



THE LYTLE LIGHT

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

— Matthew 5:14a (NKJV)

The believer is appointed to be a lighthouse to others;
a cheering lamp, a shining star, a loving guide.

bulletin of the **CHURCH of CHRIST** in lytle, texas

Volume MMXXIV **JANUARY 28, 2024** Number 5

Current Sunday Schedule: 9:45AM - Bible Study | 10:45AM - Worship

~12:00PM—Every 4th Sunday (Except For Months With 5 Sundays)—Potluck Fellowship Meal

~ 12:00PM—Every 5th Sunday—Potluck Fellowship Meal & Games Following Meal

Current Wednesday Schedule: 5:00PM—Bible Study

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| physical address | — | 15340 Main Street, Lytle, TX 78058 (do NOT use for mailing) |
| mailing address | — | PO Box 668, Lytle, TX 78058 |
| phone | — | 210-517-7936 |
| email | — | lytlechurchofchrist@yahoo.com |
| website | — | lytlechurchofchrist.org |
| facebook | — | facebook.com/Lytle-Church-Of-Christ-101136328215158 |
| co-ministers | — | Tom Woodard (210-562-0136) & Mitch Watkins (210-213-8392) |

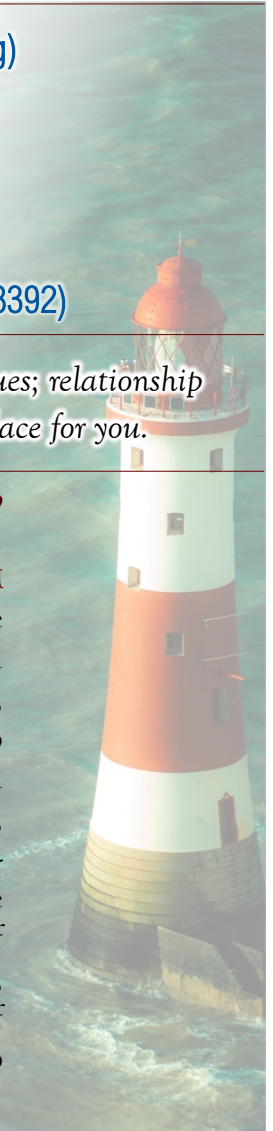
If you're searching for faith rather than simply religion; virtue rather than simply values; relationship rather than rule-keeping; divine help rather than self-help; then we may be the place for you.

IS IT WRONG TO BE **ANGRY** AT GOD?

— GOTANSWERS.COM

Being angry at God is something that many people, both believers and unbelievers, have wrestled with throughout time. When something tragic happens in our lives, we ask God the question, "Why?" because it is our natural response. What we are really asking Him, though, is not so much "Why, God?" as "Why me, God?" This response indicates two flaws in our thinking. First, as believers we operate under the impression that life should be easy and that God should prevent tragedy from happening to us. When He does not, we get angry with Him. Second, when we do not understand the extent of God's sovereignty, we lose confidence in His ability to control circumstances, other people, and the way they affect us. Then we get angry with God because He seems to have lost control of the universe and especially control of our lives. When we lose faith in God's sovereignty, it is because our frail human flesh is grappling with our own frustration and our lack of control over events. When good things happen, we all too often attribute tribute to

[continued on page 3]



WELCOME VISITOR!

We *Welcome* Each & Every One Of You To Our Worship Services today! We Hope You Will Stay After Services So We May Become Better Acquainted! And Be Sure To Join Us For Our Monthly Fellowship Meal After Worship Services On The 4th or 5th Sunday Of Every Month!

Be Sure To Pick Up A Visitor Pamphlet From The Table Under The Mirror In The Front Hall.

And Please Fill Out A Visitor Card (We *PROMISE* Not To Sell Your Information!) From The Back Of The Pew In Front Of You And Place It In The Collection Plate Located On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium.

ORDER OF SERVICE



- ENTER TO WORSHIP •
- ANNOUNCEMENTS •
- SCRIPTURE READING •
- OPENING PRAYER •

Song No. 99—Praise Him! Praise Him!

Song No. 298—There Stands A Rock

- MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •

Song No. 311—My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Song No. 458—Rock Of Ages

Not In Song Book—Come, Share The Lord



- LORD'S SUPPER •
- SERMON — *SEE RIGHT COLUMN* •

Invitation Song No. 324—Shelter In The Time . . .

