

Going Beyond What God Desires

Have you ever heard someone say, “*God doesn’t want me to be unhappy.*” Often, it the phrase people use right before they walk away from God. For example, “*God doesn’t want me to be unhappy...so I am leaving my marriage,*” or “*God doesn’t want me to be unhappy...so I am choosing to continue in this one particular sin,*” or “*God doesn’t want me to be unhappy...so I am doing what feels right to me.*” God not wanting me to be unhappy may sound spiritual. It may feel comforting. But it is not biblical.

Did you know that God’s goal is not our immediate happiness—it is our eternal holiness. Scripture does not say, “*Be happy because I am happy.*” It says, “***Be holy, for I am holy***” (*Leviticus 11.44; I Peter 1.16*). Being happy is wonderful, but it is not the compass God uses to guide our lives; holiness is. Happiness is a blessing of being holy, not a substitute for it.

Many people in their pursuit of happiness often run from God. Do you remember the account of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15.11-32)? The son thought, “*I will happier away from my father,*” “*I will be happier with freedom to do as I please,*” “*I will be happier doing what I want.*” That is what he thought, but what he thought would bring great happiness actually led to hunger, humiliation, heartbreak, and hopelessness. When he returned to his father, he found the happiness he had been searching for all along.



Yes, chasing happiness often leads us away from God, but chasing God is what leads to true joy.

True happiness is found in God’s presence, not our preferences. David said, “***In Your presence there is fulness of joy***” (*Psalms 16.11*). Not in “*having my own way,*” “*living in sin,*” or “*forsaking the commandments of God.*” When we walk with God, our joy deepens, our peace grows, our hearts find peace. God does not want you to be unhappy—He wants you to be whole. So the next time you think, “*God doesn’t want me to be unhappy,*” instead, think “*God wants me to be holy,*” “*God wants me to be healed,*” “*God wants me to be His.*” When you walk faithfully before God, you will find a joy much deeper than happiness could ever give.

Where will you find your joy?

Gary

How Poor Am I?

Luke 14.7-11

- 1) Have you ever thought that you were poor?
- 2) How did you determine your poverty?

I) _____ And _____ (Matthew 5.1, 2).

A) What are the Beatitudes?

- 1) The Beatitudes are 8 declarations of _____ spoken by Jesus at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5.3-12).
- 2) It is debated exactly how many beatitudes there are?
- 3) The Beatitudes seem paradoxical.
- 4) The Beatitudes are _____ in nature.

B) What does the Greek word *Makarios* (“**blessed**”) mean?

- 1) The fullest meaning of the term had to do with an _____ that is _____ by circumstances (Philippians 4.11-13).
- 2) Many today teach the false doctrine that faithfulness to Jesus guarantees health, wealth, success, prestige, and prosperity (Titus 1.11).

II) Who Are The _____ In _____ (Matthew 5.3)?

A) Does the word “**poor**” refer to material poverty?

- 1) The term does not mean simply poor, but _____ poor.
- 2) It means to be completely dependent on others for sustenance.
- 3) Is that to what Jesus is referring when He says, “**Blessed are the poor**”?

B) To be “**poor in spirit**” is to recognize one’s _____ poverty apart from God.

- 1) In the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, which one was “**poor in spirit**”?
- 2) There are biblical examples of people who recognized that they were poor in spirit.

C) How do we become “**poor in spirit**”?

- 1) First, we must take our eyes off _____ and look to _____.
- 2) Second, we must _____ the _____ by removing the things on which it feeds.
- 3) Third, we should ask _____.

III) _____ Poor In Spirit?

A) How do I recognize whether or not I am poor in spirit?

- 1) Some principles given by David Watson, say:
 - (a) One who is poor in spirit loses his _____.
 - (b) One who is poor in spirit will be lost in the _____ of _____.
 - (c) One who is poor in spirit will spend much time in _____.
 - (d) One who is poor in spirit will _____ and _____ God for His _____.

B) Those who are poor in spirit will inherit the _____ of _____.

- 1) Those who come to the Lord with broken hearts do not leave with broken hearts.
- 2) God spoke through the prophet Isaiah, saying, ... (Isaiah 57.15).

Conclusion: Do you need to humble yourself before God today?

CONNECTION

Good morning church family-

O You wake up, peek through the blinds, and the world is covered in white. Roads are slick. The parking lot at the church building is untouched. The usual Sunday routine—getting dressed, grabbing your Bible, greeting friends in the foyer—suddenly pauses.

R A “snow day” on a Sunday can feel like something is missing. But maybe... it’s an opportunity for something different. While we may not be able to gather in the same room, nothing about this day prevents us from connecting in spirit, heart, and intention.

N The early Christians didn’t have church buildings, livestreams, or group texts. Yet they were deeply connected because they understood something we sometimes forget: the church is people, not a place. A snow-covered Sunday can become a reminder of that truth.

