:8)****Having been made righteous by God, we should**  **“live by faith”** **Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17; Hebrews 10:38; Galatians 3:11**     10-13-19**WHY?”****Habakkuk**  **1.     Why doesn’t God deal with wickedness?** **2.     When He does, why is it in a way I don’t like?**  **God judged His people by \_appointing\_\_ the Babylonians**  **God’s people should “live by \_faith\_\_” (2:4)**  **1.     Stop and \_think\_** **James 1:19, “Be quick to listen, slow to speak”** **2.     Restate You Basic \_faith\_ Principles** **Do you believe that God is:**  **“from everlasting…Holy…a Rock” (1:12)?** **3.     Apply the Principles to the Problem** **Let God’s Word interpret the problem**   **Let Him reveal the \_solution\_\_**  **Romans 8:28, “God causes all things to work together**  **for good to those who love Him, for those who**  **are called according to His purpose”**   **4.     Commit the Problem to God in Faith** **Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart.**  **Do not lean to your own understanding. In all your ways,**  **acknowledge Him and He will direct your path”**   **LEARN FROM HABAKKUK** **1.     \_Expect\_ God to answer** **2.     Be \_persistent\_\_ in the expectation**    10-6-19  **“THE JOY OF CONTENTMENT” 10/6/19**  **Philippians 4:10-19**  **Contentment is not MEDIOCRACY; it is the state of being at PEACE**   **to enjoy and value LIFE for what it is, not what we have**  **Contentment is a LEARNED behavior (v..11)** **Contentment is the capacity to COPE, regardless of**  **the CIRCUMSTANCES, by God’s POWER, not my own** **“I can do everything God asks me to do with the help**   **of Christ who gives me strength and power” (TLB)**  **Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches;**   **apart from Me, you can do nothing” (Jo.15:5)** **“His strength is PERFECTED in our weakness” (2Cor.12:10)**  **Contentment frees us from disappointment of unmet expectations**  **It is the opposite of “discontent” (study: 80% discontent)**  **Contentment is possible when we really believe that God**  **can and will SUPPLY (meet, satisfy, complete, perfect) our needs,**  **Not our GREEDS**  **There is no limit to God’s SUPPLY;**  **However, “no need” – “no supply”** **“Every good thing bestowed and perfect gift is from above”**  **(Js. 1:17)** **God’s gifts come from His “riches in glory in Christ Jesus”,**   **who “though He was rich, yet for your sake He became**   **poor, that you, through His poverty, might become**  **RICH” (Cor.8:9)**  **“When God’s work is done God’s way, for God’s glory,**   **it will not lack God’s supply” (Hudson Taylor)**  **HOW? “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,**  **and all these other things will be added to you” (Mt.6:33)**  **THE JOY OF CONTENTMENT**   9-29-19 The Lord's Supper **9-22-19 “RESOLVE TO LIVE A JOYOUS LIFE”****Philippians 4:1-9****Resolve Daily to:****1.     Live joyously (vs.1,4)****“My joy…beloved…stand firm”****Live in \_VICTORY\_\_\_and****claim the \_JOY\_\_ of God’s grace****2.     Keep a proper perspective (vs.2-3)****Basic truth: It’s not about me!****Live in \_HARMONY\_\_****agreeable****3.     Lighten up (vs. 4,5)****“Rejoice…let your forbearing spirit” \_SHOW\_\_****4.     Make prayer your first response (v.6)****Don’t \_WORRY\_, instead \_PRAY\_****“Anxious” - \_Cares, Worry\_\_ (1 Peter 5:7)****“Supplication” - ASK\_ God for something****“Thanksgiving” - \_APPRECIATION\_****5.     