

One of Suffering's Greatest Benefits

It was reported that Osca Wilde, the British playwright, once said that there was enough suffering on any given street in London at any given time to prove that there is no God." For millennia, skeptics, agnostics, atheists, and infidels have pointed accusing fingers at the suffering in this world and have demanded that such evil and pain militates against the concept of an all-powerful, all-loving God. Even Christians have been faced with faith-trying episodes of suffering in their lives. How could a loving God allow such bad things to happen to His human creations?

Suffering in the lives of humans can lead them to establish a right relationship with their Creator. Consider Manasseh, the king of Judah, as a case in point. In 2 Kings 21, the Bible records that Manasseh "*did evil in the sight of the LORD*" (v. 2). He "*used fortune-telling and omens and dealt with mediums and with necromancers*" (v. 6). But his sins did not stop there; rather, he "*had done things more evil than all that the Amorites who were before him*" and "*made Judah also to sin with his idols*" (v. 11). In addition, the text records that Manasseh "*shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another*" (v. 16). This evil king seemed to be rotten to the core, and beyond hope of turning to God.

Due to Manasseh's sin, the LORD sent the army of Assyria to raid Judah. The Assyrians captured Manasseh and led him away with hooks (probably nose hooks) and bronze fetters to the land of Babylon. In this destitute condition, when Manasseh's suffering was at its worst, the Bible records, "*Now when he was afflicted, he implored the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, and prayed to Him; and He received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God*" (2 Chronicles 33.12, 13, *emp. Added*). Upon regaining the throne, Manasseh removed the idols and foreign gods and re-established worship of the one true God. Only through his "affliction" did Manasseh realize that he needed God.



So, it is with many today. The cares of this world have a way of keeping people from contemplating their actual relationship with God. Yet, when suffering hits their lives, the real issues of life often come into much clearer focus. C.S. Lewis once wrote that pain was God's "*megaphone to rouse a deaf world.*" David, the inspired psalmist, in prayer to his God, wrote: "*Before I was afflicted, I went astray, but now I keep Your word*" (Psalm 119.67). It is a sad fact that some people never look up to God until they are laying flat on their backs. Do not be deceived into thinking that all suffering and pain is "useless." On the contrary, "*count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience*" (James 1.2, 3).

Kyle Butt, MA—Apologetics Press

<http://www.apologeticspress.org>

(Kyle and I are good friends. We worked on our Master's together at Freed Hardeman University)

What Is Your Focus?

Hebrews 2.1-4

- 1) Do you have trouble focusing?
- 2) There are many people in the Bible who lost their focus.
- 3) The Hebrew writer reveals that many Jews had lost focus of Jesus' superiority over everything.

I) The _____ (Hebrews 2.1-2a).

A) What's the exhortation?

- 1) We must stay _____.
- 2) If we do not _____.

B) To what are we to listen (Hebrews 2.1)?

- 1) _____ (Hebrews 1).
- 2) It is a call for all to focus on what _____ has said through _____.

C) Were there _____ at Mt. Sinai when Moses received the statutes and commandments from the Lord?

- 1) Moses does not mention angels on the mount (Exodus 19, 20).
- 2) But notice what Moses says in Deuteronomy 33.1-5.

(a) There is a textual variation among the translations.

(b) Many translations say, "**From His right hand came a fiery law for them**" [NKJV, NLT, ASV, CJB (Complete Jewish Bible), Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible, Septuagint].

- (i) What was the fiery law? What was the message given by the angels?
- (ii) _____.

II) The _____ (Hebrews 2b-3a).

A) Under the Old Law, God punished those who disobeyed His Law _____.

- 1) The Law proved painful if disobeyed.
- 2) The Hebrew writer uses the children of Israel's rebellion as proof of _____ for _____.

B) How shall we escape what (Hebrews 2.3a)?

- 1) Disobedience to the _____ given by God's divine Son.
- 2) Under the New Covenant, God's _____.