E Instead of rushing out the door, what if we slowed down and leaned in?

- R**
- Call a church member you haven’t spoken to in a while.
 - FaceTime your children or grandchildren and read a Bible story together.
 - Send a text of encouragement to someone who may feel isolated.
 - Pray with your spouse or family in the living room.
 - Open your Bible and read the same passages you would have heard today.
 - Join the livestream or share a devotional video with a friend. Share a communion service time together.



Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us not to neglect meeting together. That doesn’t only mean sitting in the same pew. It means intentionally stirring one another up to love and good works. Technology now allows us to “meet” in ways that weren’t possible before.

A snow day doesn’t cancel church. It simply moves it into living rooms, kitchens, and phone screens. It turns couches into pews. Coffee tables into communion tables. Phones into fellowship halls. Most importantly, it reminds us that connection with the Lord doesn’t depend on weather conditions. Our worship, prayer, and devotion are not confined to a building or a schedule.

So today, if the snow keeps us home, let’s not treat it as a lost Sunday.

Let’s treat it as a Snow Day Sunday—a day to intentionally reach out, connect, encourage, and worship from wherever we are.

Because even when the roads are closed... the body of Christ is still very much open! Try it, you’ll be blessed!

-- Les Keele

SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Barte	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
Pulpit Minister	
Les Keele	817-808-0566
Associate Minister	
James Bowie	817-944-4492

THAI-LAOTIAN MINISTERS

Jeffery Lertboonpadong	206-819-9109
John Boudtaroth	817-891-2132

DEACONS

Jonathan Barte	817-889-2686
David Birdow	970-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
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 - Steven Johnston

Song Leader - Russ Jones

Song - He Has Made Me Glad

Song - Jesus Loves Me

Song - Higher Ground

Opening Prayer -

Scripture - **Luke 14:7-11**

Song - Amazing Grace

Lord's Supper -

Prayer For Contribution -

Song - Victory Chant

"How Poor Am I" - Gary Williams

Song - Hear Me When I Call

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer and Dismissal - John Walton

Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

**Our Code For
Tithley Giving**



**Our Code For
Attendance**



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, January 26

Genesis 45-46; Matthew 20

Tuesday, January 27

Genesis 47; Matthew 21

Wednesday, January 28

Genesis 48-49; Matthew 22

Thursday, January 29

Exodus 1; Genesis 50; Matthew 23

Friday, January 30

Exodus 2-3; Matthew 24

Saturday, January 31

Exodus 4; Matthew 25

LAST WEEK

Bible Class	127	On-Line Wednesday	5
Worship	193	Wednesday	85
Thai-Lao	35	Contribution	\$5,908.17
On-Line Sunday	24	Budget	\$15,372.28

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

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Nicole Donahue-Isom, sister of	Rob Donahue	Has been diagnosed with breast cancer.	The doctors' skill and knowledge for her treatment and recovery
Rob, son-in-law of	Sharon Pippin	Had a doctor's appointment to see if the growths in his esophagus have grown and what can be done. They are also doing a biopsy. On the 19 th , he went to a specialist for the blood clots in his leg and stomach.	He is not a Christian and needs prayers for his soul and his health
David Thomas, uncle of	Buck Thomas	Passed away on January 18, 2026	Comfort for the family
Jennifer Randles, niece of	Gail Willmington	Her ex-husband had his rights taken away awhile back. Lately he has been posting very threatening and disturbing posts. The posts have been seen by judges and taken to the DA. Also for her 2 boys.	For safety and that his heart will be calmed
Leeneh McLellan, friend of	Mindy Markham	Her lung collapsed and she is in the hospital.	Comfort for my friend
Rachelle Jordan	Food Bank Client	Is wanting to draw closer to God. 3009 Las Vegas Trail, Fort Worth, Texas 76116.	Her to live her life to lead her family to God
Hazel Bird, mother of	David Birdow	Has been informed that her tests returned positive for cancer.	Her respiratory issues to be resolved and for the treatments to eradicate the cancer
Dave Slaughter, friend of	Jonny and Amy Bartee	Has been diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer and is undergoing chemo treatments.	Success from treatments to live healthy life
Jon Silcox, husband of	Tracie Silcox	Is suffering from cancer and had surgery December 30.	Good outcome
Candis Cheshire	Visitor to WH	Called on January 21 to let us know she has truly appreciated the cards and prayers. Her prognosis is good and she is awaiting one final surgery.	Healing and return to good health
Delma Balderas, mother of	Misty Martinez	Is suffering from rheumatoid arthritis in her legs.	Healing