Let God’s peace protect you (v.7)****“Peace” \_He is our Peace\_ (Ephesians 2:14) Calming, encouraging****“Guard” - \_Positive Things\_ Set a protection ground****6.     Choose carefully what you dwell on (v.8)****“As you \_THINK\_, so are you” (Proverbs 23:7)****“Take thoughts \_CAPTIVE\_” (2 Corinthians 10:15)****Have the mind of Christ Philippians 2:5****7.     Apply what you learn (v.9)****“Practice” - “ DOER’S\_ the Word” (James 1:22)****Make prayer your 1st response****Don’t practive religion, practice relationship****When negative find something TRUE****A lemon was squeezed and the class was asked what will come out?** **Lemon juice. Instead Grapefruit Juice because the Lemon was infused.** **When squeezed what will come out of you??** **9-15-19 “THE JOY OF THE JOURNEY”** **Philippians 3:11-21****\_Faith\_ is a journey; pursue \_Christlikeness\_**·        **PRESSS ON (vs.12, 14)****We are not yet not ready (mature)\_****“press on” - \_pursue follow after – Olympic runner****“lay hold” \_of by Christ (Paul Damascus road)**·        **PAUSE MOMENTARILY****Reject the \_past (v.13)forgetting behind** **Experience God in the \_present\_****Reach for the \_promise\_, the \_goal\_**·        **PROFESS A RIGHT PERSPECTIVE (v.15)****Right “attitude” – “\_mind\_\_ of Christ” (2:5)****Wrong attitude? – God will give \_light, wisdom**·        **PICK YOUR FELLOW TRAVELERS****Examples to follow (v.17) observe, take notes** **“standard” (v.16)…“pattern” (v.17) - \_christ in you\_\_****Walk- conduct walk worthy****Enemies to fear (vs.18-19) enemies of the cross**·        **PROCLAIM YOUR CITIZENSHIP (vs.20-21)****Destination? \_Heaven\_ - Ephesians 2:9****While we wait for a \_savior\_ (v.20)****Who will transform (change) us to the Glory.** **9-8-19**  **“BEWARE OF JOY-STEALERS”** **Philippians 3:1-10****God wants us to have consistent, abiding joy:****“Rejoice in the \_LORD\_” (v.1)****Some want to rob us of our joy: (v.2)**·        **\_DOGS\_**·        **EVIL\_ \_WORKERS\_**·        **FALSE\_ \_CIRCUMCISION\_****They have lost sight of \_JESUS\_****They look \_GODLY\_\_ and \_SPIRITUAL\_\_,** **but have no \_POWER\_ in their lives****The “true circumcision” (v.3)**·        **\_WORSHIP\_ in the Spirit of God**·        **\_GLORY\_ in Christ Jesus** ·        **Reject “confidence in the \_FLESH\_\_” (vs. 3-8)**  **They put confidence in Jesus (v.10)**·        **\_PERSONALLY\_ “To know Him”**·        **\_POWERFULLY\_ “Power of His resurrection”**·        **\_PAINFULLY\_ “Fellowship of His suffering”**·        **\_PRACTICALLY\_ “Being conformed to His death”****“Conformed” - outward expression** **of an inner experience of faith;**  **exemplified in \_BAPTISM\_\_ (Romans 6:4)****Paul came to a moment in which truth of who Jesus is,**  **turned to a heart-felt, life-changing moment**  **God calls that \_JOY**  **9-1-19**  **“THE JOY OF A JESUS ATTITUDE”**  **Philippians 2:5-11****ATTITUDE: \_MIND\_\_\_****“Be of the same \_mind\_\_” (v.2); Romans 15:5;** **2 Corinthians 13:11; Colossians 3:2** **MIND OF CHRIST:**  **Identified (vs.2-4)**  **LOVE, UNITY, PURPOSE SELFLESS, thinking of others****Illustrated (vs.6-8)** **6) He did not \_\_exploit\_\_, flaunt His Godliness; rather,** **7) He \_\_surrendered\_\_ as a “bond-servant”** **8) He \_submitted\_\_ to “death on a cross”****(Matthew 20:28)** **A GODLY ATTITUDE REQUIRES \_WORK\_\_**·        **It begins with