



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 7, 2024** Number 2

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.

GENDER CONFUSION. REALLY?

The moral fabric, the very cohesiveness of our society, of our nation, is being ripped to shreds as movements within our country push full steam ahead to reshape our culture in an extremely radical direction. The descriptive phrase “extremely radical” is both accurate and appropriate. One of the latest points of emphasis within this general movement focuses on gender identity.

It wasn't that many years back that most people might have wondered what in the world someone was talking about if they mentioned gender identity. Grammatically, for generations, “gender” referred to how nouns and pronouns are used, either in the masculine, feminine, neuter or common sense. The radical culture movement of today has pretty much thrown all of that out the window.

For hundreds and hundreds of years (forever?) there was no question or confusion as to what was meant by such prefixes as “Mr.,” “Miss” or “Mrs.” And, no offense was taken when an individual was identified by such. The terms “Sir” and “Ma’am” were used to

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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



Praise The Lord,
For He Is Good!

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

Song No. 20 – Praise The Lord

Song No. 541 – Whispering Hope

- MINISTER’S INTERCESSORY PRAYER •

Song No. 539 – There Is A Habitation

Song No. 525 – Home Of The Soul

Song No. 145 – Nailed To The Cross



- LORD’S SUPPER •
- SERMON – *SEE RIGHT COLUMN* •

Invitation Song No. 481 – Beautiful Isle Of Some . . .

- FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Closing Song No. 471 – Abide With Me

- PRAYER: OFFERING & CLOSING •

DEPART TO SERVE IN LOVE

SERMON

— DUTY TO GOVERNMENT —

- *SCRIPTURE REFERENCES* •

Romans 13:1-7; Revelation 1:9; Romans 13:1; Exodus 9:16; Isaiah 10:5-12; 1 Peter 4:12-13; 5:8-9; Acts 4:18-20; 5:27-29; Romans 13:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:11; Hebrews 12:14

- *SERMON OUTLINE* •

REVIEW & INTRODUCTION — (1) Blessed To Be Citizens Of God’s Kingdom | (2) We Live And Work Under Earthly Governments | (3) The Roman Empire’s Influence

- I. Subjection To Authorities
 - A. The Rule
 - B. The Reason
 - C. The Exception to the Rule
 1. Oppressive Governments
 2. There Is One Exception
 3. We Must Obey God Rather Than Man!
- II. Pay What Is Due
 - A. Pay Our Taxes
 - B. We Are To Pay Respect
 1. Fear To Whom Fear Is Due
 2. Honor To Whom Honor Is Due
- III. Pray
 - A. Kings And All In Authority
 - B. Lead Good Lives

CONCLUSION — (1) Duties To Governments Are Clear | (2) Our Involvement In Government Is Optional

- *INVITATION* •

WED NIGHT STUDY

JANUARY 10 @ 5:00 PM In Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us When Possible! (Use Rear Doors)

— *1 Corinthians 7:1-15* —



OUR FUTURE

“TABLE” FELLOWSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES

— MARCH 17 —

3rd Sunday Fellowship - After Morning Worship
ANNUAL CHURCH “PICNIC”

— APRIL 28 —

4th Sunday Fellowship - After Morning Worship
POTLUCK

[continued from front]

show respect. Women wanted to be identified as women, and men would have been mightily upset to be looked upon as something other than men. But now we're being told that such references are sexist or prejudicial and therefore offensive. Really? Why so?

Because those pushing this radical cultural mindset are trying, by intimidation and force, to require everyone to accept their position that there is no difference between males and females. They want to erase cultural distinctions between the sexes. Hmm... are there truly no differences between boys and girls, men and women, males and females? A casual glance quickly identifies obvious differences. Biological study leaves no question as to definite, God designed differences between males and females. So, why all the controversy?

For decades, spokespersons within the gay movement insisted that there were no efforts at all to recruit, or mold, young children to take up the gay lifestyle. Their assurance was that a gay person was naturally gay by birth, although there has never been any verifiable genetic evidence discovered to support such a position. There has actually been a major study of nearly half-a-million people (477,500) which found no single gene (or even several genes working in conjunction) which could be said to cause homosexuality. But the gay movement said that a non-gay person cannot be conditioned to become gay. What the study, published by *Science* and written about in *Scientific American* and featured on *PBS News Hour*, was that it may be a complex combination of genetics (less than one percent chance), psychology and life experiences.