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song Not In Song Book—Hiding In Thee

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •

DEPART TO SERVE IN LOVE

SERMON

— FREE TO HELP BUT NOT TO HINDER —

- *SCRIPTURE REFERENCES* •

Romans 14:13-23; 1 Corinthians 6:12; Galatians 5:13-14;
Mark 7:15; Philippians 1:27; John 13:35;
2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Thessalonians 5:22;
1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Timothy 5:22

- *SERMON OUTLINE* •

REVIEW & INTRODUCTION — (1) We Are Blessed With Freedoms - Galatians 5:1 | (2) Summary Of This Section Is: "All Things Are Lawful Unto Me, But All Things Are Not Expedient: All Things Are Lawful For Me, But I Will Not Be Brought Under The Power Of Any" (1 Corinthians 6:12). | (3) The Message: We Have Freedom, But Not Unlimited | (4) How Are We "Free To Help, But Not To Hinder?"

- I. Christian Liberty Interpreted
 - A. Some Things Are Neutral
 - B. Some Things Are Spiritual
 - C. Some Things Are Individual
- II. Christian Liberty Illustrated
 - A. Show Compassion To Our Brother
 - B. Make A Contribution To Our Brother
 - C. Walk In Consideration Of Our Brother
- III. Christian Liberty Investigated
 - A. Daily By The Eyes Of Men
 - B. Divinely By The Eyes Of God

Conclusion - (1) It Would Be Nice If All Of Life Were Scripted For Us (2) We Will Be Making Many Decisions | (3) Our Decisions Reveal The True Nature Of Our Hearts | (4) God Help Us To Get There!

- *INVITATION* •

WED NIGHT STUDY

JANUARY 31 @ 5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us When Possible! (Use Rear Doors)

— *1 Corinthians 7:39-8:13* —



— MARCH 17 —

3rd Sunday Fellowship - After Morning Worship
ANNUAL CHURCH "PICNIC"

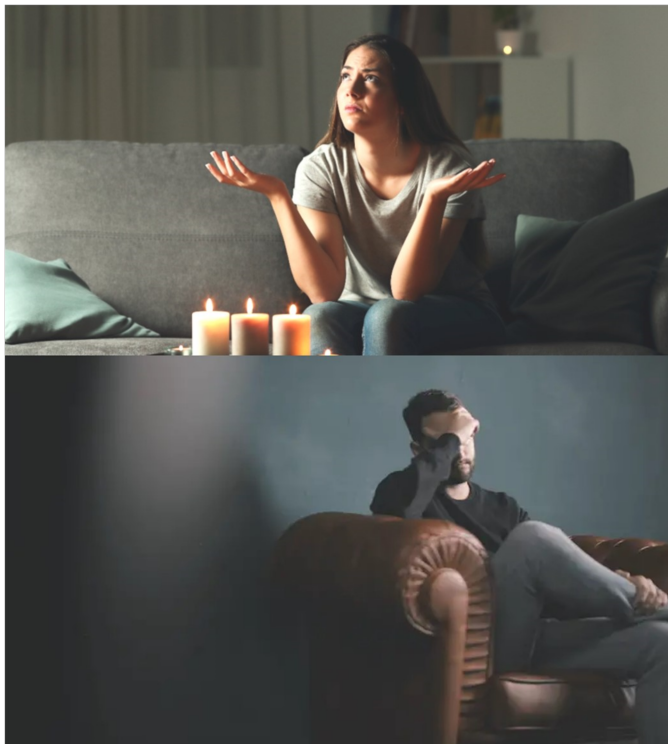
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our own achievements and success. When bad things happen, however, we are quick to blame God, and we get angry with Him for not preventing it, which indicates the first flaw in our thinking – that we deserve to be immune to unpleasant circumstances.

Tragedies bring home the awful truth that we are not in charge. All of us think at one time or another that we can control the outcomes of situations, but in reality it is God who is in charge of all of His creation. Everything that happens is either caused by or allowed by God. Not a sparrow falls to the ground nor a hair from our head without God knowing about it (Matthew 10:29-31). We can complain, get angry, and blame God for what is happening. Yet if we will trust Him and yield our bitterness and pain to Him, acknowledging the prideful sin of trying to force our own will over His, He can and will grant us His peace and strength to get us through any difficult situation (1 Corinthians 10:13). Many believers in Jesus Christ can testify to that very fact. We can be angry with God for many reasons, so we all have to accept at some point that there are things we cannot control or even understand with our finite minds.