God –vs. 6, 13**·        **It requires \_self\_ -\_\_discipline\_\_ - v.12****The mind of the world declares:** **Your rights, ways, prejudice****The mind of Jesus reveals** **Submission, humility, love, \_> set self aside****“At the name of Jesus: BOW\_surrender...submission\_”****CONFESS: say the same thing GOD says** **Romans 10:9, “Confess with your mouth”** **Matthew 10:32, “Confess Me before men”****“Always ready (to declare)… hope” (1Pt. 3:15)**  8-25-19  **“THE JOY OF UNITY”**  **Philippians 1:27-2:1-4**  ·        **UNITY BEGINS WITH A CONSISTENT \_\_CONDUCT\_\_** **“Conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel”**  **CONDUCT: \_ACTION\_\_, \_\_WALK\_. \_\_BEHAVIOR\_\_**  **Ephesians 4:1, “worthy of your calling”**  ·        **UNITY REVEALS A COMMON \_\_CAUSE\_\_\_**  **What we \_BELIEVE\_\_, determines how we \_\_BEHAVE\_\_**  ·        **UNITY IS EVIDENT IN \_TOGETHERNESS\_\_\_\_**  **STRIVING: \_Pulling as one\_\_ TOGETHER: \_\_UNIFIED\_\_\_** **Jesus prayed that we be \_\_ONE\_\_ (John 17:20-22)**  **There is \_POWER\_\_ in unity**  ·        **THERE IS JOY IN UNITY**  **2:2, “Make my joy complete…”**   ·        **WHAT DISRUPTS UNITY?** **1.     Threat from without**   **“Don’t be alarmed by your opponents”** **Ephesians 6:12, “Our struggle is not against flesh and blood”**   **2.     Threat from within: (2:3-4)** **a.     \_Self Centered not focused\_\_**  **b.     \_Pride\_\_\_** **c.      \_Vision\_\_\_**  **Proverbs 29:18**   8-18-19  **“JOY IN SPITE OF CIRCUMSTANCES”** **Philippians 1:11-26****James 1:2-3 – Happiness is a \_\_FEELING\_\_\_,****Joy is an \_ATTITUDE\_\_****Judge Joseph Carter; Matthew 11:28****City of NY- One day disappeared never to be seen again. Only****thing was a note left to his wife. “Weary”****When you are facing adversity, joy is available**·        **LOOK AT YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES** **THROUGH GOD’S \_EYES\_\_****The Apostle Paul wrote Philippians from priso**  **His chains gave him:****1.     Contact with the \_\_\_LOST\_\_\_ (v.13)** **2.     Courage to the \_\_\_SAVED\_\_ (v.14)** **3.     Confidence (v.12)**·        **SURRENDER YOURSELF TO GOD’S \_PURPOSE\_\_\_** **Romans 8:28; Philippians 1:6 Ephesians 2 8-9**·        **\_ACT\_\_ RATHER THAN \_REACT\_****You have \_\_PURPOSE\_\_\_ in the trial****See it in the life of Jesus** ·        **BE \_SECURE\_\_\_ IN GOD** **2 Timothy 1:12; Philippians 1:21; 2 Timothy 4:6-7**·        **WALK IN THE \_\_GRACE\_\_ GOD PROVIDES** **2 Corinthians 9:8; 12:9; Galatians 2:20****2 Timothy 2:21 In spite of circumstances** 8-11-19  **“THE JOY OF SPIRITUAL VITALITY”**  **Philippians 1:9-11** **Would you say that your life is like:****A beautiful artificial silk plant, or** **A fresh-cut flower in a vase** **Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches.**  **He who ABIDES in Me and I in him,**   **he will bear much fruit, for apart from Me**  **you can do nothing” (John 15:5)**  **To maintain spiritual growth:** ·        **PRAY PURPOSEFULLY** ***“Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1)*** **Paul *- “And this I pray” (Philippians 1:9)***·        **CHOOSE TO GROW*****“That your love may abound…still more and more”*** ·        **LET YOUR LOVE ABOUND**  ***“Abound”* – filled with ENERGY** ***“To approve the things that are EXCELLENT*** ·        **BE FILLED WITH THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** ***“In Jesus…bear much fruit”*** **Col 3:2 Set Your Mind on things ABOVE.