Well, right now in our country, in some of our public school systems, there is a huge movement to encourage young children, at least as young as middle school age, to examine their gender identity. Little boys are influenced to question whether

they're really boys, or could they actually be a girl trapped in a boy's body. Girls are coached to question whether their gender is correct; would they rather be a boy? This is not some wild-eyed conspiracy theory; it's happening!

What kind of absurdity is it to suggest that eight or ten-year-olds (in some cases, younger) have the depth of understanding and analytical ability to delve into such matters? You have to be at least 16 to join the military, but only if a parent or guardian agree, otherwise it's age 18. One must be 18 to vote in an election at all levels – local,



state, and national. You now have to be 21 in the state of Texas in order to legally own or smoke tobacco products, including e-cigarette or vape devices. And one has to be 21 to legally purchase alcohol. If children, say age 21 or age 18 or even age 16 and below are prevented from participating in the four things just mentioned: military service, voting, smoking/vaping, and alcohol use because they're too young to understand what it means to do so, how can they make a life changing choice to be turned into the opposite sex? And I believe that it is highly unlikely that such thoughts would even enter their minds, unless some adult(s) put those thoughts into their heads (or social

media influencer(s) whom parents should be preventing those children from viewing anyway). We're talking about a level of immorality and depravity that is almost unimaginable. Some might call it demonic! It could certainly be characterized as child abuse!

Brethren, don't you think that we need to open our eyes, not be intimidated, and stand up for godliness and common sense. Our culture, and therefore our nation, is on the precipice of self destruction!

Let us consider what our holy, righteous, and just Father says – “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach^[shame or disgrace] to any peo-

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grade] – David passed into eternity recently. ^[1]

- ◇ Shaw, Nancy [Betsy Watkins' friend for the past 56 years] – She's started another round of chemo for her breast and liver cancers. ^[1]

DECEMBER 24

- ◇ Delaney, Sophie [Elaine Turnbow's mother (Elaine is Deborah Smoot's friend)] – She passed into eternity when she had a reaction to a flu shot. ^[2]
- ◇ Green, Marvin [Visitor] – He is asking for us to pray for: God's forgiveness of his sins, God's comfort during times of sorrow, help to be a better person at serving God. ^[2]

DECEMBER 17

- ◇ Davis, Preston [Tom Woodard's friend] – He's travelling "around the country," here and there, hither and yon, mostly between New Jersey, Virginia, and Texas. ^[3]
- ◇ Mays, Alice [Melanie McMeans aunt] – She passed into eternity Saturday, December 9. Her funeral is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20. ^[3]
- ◇ Renninger, Ruane – She's been feeling poorly and has developed a bad cough. ^[3]
- ◇ Smith, Betty – She drove up to Marble Falls to visit her ailing sister. ^[3]
- ◇ Smoot, Deborah – **Praise GOD!** Her hand surgery this past Tuesday, December 12 went well! ^[3]
- ◇ Smoot, Randy [Roger Smoot's brother] – Unfortunately, his Parkinson's is worse but Praise GOD! His back surgery on Thursday, December 14 went well! ^[3]

DECEMBER 10

- ◇ Turnbow, Elaine [Deborah Smoot's friend] – She fell and broke her pelvis. ^[4]
- ◇ Turnbow, Gary [Deborah Smoot's friend, Elaine's husband] – He is recovering from back surgery. ^[4]
- ◇ Velma McMeans [Wendell's mom] – She's been experiencing low blood sugar episodes. ^[4]

- ◇ Wentrcek Family [James, Father of Jeremy Wentrcek, a teacher where Tom Woodard's subs] – James passed into eternity Wednesday, December 6. ^[4]

DECEMBER 3

- ◇ Sensat, Miriam [Preston Davis (Tom's friend)'s friend, Miranda LeFluer's, mother] – She lost her son this past week. ^[5]
- ◇ Torres, Donna [Valerie Tafoya (Friend of the congregation)'s mother] – She started chemo treatments back on November 27. ^[5]

NOVEMBER 26

- ◇ No New As Of This Printing ^[6]

NOVEMBER 19

- ◇ LeFluer, Miranda [Preston Davis' (Tom's friend) friend] – She continues to improve from her automobile accident which required surgery to relieve bleeding in her brain. ^[7]
- ◇ McMeans, Wendell – His back has been giving him issues. ^[7]