C) Is there a parallel between the revelation given "**by the _____**" and "**by the _____**"?

III) The _____ (Hebrews 3b-4).

A) The Hebrew writer gives confirmation of how God spoke to us through His Son (Hebrews 1.1, 2).

- 1) It was declared by the _____.
- 2) It was confirmed by _____.
- 3) God gave validation through signs, wonders, miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

B) Salvation is only in _____.

Conclusion: Do you need salvation today?

C O N N E C T I O N

C Good morning and welcome to December, WH family! This morning we feature Michelle Glenn in our Connection Corner.

R Michelle was born a self-described “army brat” in the Fort Hood military hospital in Killeen, TX. Her father was a Major in the Army Criminal Investigations Department. After 5th grade, the family moved to Salado, TX, and during her high school years, Michelle was a majorette (with wild baton skills), a manager for the girls’ basketball team, a 4-H club member, and Senior class secretary. She graduated 3rd in her class. She continued her education at Temple Junior College followed by Texas Women’s University. At TWU, she earned her BS degree in Speech and Hearing Therapy. She began working for the Bosque County Schools as a Speech Therapist.



Michelle was introduced to Walt Glenn through a friend of hers from TWU and Michelle & Walt soon became inseparable. They married 1 ½ years later and moved to Tulsa, OK for Walt’s job. Michelle was a homemaker there for a couple of years and then the couple were blessed over several years with the addition of their 2 daughters and a son. Michelle went back to work as a pre-school teacher for a few years before the family moved to the Ft Worth area. She worked as a speech pathologist for a few years in the Ft Worth ISD while she completed her Master’s of Education as well as a Diagnostician Certification. She became an educational diagnostician for the rest of her 29-year career with Ft Worth ISD. Michelle and Walt were WH members for several years and helped in several ministry areas before his passing a few years ago.

Michelle is co-ordinator of the audio/visual booth scheduling, participates in Ladies Bible Class as well as the pillow ministry. She has taught and helped co-ordinate the Cradle Roll classes for several years as well as teaching music in the Star Bright school. In her retirement, she has begun to help with Meals on Wheels and the Fortress Development Daycare. As if that wasn’t enough to keep her busy, she has 6 canine “babies” she took in as strays, all the way from a Chihuahua mix up to Pit mix breeds. Hers is a “house divided,” 4 big dogs on one side and the 2 small dogs on the other. Reach out to get to know Michelle and I know you will be blessed!

Les Keele



We will need a teacher for Children’s Church for **December 10**. Please let Mrs. Vicki know if you will teach.

No Childrens Church on **December 24**.

The Church office will be closed December 25, 26, and 27; as well as January 1 for New Year’s Day.

<p>October Food Bank Stats:</p> <p>250 – Families Served</p> <p>\$1105.29 – Cost to WHCOC</p> <p>9752 lbs – Estimated Weight of Food</p>
--

SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
* Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

* *Shepherd of the month*

MINISTERS

Gary Williams:	662-321-3208
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Les Keele:	817-808-0566
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
James Bowie:	817-944-4492
<i>Youth Minister</i>	
John Boundtaroth:	817-891-2132
<i>Laotian Minister</i>	

DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome -

Song Leader - Matt Sloan

Song - The Steadfast Love Of The Lord

Song - He Is Wonderful

Song - As The Deer Thirsts

Prayer -

Scripture - Hebrews 2.1-4

Song - Come To The Table

Lord's Supper - Russ Bartee

Prayer for Contribution - Russ Bartee

Song - Living By Faith

What Is Your Focus? - Gary Williams

Song - Have You Been To Jesus

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Ross Tomlinson

Donate by QR Code?
Here is ours:
Thank You!



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years. There is also a cry room available if needed.