** ·        **BE SINCERE AND BLAMELESS** ***“be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ”*** **James 3:18** **Choice: Be satisfied with plastic and artificial,**   **or be living and growing**   8-4-19  **“THE JOY OF FRIENDSHIP” 8/4/19**  **Philippians 1:1-8**  **Philippians – a letter of grace, peace, joy – to friends** **“To have a friend you must BE a friend”** **Friendships are more than AQUAINTANCES** **“There is a friend that sticks closer than a BROTHER”**  **(Prv.18:24)** **FRIENDS ARE:** ·        **PEOPLE YOU REMEMBER** ***“I thank my God for in all my remembrances” (v.3)*** ·        **PEOPLE FOR WHOM YOU PRAY** ***“Always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer***  ***for you”* (v.4), because…1. You SHARE the gospel (v.4)** **2.     God is at work PERFECTING (maturing) you (v.6)** **His Work: for, in, through you:**   **salvation, sanctification, service** ·        **PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU SHARE** **LIFE’S GREATEST EXPERIENCES** ***“You are partakers of GRACE with me” (v.7)*** ***Partakers: (koinonia)* FELLOWSHIP**  ***“Timothy, bondservant” (v.1)*** ·        **PEOPLE YOU LOVE** ***“I long for you with the AFFECTION of Christ Jesus” (v.8)*** **“A friend LOVES at all times” (Prv.7:17)** **“Greater love has no one than this, that one LAY DOWN**   **his life for his friends” (Jo.15:13)** 7-28-19 **“CHRISTIAN CHARACTERISTICS”** **Colossians 3:1-11****A Christian has DIED to self,****and is “hidden with Christ in God…He is our LIFE****A Christian is “RAISED UP with Christ”,**  **illustrated by BAPTISM: “Resurrected to walk**  **in newness of life” (Romans 6:4)****A Christian should constantly PERSUE** **“things above”, by FOCUSING on “things above,** **not on things on earth”, by “seeking FIRST** **the kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33)****A Christian should DISGARD garments of evil,**  **while being “RENEWED”****When “Christ is REVEALED”,**  **so shall we be with Him in “GLORY” (1 John 3:2)**   7-21-19   **JESUS: LIGHT OF THE WORLD** **John 9** **Imagine…** **Jesus’ disciples saw the man as a Sinner****The neighbors saw him as a Beggar** **The Pharisees saw him as a way to Trap Jesus** **Jesus saw him as one who needed Help** **The Pharisees saw Jesus as a Sinner** **The disciples asked, “Why?”** ·       **Punishment for sin?** **1.    God? His punishment for sin is Death** **2.    Personal? – all personal suffering is related** **to original sin (Genesis 3)** **Personal suffering can be related to** **personal sin – worry, anger…** **3.    Parents? Sometimes it is…abuse, poor care…**·       **Opportunity?** **1.    For God to Work? (John 9:3)** **2.    For us to Testify? (John 9:25, 38)** **Jesus is the light of the world (John 9:5; John 8:12)****John 8:12, "He who follows Me will not walk in the darkness,** **but shall have the light of life."**   7-14-197-7-19  **“DECISIONS, DECISIONS”**  ·        **A SELF-EXAMINATION                       [Psalm 37]** **Do I…** **1.     \_TRUST\_\_\_the Lord?** **2.     Do good, dwell in the land, cultivate faithfulness”?** **a.     Look to the \_\_SAVIOR\_\_ (Hebrews 12:2)** **b.     Live in the \_\_\_SCRIPTURE\_\_\_ (Romans 10:17)** **c.      Lean on the \_\_SPIRIT\_\_\_ (John 16:13)** **3.     \_\_DELIGHT\_ in the Lord? (Matthew 6:33)** **4.     Believe that He will “give me the DESIRES\_**  **Seek first his kingdom (Mt 6:33)       of my heart”?