NOVEMBER 12 & OLDER

Barron, Pat ^[20]; Bippert, Cheryl ^[8]; Bippert Family ^[8]; Boldt, Sandy ^[8]; Brock, Jim ^[20]; Brock Family ^[18]; Brown, Scott ^[13]; Buchheit Family ^[14]; Burris, Joyce ^[14]; Clemetson, Allie ^[20]; Cook, Daisy ^[20]; Davis, R. Family ^[8]; Davis, P Family ^[14]; Dye, Joyce ^[8]; Farris Family ^[19]; Fintel, Pam ^[8]; Haass Family ^[22]; Halverson Family ^[14]; Hoover, Herb ^[20]; Lester, Kathy ^[23]; Montalvo, Louie ^[10]; Moore, Michael & Michele ^[8]; Noble Family ^[12]; Orr, Myrna ^[22]; Orr & Burris Families ^[17]; Parra, Rudy ^[14]; Shelton, Judy ^[20]; Slaughter, Ron ^[13]; Smith, Betty ^[12]; Smith, Philip ^[20]; Sparks, Janice ^[22]; Spicer, Ronda ^[17]; Stroud, Brenna & Derrick ^[19]; Stroud, Faith ^[19]; Strunk's Neighbor, Nancy (Last Name Unknown) ^[8]; Vierling, Carlene ^[22]; Vierling, Carol ^[17]; Villarreal, Nick ^[17]; Woodard, Sue ^[9]



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ple”(Proverbs 14:34); “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress^[hold down] the truth in unrighteousness,” (Romans 1:18); “For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women^[females] exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men^[males], leaving the natural use of the woman^[female], burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error



which was due. ²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness^[greed], maliciousness^[malice]; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boast-ers, inventors of evil things, disobedient to par-ents, ³¹ undiscerning^[without understanding], untrustwor-thy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³² who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them” (Romans 1:26-32). And I don’t think I’m necessarily taking Mark 10:6 out of context (to apply to this situation) which says, “But from the beginning of the creation, God ‘made them male and female.’” Shouldn’t we therefore stand up and declare (in love) what God has said?” **E**

SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

MARK 10:1-9

¹ Then He arose from there and came to the region of Judea by the other side of the Jordan. And multitudes gathered to Him again, and as He was accustomed, He taught them again. ² The Pharisees came and asked Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” testing Him. ³ And He an-
swered and said to them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴ They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to dismiss her.” ⁵ And Jesus answered and said to them, “Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept^[command]. ⁶ But from the beginning of the creation, God ‘made them male and female.’ ⁷ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

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



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> Every 4th Sunday Of Every Month EXCEPT For Months With a 5th Sunday</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—Jan 7	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>What God Has Done</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun—Jan 14	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>The Gift Of Love</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun—Jan 21	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>Meant For Good</i> – for channel: searchtv.com</p>
Sun—Jan 28	 <p>IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY – <i>But He Lied</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 7	National Tempura Day National Bobblehead Day Int'l Programmers' Day
Mon—Jan 8	National English Toffee Day National Gluten-Free Day War On Poverty Day
Wed—Jan 10	National Bittersweet Chocolate & Oyster Rockefeller's Days Save The Eagles Day
Thu—Jan 11	National Milk Day National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
Fri—Jan 12	National Curried Chicken, Glazed Doughnut & Marzipan Days, Hot Tea Days
Sat—Jan 13	National Peach Melba Day National Rubber Ducky Day
Sun—Jan 14	National Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day National Sunday Supper With Family Day

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 7 — Job 14-16
MON	Jan 8 — Job 17-20
TUE	Jan 9 — Job 21-23
WED	Jan 10 — Job 24-28
THU	Jan 11 — Job 29-31
FRI	Jan 12 — Job 32-34
SAT	Jan 13 — Job 35-37
Job = Job	

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 VARIOUS BOOKS

Galatians 3:26-28 — ²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 2:9 — ⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

James 2:1-4 — ¹ My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. ² For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, ³ and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, “You sit here in a good place,” and say to the poor man, “You stand there,” or, “Sit here at my footstool,” ⁴ have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:8-9 — ⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you do well; ⁹ but if you [a]show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

