



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 MMXXIII **APRIL 16, 2023** Number 16

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)
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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.

JUST FINISH!

Lao Tzu (5th Century BC Chinese philosopher) wrote: "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Why is beginning sometimes so difficult? It's not that beginning something/anything is bad. Beginning, after all, is quite important. My father tried his best to teach me that there are three steps to ANY job I undertook: (1) Setup and acquiring the materials needed, i.e., **beginning**, (2) The job itself, whatever that might be, and (3) The clean up and put everything away, i.e., **finishing**. As humans, we tend to get excited about new beginnings. A new year. A new job. A new child. A new vehicle. A new political campaign (Okay, so maybe we don't get excited over every new beginning!). But, we do have to admit that there is a certain appeal attached to starting something new. We must remember, however, that there is a big difference between starting a good work and seeing it through to completion. Perhaps, that is exactly what Solomon had in mind when he wrote, "The end of a matter is better than its begin-

[continued on page 3]



SUN ORDER OF SERVICE



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

Song No. 233—Am I A Soldier Of The Cross

Song No. 145—Nailed To The Cross

- MINISTER'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •

Song No. 171—When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Song No. 432—Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross

- LORD'S SUPPER •
- SERMON •

— RIGHTEOUSNESS BY FAITH IS UNIVERSAL —

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Romans 10:12-21; Acts 10:34-35; Joel 2:32; 2 Peter 3:9;
Isaiah 52:7; James 4:8; Psalm 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:21;
Isaiah 65:1; Romans 9:33; Isaiah 65:2

SERMON OUTLINE:

REVIEW / INTRODUCTION

- I. The Lord Treats All Alike (v.12)
- II. All Are Saved By The Same Promise (v.13)
- III. No Salvation Without The Gospel (v.14-15)
- IV. The Gospel Is Universal (v.16-17)
- V. Israel's Disobedience Good For Gentiles (v.18-21)
 - a. Did They Not Hear? (v.18)
 - b. Did They Not Know? (v.19-20)
 - c. They Were Disobedient (v.21)

CONCLUSION / INVITATION

Invitation Song No. 526—Kneel At The Cross

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song No. 156—Must Jesus Bear The Cross...

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •
- DEPART TO SERVE IN LOVE •

WED NIGHT STUDY

April 19 @ 5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us If At All Possible!

(Use Rear Doors)

If You're Unable To Attend To Watch The Videos,
You May Read The Following To Keep Up:

HEBREWS 12:1-17



THESE ARE OUR NEXT OCCASIONS
FOR "TABLE" FELLOWSHIP:

— APRIL 30TH —

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal — After Morning Worship

5th Sunday Game Day — After Fellowship Meal

— MAY 28TH —

4th Sunday Fellowship Meal

After Morning Worship



The First Shall Be Last

© The Back Pew By Jeff Larson

www.thebackpew.com/first-are-last

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ning..." (Ecclesiastes 7:8).

There is nothing like a deep, satisfying feeling of accomplishment. Douglas Mallock (1877-1938, American Poet, short-story writer, and Associate Editor of *American Lumberman*) once said, "Find your joy in something finished, and not in a thousand things begun." Paul contrasted our lives as Christians with that of an athlete whose job it is to run a race with strength and endurance (Hebrews 12:1-2 – "1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author ^[originator] and finisher ^[perfector] of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."). Sadly, many who begin with strength of purpose, with vitality, and with enthusiasm, have now fallen by the wayside. Jesus illustrates this danger in his Parable of the Sower as recorded in Matthew 13:1-9. Some seed did not germinate and grow. Instead, it was taken up by the birds (Satan) before it had taken hold. Other seed was sown in rocky soil and grew quickly. But, having no depth of soil, it withered in the heat of a burning summer sun. Still other seed, sown in thorny soil, held promise of fruitfulness; but, because of the



cares and concerns of the world, never became productive. Then Jesus said that the seed sown in good soil and honest hearts produced fruit. What had begun with the sower, had been carried forth to **completion**. The joy of the harvest is **only** for those who actively exercise persistence so as to see their walk with Christ through to the end.

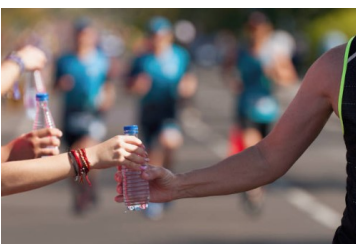
This is why Jesus asks every would-be disciple to count the cost of discipleship. He illustrated the matter, saying, "For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'" (Luke 14:28-30).