** **Serve the Lord with Gladness (Ps 100:2)** ·        **A NATIONAL EXAMINATION        [1 Samuel 16;**  **2 Chronicles 7:14]** **Do we…** **1.     \_Worship\_\_** **a.     \_Consecration (humble, purify)\_\_** **b.     \_\_Sacrifice (give, serve)\_\_** **2.     Use \_Human\_\_ perspective or \_Divine\_\_** **3.     Watch God \_Work   David, harp, Goliath, Jonathon\_\_** **4.     Follow God’s steps to see His \_Promise\_\_** **a.     \_Humble ourselves\_\_\_** **b.     \_Pray\_\_** **c.      \_Seek His Face\_\_** **d.     \_Turn from our wicked ways\_\_** **His Promise: “I will forgive sins, hear from heaven, Heal Land”** **6-30-19 The Lord's Supper**  6-23-19WHAT IS YOUR SOURCE OF JOY **John 10:10**  **Happiness and joy are not the same** **Joy comes from \_\_within\_\_**  **Jesus said the thief comes to \_steal\_\_ your joy** **The “thief” (devil) “prowls about like a roaring lion**  **seeking someone to devour” (1Peter 5:8)** **Joy in Jesus is something he can never steal**  **PROTECT YOUR JOY** **1.     Avoid Prolonged \_Anger\_\_\_** **“Don’t give the devil an \_opportunity\_\_\_” (Ephesians 4:27)** **“\_Submit\_\_ to God” (James 4:7)**  **2.     Avoid \_\_Religious\_\_ \_Rules\_\_**  **Disguised as \_\_Bible\_\_ \_\_Truths\_\_**  **3.     Accept only the \_True\_\_\_ Source of Joy** **Jesus came that we might have life…abundantly**  **ABUNDANT:  \_Overflowing\_\_\_\_                  (Mark 12:33)** **ABUNDANT LIFE: “Life of \_Contentment\_\_” (J.M. Boyce)**  **Before we can know “abundant life”,**  **we must first know \_Life\_\_\_        (John 14:6)**  **“We are made \_\_alive\_\_\_\_ together with Christ”** **(Ephesians 2:5)** 6-16-19  **FATHERS: How Are You Doing?  6/16/19** **A Tragedy in Shunem [2Ki.4:8-32]** **A Question for each of us: How are you doing?  [2Ki.4:26]** ·        **As a PARENT? “Is it well with your children?”** **Focus – Prv.22:6, “train up a child…”** **1Thes.2:11, exhort, encourage, implore** **2Tim.1:5, Biblical influence** ·        **As a PARTNER?** **Eph.5:2, Love your wife, just as Christ also loved**  **the church and gave Himself up for her”**  **Eph.5:1, “Be imitators of God”**  **5:21, “Be subject to one another”** ·        **As a PERSON?**  **1.     Priorities** **Lk.10:27, “Love God totally”**  **Mt.6:33, “Seek first the kingdom of God”** **2.     Purity** **Mt.5:8, “Be blessed”** **1Tim.5:22, Keep yourself pure”** **2Pt.3:14, “Be blameless…at peace with God”** **Ps.24:4, “clean hands and pure heart”** **3.     Prayer** **“Pray without ceasing” (1The.5:17)** **“Pray and not lose heart” (Lk.18:11)** **“Devote yourself to prayer” (1Cor.7:5)****“Train up a child in the way he should go” (Prv. 22:6)**  6-9-19**ETERNAL LIFE****Matthew 19:16-17** **Jesus said, “If you \_love\_ Me, keep My commandments”****(John 14:15)****His commandments are not burdensome\_ (1 John 5:3)** **Which commandments?*** **Ten Commandments? (Exodus 20:1-26)**
* **\_Greatest\_ commandment? (Matthew 22:36-40)**

 **God calls failure to “keep His commandments” \_sin\_****(Romans 3:23),****which results in \_death\_ (Romans 6:23);****But because God \_loved\_ you and gave His Son****to die for our sins - whoever \_believes\_ in Him****should not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16);****which is the free  gifts\_ of God****in Christ Jesus our Lord” (romans 6:23)** **Life in Jesus involves choices:**1. **Obey His commands**
2. **Not disobey His commands**