Our understanding of the sovereignty of God in all circumstances must be accompanied by our understanding of His other attributes such as love, mercy, kindness, goodness, righteousness, justice, and holiness. When we see our difficulties through the truth of God's Word – which tells us that our loving and holy God works all things together for our good (Romans 8:28), and that He has a perfect plan and purpose for us that cannot be thwarted (Isaiah 14:24, 46:9-10) – we begin to see our problems in a different light. We also

know from Scripture that this life will never be one of continual joy and happiness. Rather, Job reminds us that “man is born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upward” (Job 5:7), and that life is short and “full of trouble” (Job 14:1). Just because we come to Christ for salvation from sin does not mean we are guaranteed a life free from problems. In fact, Jesus said, “In this world you will have



trouble,” but that He has “overcome the world” (John 16:33), enabling us to have peace within, in spite of the storms that rage around us (John 14:27).

One thing is certain: inappropriate anger is sin (Galatians 5:20; Ephesians 4:26-27, 31; Colossians 3:8). Ungodly anger is self-defeating, gives the devil a foothold in our lives, and can destroy our joy and peace if we hang on to it. Holding on to our anger will allow bitterness and resentment to spring up in

our hearts. We must confess it to the Lord, and then in His forgiveness, we can release those feelings to Him. We must go before the Lord in prayer often in our grief, anger, and pain. The Bible tells us in 2 Samuel 12:15-23 that David went before the throne of grace on behalf of his sick baby, fasting, weeping, and praying for him to survive. When the baby passed away, David got up and worshiped the Lord and then told his servants that he knew where his baby was and that he would someday be with him in God's presence. David cried out to God during the baby's illness, and afterward he bowed before Him in worship. That is a wonderful testimony. God knows our hearts, and it is pointless to try to hide how we really feel, so talking to Him about it is one of the best ways to handle our grief. If we do so humbly, pouring out our hearts to Him, He will work

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- ◇ Smoot, Deborah – Please be in prayer – She had a scary episode (healthwise) Monday, January 22. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Spicer, Ronda – She still has some congestion and a cough. It may be allergies. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Villarreal, Doris & Family [Melanie McMeans' brother-in-law's mother] – Doris, age 95, passed into eternity Thursday night, January 25. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Villarreal, Douglas [Melanie McMeans' brother-in-law] – He's been diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer which has metastasized to several areas of his body. ^[NEW]
- ◇ Welsby, Chris [Vierlings' friend from Georgia] – *Praise GOD*, his back surgery went well and he's recovering nicely. ^[NEW]

JANUARY 21

- ◇ Brown, Hunter [Ronda Brown's grandson] – He's suffering from an upper respiratory infection. ^[1]
- ◇ Brown, Stephanie [Ronda Brown's daughter-in-law] – She fell off a trailer while working with Ronnie. Unfortunately, she sustained a concussion. ^[1]

JANUARY 14

- ◇ Smith, Zachary [Ronda's daughter-in-law, Barbara's 25-year-old nephew] – He passed into eternity Tuesday night, January 9. ^[2]
- ◇ Segura, Gilbert Family [Gilbert is Tom Woodard's football friend] – Gilbert passed into eternity last week. ^[2]

JANUARY 7

- ◇ Brown, Phoenix [Ronda Spicer's great granddaughter] – *Praise To GOD*, she is much better after having had Hand, Foot & Mouth disease. ^[3]
- ◇ Dear, Katherine [Deborah Smoot's sister] – *Praise To GOD*, she's now well, having just had Covid. ^[3]
- ◇ Evans, Steve [Tom Woodard's brother-in-law] – He underwent shoulder replacement surgery and *Praise To GOD*, he's doing well. ^[3]
- ◇ Smoot, Troy & Family [Roger & Deborah

Smoot's son & family] – They were to fly to Hawaii today, January 7 to enroll Bailey and Dan'iel at YWAM (Youth With A Mission) Ships where the girls will spend the next six months preparing for the mission field. ^[3]

- ◇ Vela, Cheryl & John [Ruane Renninger's daughter & son-in-law] – They are flying to and from Florida. ^[3]

DECEMBER 31

- ◇ Burris, Cody & Spouse [Joyce Burris' grandson and wife] – *Praise To GOD*, Cody & Spouse are the proud new parents of Hayes Thomas (see below). ^[4]
- ◇ Burris, Hayes Thomas [Joyce Burris' great grandson] – *Praise To GOD* & Congratulations! Hayes was born on Dec 26 and weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 21 inches long. ^[4]
- ◇ Corren, Jan [Betty Smith's sister] – She is still ailing. ^[4]
- ◇ Norris Family [David Norris, husband of Ruth Norris, a friend of Carol Vierling's since 7th grade] – David passed into eternity recently. ^[4]

DECEMBER 24 & OLDER

NOTE: As Of January 14, 2024 And Afterwards, All Individuals Or Families Who Have Been On The List Below For 20+ Weeks Have Been Removed. If You Know Of Anyone Who Needs To Be Back On The List, Please Let Mitch Know.