The greater joy is in **completing** the task begun. Christianity is not a sprint, but a marathon. But we have help. Our marathon is definitely not completed on the basis of our own strength, but on the strength which God supplies. Solomon encourages us, saying, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

So, yes, brethren, do **begin!** But, more than that, let us all just **finish!**

— END —

KEEP MOVING — BY GLEN ELLIOTT, GREENBRIAR COC



When passing a water station, why do long-distant runners grab their water on-the-go? Sure, time has something to do with it. But, greater still is the fact that it is easier to keep running than it is to stop and get started again. Inertia is "The tendency of a body to resist acceleration" or "the tendency of a body in motion to stay in motion..." (American Heritage Dictionary). Ever take a break from

[continued on page 6]

tal under observation while doctors discuss if there's anything to be done.

- ◇ Renninger Family – Harold, our beloved brother in Christ, passed last Sunday morning, April 6, into his eternal rest. He will be greatly missed here on earth by family and friends!
- ◇ Watkins, Betsy – **Praise GOD!** She had a successful humerus bone surgery and is doing well. The doctor was able to verify the nerve that runs around that bone was stretched but still intact. Her major pain is from her hand which is controlled by that stretched nerve (it tingles fiercely) and the edema in her lower arm and hand. She has a long row to hoe with PT but her spirit is still quite good!

APRIL 6 & PRIOR

- ◇ Bailey, Linzi [Ronda Spicer's niece] – She underwent breast reconstructive surgery this past Wednesday and, **Praise GOD!**, all went well.
- ◇ Bowen Family [Tom Woodard's daughter, Janice's, Boss' Son, Arnold] – He recently surprised his parents by joining the Army.
- ◇ Buckheit, Dan [Art Club husband] – **Praise GOD!** he is doing okay after brain surgery and is currently seeing a speech and physical therapist. Doctors will be determining what methods of cancer treatment to be used.
- ◇ Burris, Joyce – She's doing fairly well considering her foot pain due to tendonitis.
- ◇ Hubert, Donald [Deborah Smoot's friends husband] – His cancer has metastasized and he's planning to start a round of chemo. But, he's already decided to discontinue treatment if it makes him too sick.
- ◇ Jacob, Jay [Carol Vierling's best friend] – He's been diagnosed with a tumor at the base of his skull. He's searching for a team of doctors to treat him while he winters in Florida with his wife.
- ◇ Kyler, Terry [Melanie McMeans' cousin's wife] – She stopped breathing, was rushed to the hospital where much fluid was discovered in her lungs, but no mention of pneumonia at this time.
- ◇ Last Unknown, Brandy [Wendell McMeans' co-worker] – She noticed something wrong in her leg while dismounting from a forklift. She went to the hospital where several masses were discovered in her legs and knee. She'll have a biopsy in the near future.
- ◇ Morris, Barry [Tom Woodard's football official friend] – He's dealing with prostate cancer.
- ◇ Orr, Lori – She continues to improve while in palliative care whose goal is focused upon improving the quality of life for individuals suffering from serious and/or longtime health issues.
- ◇ Orr, Myrna [Dan Orr's mother] – She's better and has been instructed to see her doctor for tests relative to her heart issue.
- ◇ Shermer, Betty [Barbara Felts' (former member) sister] – She's in a nursing home. Barbara says she believes Betty has "given up."
- ◇ Smith, Zachary [Ronda Spicer's daughter-in-law, Barbara Brown's nephew] – He was diagnosed with leukemia in November. He also had his gall bladder removed and is now at home doing well, **Praise GOD!** He's taking chemo and will have a bone marrow transplant in the near future.
- ◇ Smoot, Mary Jane [Roger Smoot's cousin's spouse] – She's been diagnosed with adenocarcinoma cancer. **Praise GOD!**, she's responding well to treatment(s).
- ◇ Strunk, Lea – She suffers from heart issues.
- ◇ Welsby, Carol [Friend of the Vierlings] – She fell down steps and broke 6 ribs and her collarbone. She's was also having respiratory issues and was kept in an induced coma. She's now out of the coma but still has a long row to hoe.
- ◇ Woodard, Pat – Her leg is healing ever so slowly but, **Praise GOD!**, it is healing.
- ◇ Wyrick, Harold [Gardners' neighbor] – His knee surgery has been postponed.



SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

MATTHEW 10:27-31

²⁷ “Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the house-tops. ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell ^[Gehenna]. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a copper ^[Assarion (about 1/16 of a Denarius)] coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

L T E Y D E R E B M U N M M H B W K D Y
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A P A G L D R T A W R Z L R T N F S A X
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strenuous activity and found it difficult to get back to work? Ever tried to change a habit and, then, let it slip for a day or two? Was it easy to get started again or was it a struggle to get back on course? Momentum lost is not easily regained.

Nothing about being a Christian is static. From the moment we rise out of the waters of baptism, we are walking “in newness of life” (Romans 6:4). Our journey is a walk of faith (2 Corinthians 5:7). We are moving forward – pressing “on toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). Our eyes are fixed on Jesus as we “lay aside every encumbrance” and “run with endurance the race that is set before us...” (Hebrews 12:2). We must keep moving!

As the Apostle Paul begins his first epistle to the church at Thessalonica, he makes mention of the fact that he is constantly remembering their “work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ...” (1 Thessalonians 1:3). Paul’s underlying acknowledgement in mentioning this familiar triad of faith, hope and love (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:13) is the ongoing labor of the brethren to whom he is writing. Faith is not merely mental assent to an agreed upon set of facts, it is the active, ongoing implementation of the will of Christ in our daily lives. Because of all that Jesus has done; because of all that He is doing; and because of all that He will do for us, we must “be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58). When tempted to slow down and let others do the Lord’s work for us, think about the importance of momentum. Keep moving as Jesus direct us in His word for we have not as yet reached “the rest” that is promised to the faithful (Hebrews 4:1).



ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



Darrell Raine	April 13	Birthday
Pat Woodard	April 16	Birthday
Harold Renninger	April 24	Birthday
Cris Street	April 27	Birthday
Missae French	May 4	Birthday
Carol Vierling	May 22	Birthday
Gene Vierling	May 31	Birthday

*If Your Special Day Is Between Today's Date And May 31, 2023,
And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

— Church Staff —

4th OR 5th Sundays	 <p>"Table" Fellowship Potluck Lunch – <i>After Worship From Approximately 12:00PM To 2:00PM</i> Every 4th Sunday Of Every Month EXCEPT For Months With a 5th Sunday — <i>APRIL 30, 2023</i> —</p>
Every Monday	 <p>Sewing Sisters – Meet In The Fellowship Room From 12:00PM To 2:00PM For Fellowship And To Sew Stuff (Lap Quilts, Bibs, Etc.) For The Needy.</p>
Sun–Apr 16	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Grace Thru Faith</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Apr 16	National Eggs Benedict Day & Good Deeds Day & National Librarian Day
Sun–Apr 23	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Take Up Ur Cross</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Apr 23	National Cherry Cheesecake Day & National Picnic Day
Sun–Apr 30	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Can A Christian Be Lost</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun–Apr 30	Fellowship Lunch after morning worship service & Games after fellowship lunch

— 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–Apr 30	National Oatmeal Cookie And Raisin And Bubble Tea 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!**

WANT TO BE

Part Of Our Local Family?

To be identified as part of our Congregation (aka "place membership"):

- ◇ Fill out the *front and back* of 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

- ◇ Place the card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

MEMORIZE Scripture —

SOME MEMORY VERSES FROM MATTHEW

Matthew 3:16 — ¹⁶ When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Matthew 6:22-23 — ²² "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

Matthew 8:16-17 — ¹⁶ When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."

Matthew 11:28-30 — ²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."



INTERACTIVE

Daily Bible Reading Plan —

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

DAILY Bible Reading —



Immersive —

Through OT Once & NT Three Times

SUN	2 Kgs 3; 2 Kgs 4; 2 Kgs 5; Matt 1; Matt 2
MON	2 Kgs 6; 2 Kgs 7; 2 Kgs 8; Matt 3; Matt 4
TUE	2 Kgs 9; 2 Kgs 10; 2 Kgs 11; Matt 5; Matt 6
WED	2 Kgs 12; 2 Kgs 13; 2 Kgs 14; Matt 7; Matt 8
THU	2 Kgs 15; 2 Kgs 16; 2 Kgs 17; Matt 9; Matt 10
FRI	2 Kgs 18; 2 Kgs 19; 2 Kgs 20; Matt 11; Matt 12
SAT	2 Kgs 21; 2 Kgs 22; 2 Kgs 23; Matt 13; Matt 14