3. **Discover His will when no clear command is evident**

 **A PATTERN FOR CHOOSING:****1 Corinthians 6:12; 8:9; 10:23; 10:31*** **Don’t be \_mastered\_ by anything you are free to do**
* **Don’t let freedom make you a**

**\_\_stumbling\_\_ \_block\_\_ to the weak*** **Choose things that \_edify\_\_\_**
* **Do all to the \_glory\_\_ of God**

 **6-2-19****“WATCH YOUR STEP”** **Ephesians 4:1-6** **WALK: \_\_\_\_Conduct, behavior\_\_\_\_** **CALLING:  We are called into God’s \_Kingdom\_  (1 Thessalonians 2:12)**  **We are called to God’s \_glory\_\_ (1 Peter 5:10)** **WALK IN…**·        **Humility - \_dependence, attitude, mind of Jesus\_\_ on God (Philippians 2:5-8)**  ·        **Gentleness - \_strength \_ under control** **Jesus was “gentle and humble in heart”**  ·        **Patience - \_slow\_ to anger (James 1:19)** ·        **Forbearance - \_enduring, not exasperated\_\_** ·        **Unity – “of the Spirit in the bond of peace”** **“Dwell together in unity” (Psalm 133:1)** **“Be \_perfected\_\_ in unity” (John 17:23)**  **“Strive to attain to the unity of the \_faith\_” (Ephesians 4:13)** **“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling” (v.4)** **ONENESS:** ·        **Body:  \_church, the Body of Christ\_** ·        **Spirit:  Holy Spirit\_\_  \_”walk by the spirit”\_\_** ·        **Hope : future promise\_\_** ·        **Lord: Jesus Christ** ·        **Faith: personal \_faith\_ in Jesus** ·        **Baptism:**  **1.     Water – outward expression of faith** **2.     Spirit – which brings us into unity**·        **God: \_sovereign\_,“over all, through all, in all” (v.6)** **5-26-19****“BE GOOD”**  **1 Timothy 6:17-19; Mathew 6:21**  **GOOD? \_\_\_beneficial, right, profitable, useful\_\_\_\_\_** **“Good news of great joy for all people” (Luke 2:10)**   **GOOD LOOKS LIKE…** ·        **\_\_GOD\_\_ (Psalm 106:1; Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20)** ·        **Jesus, the good \_\_shepherd\_\_ (John 10:14)** ·        **\_\_You\_\_, when I do what I know is right;**  **otherwise it’s \_\_sin\_\_ (James 4:17)** **“\_\_Overcome\_\_\_ evil (sin) with good” (Romans 12:21)**  **“\_\_Learn\_\_ to do good: (Isaiah 1:17)** **Seek \_\_justice\_\_                Reprove the \_\_ruthless\_\_\_** **Defend the \_\_\_orphan\_\_\_** **Plead for the \_widow\_\_\_”** **“Do good while you have the \_\_opportunity\_\_\_”** **(Galatians 6:10)**  **WHAT GOOD IS THERE IN “DOING GOOD”?** **1.     Godly people \_\_rejoice\_\_\_ (2 Chronicles 6:41)** **2.     Doing what God \_\_prepares\_\_\_ for us to do**  **(Ephesians 2:10)** **3.     \_Trust\_\_\_ God (Psalm 37:3)** **4.     A good \_\_conscience\_\_\_\_ before God” (Acts 21:1)**  **WILL “DOING GOOD” GET YOU TO HEAVEN?**  **1.     Ask the Rich Young Ruler (Matthew 19:16)** **2.     Ask the Apostle Paul (Ephesians 2:8-9)****GOOD?**  **5-19-19** **“A PROPHETIC WORD”**  **Haggai**  **THEN…NOW?** **“We are the temple of the \_living\_\_ God”; in which the** **\_spirit\_\_\_ dwells (1 Corinthians 6:16,19; 3:16);**   **“Built together as \_living\_\_ stones, on Jesus,**  **the \_\_cornerstone\_\_”1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:22)** **Spiritual \_laziness\_\_ can cause the spiritual temple**  **to “\_lie\_ \_desolate\_\_” (Haggai 1:4)** **How can we “rebuild” the temple in which God resides?