

“Why We Gather Matters”

Every Sunday, God invites us into something bigger than a routine, bigger than a tradition, and bigger than a weekly habit. He invites us into a gathering—a moment where His people come together to be strengthened, encouraged, and reminded of what is true.

The writer of the book of Hebrews urges us “*not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as is the habit of some, but to encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching*” (Hebrews 10.25). This verse isn’t a scolding; it’s a lifeline. It reminds us that faith was never meant to be lived in isolation. God designed His people to walk together, worship together, and lift one another up.

When we gather, something sacred happens.

- *The weary find rest.*
- *The discouraged find hope.*
- *The lonely find family.*
- *The wandering find direction.*
- *The strong find purpose in strengthening others.*



Church isn’t just a place to attend—it’s a people of whom to belong. And every time we show up, we contribute something meaningful. Your presence encourages someone else. Your worship strengthens those around you. Your prayers may lift burdens of others without you even being aware of it. Your smile, your handshake, your “*I’m glad you’re here*”—God uses it all.

In a world that constantly pulls us toward isolation, distraction, and self-reliance, gathering with God’s people is an act of resistance. It’s a declaration that we still believe God is working, that His promises are true, and that His people matter.

As we worship today, let this be more than a weekly stop. Let it be a moment where your heart is renewed, your faith is strengthened, and your love for God’s people grows deeper. And as Hebrews reminds us, let’s keep encouraging one another—not less, but more—as the days grow challenging and the world grows weary.

May today remind you that you are not alone, you are not forgotten, and you are part of something God Himself is building.

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

O

Good morning church family-

R

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.

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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.

E

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.

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 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
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 Bartee	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 - Matthew Sloan

Song - There is a Habitation

Song - Everybody Will Be Happy Over There

Song - Revelation Song

Opening Prayer - Jay Garner

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

Song - Thomas' Song

Lord's Supper - Ben Meyer

Prayer For Contribution - Ben Meyer

Song - Days of Elijah

"How Poor Am I?" - Gary Williams

Song - Are You Washed in the Blood

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer and Dismissal - Greg Ball

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, February 2

Exodus 6; Matthew 27

Tuesday, February 3

Psalm 67; Exodus 7-8; Matthew 28

Wednesday, February 4

Psalm 105; Exodus 9-10

Thursday, February 5

Psalm 91; Exodus 11-12

Friday, February 6

Psalm 114; Exodus 13-15

Saturday, February 7

Exodus 16-18; I Peter

LAST WEEK

Bible Class	NC	On-Line	NC
Worship	NC	Wednesday	NC
Thai-Lao	NC	Wednesday	\$0
On-Line Sunday	NC	Contribution	\$15,372.28
		Budget	

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