

## Ready To Throw In The Towel?

There are moments in life when the weights we are carrying feel too heavy to take another step. You pray... and nothing changes. You try...and nothing moves. You hope...and nothing happens. You fight...and feel like you are losing ground. Then somewhere deep inside you, a whisper creeps up and says, "What's the point? Just give up." That's where you may be today. Tired of the struggle of life. Discouraged to the point of just wanting to give up. Just wishing someone would love you. Ready to throw in the towel. But did you know, God does some of His greatest work when you are right at the breaking point?

I know at times you feel invisible. Nobody cares. Nobody understands what you are carrying. Nobody sees your pain. You have become a pro at keeping it all well-hidden. But scripture tells a different story. Do you remember when Sarai had Abram go in to her Egyptian maidservant Hagar (Genesis 16)? After Hagar conceived, Sarai thought Hagar was looking upon her with contempt. So, Sarai had Abram cast her out. Hagar ran into the wilderness. Alone. Rejected. Exhausted. Ready to give up. And God met her there. Not in a palace. Not when everything in her life was going well. Not in her comfort. But in the desert. Her weakness. Her despair. God did not scold her, or shame her, or tell her to "toughen up." He just said, "I see you." Sometimes, our first step out of the darkness is to know that you are not unseen. God is there with you in the midnight. God sees you and offers to lift you up. To bring you back into the light.

Elijah had faced the 450 prophets of Baal. After his tremendous victory with God sending fire down from heaven to consume his sacrifice, Queen Jezebel threatened his life. Elijah fled in fear into the wilderness. He had had enough. He was exhausted and drained. He felt the imminent threat of losing his life. Finished. What did God do? God did not chastise Elijah, saying, "Where is your faith?" Instead, God sent an angel with food and a gentle touch. Sometimes the most spiritual thing God can give you is rest.

What can I do? First, you need to be honest with God. David cried out. Jeremiah wept. Jesus sweat great drops of blood. God can handle your honesty. Can you take the next step? Not the whole journey. Just one prayer, one conversation, one act of obedience, one moment of trusting that God will restore you. Can you lean on the people around you? Moses needed Aaron and Hur to hold up his arms. Will you share what you are enduring with your Christian friends and let them help you through this difficult time? God is not done with you. Hang on. Let the light in. You are closer to a breakthrough than you realize. Don't throw in the towel! Don't walk away! Don't languish in pain. Let go, and let God deliver you.

Gary



# Peace Brokers

Matthew 5.9

- 1) Have you ever lost peace with a friend?
- 2) Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

**I) \_\_\_\_\_ the Peacemaker.**

- A) The Greek word simply means “to make \_\_\_\_\_.”
- B) The peacemaker is not only concerned about making peace between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_; but more importantly, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**II) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Peacemaker.**

- A) \_\_\_\_\_.
- B) \_\_\_\_\_.

**III) \_\_\_\_\_ of a Peacemaker.**

- A) Abraham (Genesis 13.2-8).
- B) Abigail (I Samuel 25).

**IV) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Peacemaker.**

- A) “They shall be called the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”
- B) The reward is limited.

**Conclusion:** Do you need to make peace with God today?



Good morning, church family! It is a blessing to be together this morning—to worship God, to commune, and to share in fellowship. But what is it that makes being together so meaningful?

Recently, I heard the old hymn ***"Blest Be the Tie That Binds,"*** and it led me to reflect on its origin. In 1772, John Fawcett, a minister serving a poor congregation in England, received an opportunity to move to a larger, more prestigious church—one that would better provide for his family. As the Fawcetts prepared to leave, members of their small congregation came in tears to say goodbye. Moved deeply, John and his wife Mary also wept. In that moment, they realized their love for their church family outweighed any material gain. They unpacked their wagon and stayed. That Sunday, John Fawcett shared a newly written hymn: ***"Blest Be the Tie That Binds."*** That "tie" held them together in that place for 54 years.

That story points to a powerful truth woven into God's creation. Our universe itself depends on "ties that bind." Gravity holds planets in orbit, hold us to the earth enabling us to move and function. Forces within atoms hold matter together, and on and on. Without these bonds, there would be chaos—life as we know it could not exist. Even the destructive power of an atomic explosion reminds us what happens when those bonds are broken.

In much the same way, God designed us for connection within a spiritual family. The church is held together by bonds of love, encouragement, and shared faith. These ties strengthen us, pull us back when we drift, and give us a deep sense of belonging.

Consider the wisdom of Scripture:

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)**

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken."

If you are not yet part of a church family, we invite you to connect with us. If you are, take a moment to look around—someone nearby may need encouragement, belonging, or simply to be reminded they are loved.

Let's strengthen the ties that bind us. When we do, we will all be blessed!

—Les Keele



*Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1*

## 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	
Youth Minister	
	817-944-4492

## THAI-LAOTION 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** - Layton Garner

**Song Leader** - Jonathan Bartee

**Song** - Send The Light

**Song** - Shine, Jesus, Shine

**Song** - Oh, To Be Like Thee

**Opening Prayer** - Jay Garner

**Scripture** - Matthew 5:9

**Song** - He Still Came

**Lord's Supper** - Milt Birmingham

**Prayer For Contribution** - Milt Birmingham

**Song** - To Chirst Be True

**Peace Brokers** - Gary Williams

**Song** - Where He Leads, I Will Follow

**Announcements** - Les Keele

**Shepherd's Prayer and Dismissal** - Russ Bartee

**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**

**Our Code For  
Attendance**



## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### Monday, March 30

Psalm 133; Deuteronomy 3; John 20

### Tuesday, March 31

Deuteronomy 4; John 21

### Wednesday, April 1

Deuteronomy 5-6; Proverbs 1

### Thursday, April 2

Deuteronomy 7-9; Proverbs 2

### Friday, April 3

Deuteronomy 10; Proverbs 3

### Saturday, April 4

Deuteronomy 11-12; Proverbs 4

### Sunday, April 5

Deuteronomy 13-14; Proverbs 5

### Monday, April 6

Deuteronomy 15-16; Proverbs 6

## LAST WEEK

## TIMES OF ASSEMBLIES

<b>Bible Class</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>Bible Class</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>Worship</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Sunday Morning Worship</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Thai-Lao</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$ unavailable</b>	<b>Sunday Evening Worship</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
<b>On-Line Sunday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$15,372.28</b>	<b>Wednesday Evening</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>