** **Haggai 1:8, “Go up to the mountains, bring wood and**   **rebuild the temple that I may be \_pleased\_\_ with it**   **and \_glorified\_\_”** **Mountains symbolize the presence of God** **who is our \_help\_ (Psalm 121:1-2)** ·         **\_SINCERITY\_\_ (Hebrews 10:22; James 4:8)** ·         **\_FOCUS\_\_\_ (Hebrews 12:2)** ·         **\_OBEY\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 3:5-6)** ·         **\_CONFESS\_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 1:9)** ·         **\_WITNESS\_\_ (Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)** ·         **\_PRAY\_ (1 Thessalonians 5:17)** ·         **\_LOVE\_\_ (1 John 4:7)**   **May 12, 2019** **GOD’S MODEL MOTHER**  **Matthew 1:1-18**  **Proverbs 31 – Wonder Woman** **Two “imperfect” women**  ·          **RAHAB, “a \_\_harlot\_\_” (Joshua 2:1), hid the**  **Israelite \_spies\_ (v.6), professed her \_faith\_** **in God (2:11), and was \_\_protected\_ by the symbol**  **of a \_scarlet\_ \_cord\_ when Jericho fell (6:17)**  **Rahab married a Jewish man named Salmon.**  **They had a son named \_Boaz\_\_** ·          **RUTH, from Moab, married a Jewish man.** **Her commitment to her mother-in-law is one of the most** **cherished phrases in all of literature (Ruth 1:16).**   **Ruth married \_Boaz\_\_.** **They had a son named \_Obed\_, the grandfather of**  **\_\_\_David\_\_, the forefather of Jesus.**  **Model Mothers: a \_\_Harlot\_\_ and a \_Pagen\_\_?**  **God can use \_\_imperfect\_\_ people because of**  **“His great love with which He loves us;**  **He made us \_alive\_\_ together with Christ.** **By \_grace\_\_ we are \_saved\_\_****through \_faith\_\_” (Ephesians 2:4-5).**  **God makes us \_new\_\_ (2 Corinthians 5:17)** **“A woman who \_fears\_\_ the Lord,****shall be praised” (Proverbs 31:30)**        “**WHAT’S YOUR TROUBLE?” 5-5-19** **James 1:2, “various \_trials\_\_\_”**  **1 Peter 1:6, “\_distressed\_\_\_\_ by various trials”** **John 16:33, “In this world you will have \_\_tribulations\_\_\_”** **14:1, “Let not your hearts be \_\_troubled\_\_”** **Jesus knew that troubles are real; in fact,**  **He once was “troubled in \_\_spirit\_\_\_” (John 13:21)** **" Don’t be troubled by \_\_troubles\_\_\_”** **Dealing with troublesome testing times?** **1.     \_\_\_Denial\_\_\_\_ - hope it will go away**  **2.     \_\_\_Distress\_\_\_\_ - be agitated, “troubled”**  **3.     \_\_\_Discernment\_\_\_ - discover the source,**  **deal with it by relying on God’s Word (Psalm 119:105)** **James 1:3, “Testing of your faith produces \_endurance\_\_”**  **1 Peter 1:7, “proof of your \_faith\_\_\_”**  **John 16:33, Jesus has “\_\_\_overcome\_\_ the world”**  **and we “overwhelmingly \_\_\_conquer\_\_ through Him** **who loved us (because) nothing can separate us** **from the love of God” (Romans 8:35-39)**  **John 14:1, “Believe” \_\_faith\_ in a:**  **1.     \_\_Person\_\_\_ - Jesus, “Believe in Me”**  **2.     \_\_\_Place\_\_ - Heaven, “prepare a place”**  **3.     \_\_Promise\_\_\_ - Eternal life,****“ "Where I am, there you may be”**  **God promises, “I know the \_\_plans\_\_\_ I have for you…**  **for welfare, not calamity (\_help\_\_ and not \_harm\_\_)** **to give you a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11)**    **HE IS RISEN – ARE YOU?    4-28-19**  **Colossians 1:10**  **What does your walk reveal?**  ·        **\_CHOICE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **1.     Accepting Jesus as Savior**  **a.     Confessing sin**  **b.     