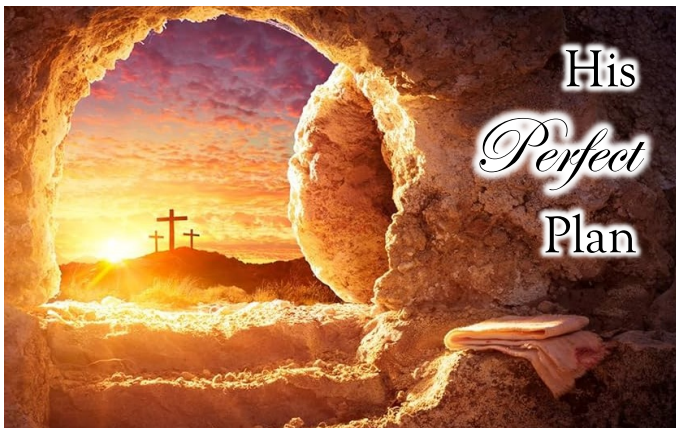
Bippert, Cheryl ^[11]; Bippert Family ^[11]; Boldt, Sandy ^[11]; Brown, Scott ^[16]; Buchheit Family ^[17]; Burris, Joyce ^[17]; Davis, R. Family ^[11]; Davis, P. Family ^[17]; Delaney, Sophie ^[5]; Dye, Joyce ^[11]; Fintel, Pam ^[11]; Green, Marvin ^[5]; Halverson Family ^[17]; Mays Family ^[6]; Montalvo, Louie ^[13]; Moore, Michael & Michele ^[11]; Nancy (Last Name Unknown) ^[11]; Noble Family ^[15]; Parra, Rudy ^[17]; Renninger, Ruane ^[6]; Sensat, Miriam ^[18]; Shaw, Nancy ^[4]; Slaughter, Ron ^[16]; Smith, Betty ^[15]; Smoot, Randy ^[6]; Torres, Donna ^[8]; Turnbow, Elaine ^[7]; Turnbow, Gary ^[7]; Wentrcek Family ^[7]; Woodard, Sue ^[12]

[continued from page 3]

through us, and in the process, will make us more like Him.

The bottom line is can we trust God with everything, our very lives and the lives of our loved ones? Of course we can! Our God is compassionate, full of grace and love, and as disciples of Christ we can trust Him with all things. When tragedies happen to us, we know God can use them to bring us closer to Him and to strengthen our faith, bringing us to maturity and completeness (Psalm 34:18; James 1:2-4). Then, we can be a comforting testimony to others (2 Corinthians 1:3-5). That is easier said than done, however. It requires a daily surrendering of our own will to His, a faithful study of His attributes as seen in God's Word, much prayer, and then applying what we learn to our own situation. By doing so, our faith will progressively grow and mature, making it easier to trust Him to get us through the next tragedy that most certainly will take place.

So, to answer the question directly, yes, it is wrong to be angry at God. Anger at God is a result of an inability or unwillingness to trust God even when we do not understand what He is doing. Anger at God is essentially telling God that He has done something wrong, which He never does. Does God understand when we are angry, frustrated, or disappointed with Him? Yes, He knows our hearts, and He knows how difficult and painful life in this world can be. Does that make it right to be angry with God? Absolutely not. Instead of being angry with God, we should pour out our hearts to Him in prayer, and trust that He is in control of His perfect plan.



SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

MATTHEW 13:10-17

¹⁰ And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?"

¹¹ He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. ¹³ Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; ¹⁵ for the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them.'