For our members and visitors with hearing difficulties, we now provide single side in-ear mono earbuds with a personal receiver for your convenience. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for one.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, December 5

Ephesian 1 - 3

Tuesday, December 6

Ephesian 4 - 6

Wednesday, December 7

Philippians 1 - 4

Thursday, December 8

Colossians 1 - 4

Friday, December 9

1 Thessalonians 1 - 4

Saturday, December 10

1 Thessalonians 5 - 2 Thessalonians 2

Sunday, December 11

2 Thessalonians 3 - 1 Timothy 3

Last Week

Bible Class:	120	Wednesday:	96
AM Worship:	181	Contribution:	\$ 5746.08
PM Worship:	42	Budget:	\$ 12,978.00

Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

December 3, 2023

NAME	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Jean Cox	Is in Harris Southwest Hospital, Room 5248. 5134 Ledgestone Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76132	Healing
Lorinda Bell's Family	Lorinda passed away on November 18th. Cards to Sharon Bundy (Lorinda's sister) P.O. Box 12, Throckmorton, Texas 76483-0112	Peace and comfort for the family
Carolyn Williams	Terri Reed, Carolyn's daughter, passed away on November 16th. 8211 Llano, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Peace and comfort for the family
Robert Bow and family	His brother-In-law, Billy freeman, passed away. 9791 McDaniel Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76126	Peace and comfort for the family
Gail Willmington	Is having so much pain in her knee causing leg and back pain. She can't have surgery until February, 2024. 1603 Tierney Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76112	Reduction in pain
Judy Blair 11/16/23	She had knee replacement surgery November 16th. 121 Lilac Lane, Azle, Texas 76020	Quick healing and recovery
Susie Steadman 11/2/2023	She has chronic intestinal problems due to past surgeries. 8700 N. Normandale St. #106, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Her issues to pass so she can have surgery
Susan Carpenter Ward 10/26/2023	Has suffered a stroke and is now home from the hospital recovering. 3000 Choctaw, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Recovery and healing
Bridgett Yawn 10/22/2023	Needs prayers for strength in her faith and patience with her physical afflictions. 9213 Idaho Street, Joshua, Texas 76058	Needs as requested
Bud and Betty Wilcox 10/04/2023	Bud is having issues with his diabetes and will have some cancer spots burned off. Betty is in a lot of pain. They would love visits, calls, and cards. Water Mark At Broadway City View; 5301 Bryant Irvin Road, Apartment #132, Fort Worth, Texas 76132	Better days
Caleb Bartee 10/03/2023	Had a successful surgery for a torn ACL and Lateral Meniscus. 8629 Vista Royale Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Successful rehab, and recovery

Zach Brookshire would like to know who all would be willing and able to help with a church workday, to fix things around the building. Please notify the office if you would be willing to participate.

All prayer requests will remain on the list for 30 days. Following that time, the request will be removed unless the office is notified differently. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS
Family & Friends
December 3, 2023

NAME	REQUESTED BY	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Lauren Mulkelroy and family are friends of	Michelle Glenn	Was in a car accident. Husband and children passed away on-scene.	Lauren's recovery and comfort and peace 11/29/23
Danny Wampler, grandfather of	Brandon Duncan	He is not doing well and his health is going down rapidly.	The family 11/14/2023
Art and Rita Renfro friends of	Betsy Strother	Art has upcoming shoulder replacement surgery. Rita Received good news, no cancer!	Art's surgery to go well and quick healing 11/14/2023
David Yarbrough, the father of	Angie Kirkpatrick	Is now on dialysis.	Prayers for better health 10/10/2023
Christopher Lowrey, son of	Doug and Barbara Lowrey	Christopher and his shipmates are in the Mediterranean and are off the coast of Israel.	Their safety and their families at home 10/09/2023
George Milhim, brother of	Betty Kille	Has a brain tumor, broken shoulder, and six cracked ribs.	Successful surgery, physical and spiritual healing 10/08/2023

Join Us For Our: Tuesday Morning Bible Classes At 10 AM.
Men's Topic: 10 Steps to the New Spiritual You -
Milt Birmingham
Ladies' Topic: First Peter - Paula Pauley



Ladies, if you would like to share prayer time and gain strength by coming together with your sisters, come to the Library on Wednesday nights at 6:40 PM.