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS: Continued

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Paula Hamrick, sister of	Patti Musselman	Is on chemo for her recurrent cancer. Her port became infected and she has a blood clot.	Doctors' skill and knowledge; new drug works and will eradicate the cancer
Nic Smith, son of	Linda DiRocco	More symptomatic with his MS and he is already on the best medicine.	Doctors to find ways of negating his symptoms
Jeff Holland, nephew of	Judy Birmingham	Bladder cancer has returned.	Doctors to determine best course of treatment
Tracie Jones, wife of	Russ	Health issues.	Healing
Shane Grantham	Michael and Kitti Davis	Suffers from cancer.	Healing
Brook, neice of	Misty Martinez	Will have rods placed in her hip this summer to correct dysplasia from birth.	For her to handle the pain while awaiting surgery
Becky Stark, cousin's wife of	Adam Powers	Emergency surgery to remove brain aneurysm.	Healing

MEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS: Continued

Rob Donahue	Needs a job. 4529 Starlight Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126	God to provide the perfect situation for him
Mary East	On hospice at Mark and Karen's home. 101 Rambling Trail, Weatherford, Texas 76087	Strength for Mary and guidance for Mark and Karen

MEMBERS PRAYER LIST

NAME	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Dwight Blair	Will have an ablation and trans esophageal echo on Wednesday, January 28 at Harris, Downtown, Heart and Vascular. 121 Lilac Lane, Azle, Texas 76020	Findings to direct the doctors
Shirley Bennett	Has COVID. 4018 Ridglea Country Club, #508, Fort Worth, Texas 76126	Recovery
Sam Anderson	Had tests in Dallas this past week. 11137 Castle Oak Lane, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Good Results
Bob Willyerd	Has returned home on palliative care. 3704 Guadalupe Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76133	Comfort
Jazelle Manry	Is undergoing treatment for her eyes. 1112 Meadow Park Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Successful treatment
Wayne Gary	Will have surgery on his right eye Thursday, December 30. 9912 Edmund Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76126	Healing
Thonglouth Manylou	In the passing of her husband, Thienxay, and her leg is in extreme pain. 55913 Lakeview Court, Fort Worth, Texas 776137	Comfort and healing
Charles Stephan	Has moved to Willow Park Rehab, Room 411. 633 South Kate Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Healing
Patricia Emerson	Cancer has returned. 6536 Wooddale, Fort Worth, Texas 76148	Remission and healing
Kitti Davis	Is suffering from Parkinson's. 812 Ala Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Healing
Lorenza Fernandez	Is taking care of Emilio and herself. 232 Lochness Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Strength to assist Emilio
Emilio Fernandez	Has had another fall. He has good and bad days but sleeps through most of them. 232 Lochness Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Healing and strength to walk

YOUTH EVENTS

LTC

Study Joshua, Judges, and Ruth

www.ntlc.org

Today

LTC Bible Bowl Practice

3:30 - 5:00 PM

Read Joshua 1-5 for the first study session

MEN'S AND LADIES' BIBLE CLASSES

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 27

The Ladies will be studying
Seasons Of Our Lives: Winter

Teacher: Betsy Strother

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

If you need more names for the WBS mailing program, please see David Birdow.



Though your sins be like scarlett,
they shall be as white as snow

CORPORATE MEETING

Sunday, February 8

Evening Services

We ask that all who are able, please attend.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

January 29, 2026

IHOP

Cherry Lane

7:00 AM

BABY SHOWER

Honoring
Maggie Meyer Catteau &
Baby Redmond

Sunday

February 1 PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE

2 PM – 4 PM

Maggie is the daughter of Chuck and Julie Meyer.
They are registered at Amazon.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

Beginning January, 2026, we will be reviewing the lists and removing those that are over 30 days old. **If you wish to keep one on the list or give us an update on the situation, please contact the office.**

February Celebrations

- 2 METH BOUDTAROTH
- 3 CHRIS INTHARANSY
- 9 OUMM CHEVAOSOT
- 10 DWIGHT BLAIR
- 11 MINNE COLLINS
- 12 KIM BROWN
- 12 PHONETHIP PHONEPRASERTH
- 13 MARIE PEREZ
- 14 JOE GENTRY
- 15 MICHELLE GLENN
- 16 ANDREW MONTANEZ
- 16 CAROL MEYER
- 17 JOHN WRIGHT
- 17 JAZELLE MANRY
- 17 SANDRA WADE
- 27 MARY JO LEE
- 27 PAULA PAULEY

Children

- 13 LILLY SCOTT
- 21 MASON MARTINEZ
- 25 STEPHANIE DUNCAN

Remember Me

- 12 JEAN WIGGINS
- 27 GENE MENZDORF

Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|------|
| 3 ISAIAH AND STEFANI SANCHEZ | 2021 |
| 9 BUD AND BETTY WILCOX | 1951 |
| 75 YEARS | |
| 11 VICKIE AND MONTY BOWERS | 1983 |
| 12 ZACH AND AMY BROOKSHIRE | 2011 |
| 27 KHANE AND
KETSAMMONE VIVONGSACK. | 1988 |