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; ¹⁷ for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

Y H E A V E N A K L S S G N Q S R H J D
 C A I K D D Y J H P E I E S R E P A T J
 I V W R F E E E A U L B M Y A I E R U Z
 B D W A E W A R N S P Y O Y E R O D R S
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 M L P I G S H O U L D E H N Z V F S K Y
 B B Q R C H M P Y M Q E U C T S E L E G

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS








| | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Dan Orr | January 11 | Birthday |
| Billy Strunk | January 26 | Birthday |
| Jim Gardner | January 30 | Birthday |
| Rick Fintel | February 16 | Birthday |

*If Your Special Day Is Between Today's Date And February 16, 2024
And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

— Church Stuff —

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 4th OR 5th Sundays |  <p>"Table" Fellowship Potluck Lunch – <i>After Worship From Approximately 12:00PM To 2:00PM</i> Either The 4th Sunday Or 5th Sunday Of Every Month (Except When On Hiatus)</p> |
| Every Monday |  <p>Sewing Sisters (All Ladies Welcome!) – Meet In The Fellowship Room From 12:00PM To 2:00PM For Fellowship And To Sew Stuff (Lap Quilts, Bibs, Etc.) For The Needy Or Just To Do Things Together.</p> |
| Sun–Feb 4 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Who Is Jesus</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |
| Sun–Feb 11 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Examine Yourself</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |
| Sun–Feb 18 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>A Sin-Sick Soul</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |
| Sun–Feb 25 |  <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>TBA</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p> |

— Non Church Stuff —

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Every Tuesday |  <p>Lytle Friendship Art Club – Fellowship Room From 9:30AM To 1:00PM Plus, Every 2nd Tuesday Of Each Month, The Club Meets For A Business Meeting, Lunch & Demonstration(s)</p> |
| 3rd Mondays |  <p>VFW Auxiliary – Fellowship Room @ 6:00PM</p> |
| 4th Tuesdays |  <p>Quail Creek Ranches Property Owners Association (QCRSPOA) – Fellowship Room @ 6:30PM</p> |
| Sun–Jan 28 | Blueberry Pancake, Gift Of The Lady Bug, Leprosy Awareness Days |
| Mon–Jan 29 | National Corn Chip & Carnation Days Seeing Eye Dog Appreciation Day |
| Tue–Jan 30 | National Croissant Day World Day Of Non-Violence & Peace |
| Wed–Jan 31 | National Hot Chocolate Day Eat Brussel Sprouts Day Scotch Tape Day |
| Fri–Feb 1 | National Dark Chocolate & Baked Alaska Days National Freedom Day |
| Sat–Feb 3 | National Carrot Cake Day & Eat Ice Cream For Breakfast Days |
| Sun–Feb 4 | National Stuffed Mushroom & Homemade Soup Days |

GOD'S PLAN For Saving Man —

- ◇ *God's Grace* — Ephesians 2:8;
- ◇ *Christ's Blood* — Romans 5:9;
- ◇ *The Spirit's Gospel* — Romans 1:16;
- ◇ *Sinner's Faith* — Acts 16:31;
- ◇ *Sinner's Repentance* — Luke 13:3;
- ◇ *Sinner's Confession* — Romans 10:10;
- ◇ *Sinner's Baptism* — 1 Peter 3:21;
- ◇ *Our Work* — James 2:24;
- ◇ *Our Hope* — Romans 8:24;
- ◇ *Our Endurance* — Revelation 2:10

**ARE YOU SAVED BY GOD?
ASK HOW IF YOU'RE UNSURE!**

INTERACTIVE

Daily Bible Reading Plan —

To open and/or download the interactive PDF file go to: video.wvbs.org/spotlight

DAILY Bible Reading For Edification —



Chronological — Date Order — Biblical Events When Believed To Have Occurred

| | |
|-----|--------------------|
| SUN | Jan 28 — Gen 46-47 |
| MON | Jan 29 — Gen 48-50 |
| TUE | Jan 30 — Ex 1-3 |
| WED | Jan 31 — Ex 4-6 |
| THU | Feb 1 — Ex 7-9 |
| FRI | Feb 2 — Ex 10-12 |
| SAT | Feb 3 — Ex 13-15 |

Gen = Genesis | Ex = Exodus

WANT TO BE

Part Of Our Local Family?

To be identified as part of our Congregation (aka “place membership”): Fill out a Visitor’s Card with all your family information, making sure to check the box on front that says, **Wish To Serve In this Congregation**, then place the card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

MEMORIZE Scripture —

SELECTED VERSES FROM MATTHEW

Matthew 5:6 — ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:9 — ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Matthew 5:10 — ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:16 — ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:44 — ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

Matthew 6:33 — ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 11:28 — ²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 21:22 — ²² And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

Matthew 28:19-20 — ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.