BYO Brown Bag Suppers continue on Wednesday nights. Please bring your family's meal and we will enjoy a time of fellowship before evening services and classes. The building will be opened at 6 PM.



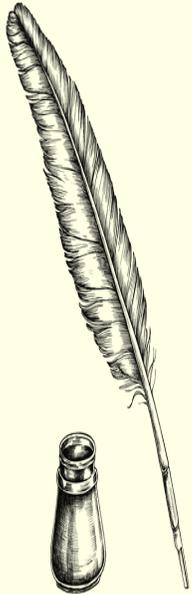


Foster's Home

for Children

Change cans will be picked up by December 6th, so please bring them in soon.

A Note of Encouragement:



1 Thessalonians 5 :9 For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. ¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

This week we need to write words of encouragement to Daniel Gabi, who is one of our missionaries that works in Nigeria. His email address is danielwgabi@yahoo.com.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

JUNE 2 - JUNE 5

Please look in the foyer and sign up for all the areas in which you wish to work at VBS. Slots are going fast; so, sign up early to get your preferred spot!



Winter Quarter Classes:

Sundays:

Auditorium: Revelation: teacher: Russ Bartee

Young Married and Singles: 1 & 2 Peter: teacher: Robert Scott

Wednesday nights:

Ladies' Class: Prayer: teachers: Deatra Keele and Lisa Williams

Men's Class: Step Up To The Plate: teacher: Les Keele

Our Blood drive day will be December 10, 2023. So please sign Up either on the list in the foyer or Online. The day you give, bring an ID.



The life you save may be your Own.



MANUELITO NAVAJO CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

P. O. Box 58 • Gallup, New Mexico 87305-0058
(505) 863-5530

Sponsored by the Gallup Church of Christ

- 24 hr Care
- Christian School

www.mnch.org

Name	Sex	Age	Gift Wish	Size	Color
Alexis	F	17	Walmart Gift Card		
Celia	F	10	JcPenny Gift Card		
Collin	M	14	PS4		
Coy	M	8	Baseball Equipment		
Jayden	M	12	Elvis Presley CDs		
Jimi	F	15	Amazon Gift Card		
Jordynn	F	9	Walmart Gift Card		
Kadan	M	13	NIKE Gift Card		
Keshia	F	18	Bathroom Towels		
Monica	F	16	Nintendo E-Shop Gift Cards		
Nizhoni	F	8	Visa Gift Card		
Quintin	M	13	Walmart Gift Card		
Raylyn	F	14	Gift Card		
Starr	F	10	Blanket		

Please notify the office who you would like to sign up for. This way we do not have duplicates.

These must be in by or before December 10th. Thank you.

Gift cards added to any of the Christmas gifts also makes a great gift. *Please do not wrap your gifts.*
Thank you!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Kao Chanthanounsy

2 René Johnston

2 Melissa Montanez

2 Jeff Thiravong

2 Ross Tomlinson

3 Robert Bow

4 Jean Cox

4 Adam Powers

4 Bev Pratt

7 Kristie McLeroy

8 Lee Bradley

8 Thomas Chakrathouk

9 Dorothy Anderson

10 Christina Intharansy

12 Lorenza Fernandez

12 Martin Franz

12 Thonglouath Manyloun

12 Auna Walton

14 Wayne Gary

17 Jake Dekoker

17 Gloria Speak

18 LaRue Bow

19 Steven Johnston

20 Mary Jo Winters

21 Chuck King

22 Bob Willyerd

23 Ronny Tucker

24 Betty Adams

24 Lucille Patterson

26 Zach Brookshire

30 Jay Garner

30 Cassidy Tunnell

30 Karen Haas

31 Thienxay Manyloun

Children

10 Tanner Chakrathouk

12 Ian Thomas

27 Jonathan Everett

30 Jack Meyers