Believing that Jesus died to cover my sin**  **c.      Believing that my sins are forgiven (1 John 1:9)**  **Galatians 2:20   crucified with Christ**  **2.     Daily choosing to \_\_SERVE\_\_\_\_ God? (Joshua 24:15)**  ·        **\_CHANGE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **A new \_\_CREATION\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 5:17),**   **with a new \_\_MIND\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Philippians 2:15)**  **and a \_\_\_HOLY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ behavior (1 Peter 1:14-15);**   **by being \_\_TRANSFORMED\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 12:2),**   **and letting my \_\_MIND\_\_\_ dwell on things**   **“worthy of praise” (Philippians 4:8)**    ·        **\_CHALLENGE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **Matthew 16:24, “Follow Jesus:   \_DENY\_\_\_ self,** **take up my cross and follow Him” -“Set my mind**   **on things \_\_\_ABOVE\_\_\_\_\_” (Colossians 3:2) by**   **“seeking   \_\_FIRST\_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God”** **(Matthew 6:33)** **1.     Process: 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - \_\_PRAY\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **2.     Proof: Galatians 5:22-24**  **a.     Revealing the \_\_FRUIT\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_SPIRIT\_\_\_**  **b.     Crucifying the \_\_FLESH\_\_\_**  **c.      Living…walking by the \_\_SPIRIT\_\_\_**  **HE IS RISEN – ARE YOU?**    **“WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE”  4-21-19** **John 11:25-26** ***“I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes***  ***in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives*** ***and believes in Me, shall never die. Do you believe this?”***  **The Easter question: *“Do you believe this?”***   ·        **Do YOU believe this? Faith is \_\_Personal\_\_**  ·        **Do you BELIEVE this?**    **BELIEVE: \_Faith, Confidence, Trust- not intellectual assent\_**  **It is not a question of intellectual assent.**  **Critics said they would believe in Him,**  ***“if He came down” (Matthew 27:42)*** **James declared, *“The demons believe and tremble”*** **Belief is \_Trusting\_\_\_\_\_ that He is true,**    **and having \_\_Confidence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the grace-gift of**   **salvation (*Ephesians 2:8*)** ·        **Do you believe THIS?**  ***1.* His claim about His \_DIETY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**   **2.     His claim about \_\_\_\_DEATH\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **3.     His claim about \_\_\_\_DESTINY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **4.     His claim about \_\_\_\_DELIVERANCE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**    **What do you believe?**   **Lazarus died. Jesus called him from death to life; and**  ***“Because of Lazarus many were believing in Jesus”***  ***(John 12:11)***   **WHOEVER LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE** **Eternal salvation is through faith (belief) in Jesus alone.**  **In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness** **of sins. According to the riches of His grace (Eph. 1:7)**     [Home](http://lifewayfellowshiponline.org/default.asp?id=19751) » [Pastor's Message](http://lifewayfellowshiponline.org/PASTORSMESSAGE23718) |  |

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