

April 21, 2022

### THE ALLUREMENT OF SIN

A mother bakes brownies for a school bake sale and tells her son not to eat any as she goes to get ready. Suddenly the little boy is tempted. Right there, on the table is a delicious brownie that he has been smelling all day long. He looks around to see if anyone is looking, trying to determine if he will get caught. But, he is caught already. Not by his mother, but by sin's power residing within. We have all done it and still do. We give into it. Maybe we are in a hurry and need to turn around. We see a sign that says no u-turn. We look around and see nobody is coming and we make the u-turn. Maybe you're at work and you have a lot to do. You have countless emails to send out and deadlines to meet, but you can't help but want to take a little while and do some online shopping for your family on company time. You might look around and see everyone is busy, or maybe you assume that they're all doing it as well, and you give into the urge. Maybe, on the other hand, you resist the urge only to find out that the sale had ended and you feel down all day even though you didn't give in.

Every day we experience sin's power as either rewards or punishment, and this is something we all experience. One great example of this goes back to Moses. **Hebrews 11:24-26** says, "By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward." Moses rejected the pleasures of sin in Pharaoh's palace. Pleasures and entertainment that would have rivaled any kingdom of the world at that time. By refusing, Moses was punished for it and suffered, being berated and cast aside. Do not be mistaken, sin offers very real pleasure as a reward. Talk to anyone who has ever been addicted to cocaine and they will probably tell you that there is no greater feeling than the first time they did it. However, it is soon gone and they spend the rest of their life trying to chase that same feeling. The pleasure of sin is fleeting but that is how sin works. When we get angry at someone, we want to scream at them or say hurtful things and... it feels great, but only for a moment. Or when we are feeling down or stressed, it is easy to linger in self pity and feed into it. This can even lead to the desire to find a way to kill that pain through drugs and alcohol, sexual immorality, gambling, or even junk food. It kills the pain and makes you forget your problems, but only for a moment. Then there is more pain that lingers. A pain that is harder to get rid of, shame and guilt.

Not only does sin lure us in with the promise of pleasure, it also threatens us with punishment if we do not give in.

This is what happened to Moses because he refused to give in. This is also what happened to Joseph when he refused to give into the temptation from Potiphar's wife. The same threat was given to Daniel many times. His life was put on the line when he stood up and refused to eat what the king wanted him to eat. His life was threatened when he continued to pray to God even when a decree was made that made it illegal. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were also threatened with punishment for not giving in and bowing before the image of king Nebuchadnezzar. Look what Jesus says in **Matthew 5:10-12** "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

In order for us to overcome sin's power with rewards of pleasure and threats of punishment, we must recognize sin for what it is. It is similar to the power of a river that flows against us. Every impulse that entices us with seeks to push us and bend us to its will. But we must remember that we have a choice. We can give in, which is the easier thing to do but leads to sin and death (**James 1:15**). Or we can be like Joseph, Moses, or Daniel and refuse to obey and choose to follow God. Every time sin's power tries to influence us, we can refuse to follow along and choose God's path. This is the battle we face each day. Paul says in **Galatians 5:16-17**, "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do." The force of the flesh is very strong. Paul even calls the strength of the flesh the law of sin. But, fortunately we have hope. **Romans 7:23-25** says, "but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin." through Christ, we have the power to refuse to gratify the desires of the flesh and choose to follow Him each and every day.

Andrew Spivey

### COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – 1 Kings 8

Wednesday Read – 1 Kings 9

#### BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of

**1 Kings 5-7.**

1. What material did King Hiram supply to build the temple and how did Solomon pay him?
2. What were the measurements of the temple?
3. Describe the furnishings of the temple.
4. What had David dedicated for the temple and why?
5. What are the measurements of the palace and how long did it take to build it?

#### SENIOR NIGHT

The Senior group will start up again on **Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship room. Please bring finger foods and drinks. Also games will be played after eating. For more details please see **Jo Ann Williamson**.

*The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The LORD is good to all: and His tender mercies are over all His works. All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. Psalm 145:8-10*

### ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

April 24, 2022

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Matt Ellis  
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler  
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

#### 10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown  
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis  
Opening Prayer.....Tim Cummins  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Lord's Supper.....Charlie Seals  
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

#### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Bob Brown  
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis  
Opening Prayer.....Jerry Watson  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Lord's Supper.....Jim Cherry  
Closing Prayer.....Allyn Hosman

### WEDNESDAY

April 27, 2022

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Bob Brown  
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis  
Opening Prayer.....David Thompson  
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Pat Watson

#### IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935  
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

### SICK LIST

**Carol Kidd** fell and fractured her right kneecap. **Bill Johnson** continues chemo and radiation treatments. **Mike Tidwell**, a former member, is home recovering from triple by-pass surgery. **Bob & Wanda Gregory** are both having health issues. **Ronald Milliken** husband of Helen Milliken, continues cancer treatments. **Steven Simmons** son of Charles and Fay Simmons continues to recover from back surgery. **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato, continues recovering from hip replacement. **Ty Tyler**, son of Ann Tyler, continues with serious health issues. **Craig Sweeney**, son of Doris Sweeney, continues cancer treatments. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.



### PRAYER LIST

**Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Ricky Cantrell**; **Maxine Cothron**; **Gerald Miles**, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 305; **Frances Catron**; **Jean Deaton**; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ricky Cross**, friend of Betty Buttrey; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Wayne Holt**; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

### SHUT-INS

**Marilee Frederick**, Gallatin Rehab, Room 309A; **Joyce Savage**, NHC Place Sumner, room 107; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**; **Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 204, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; **Dorothy Sullivan**, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes

### OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	110
Morning Worship.....	200
Sunday Evening.....	75
Wednesday Evening.....	70
Contributions.....	\$7,650.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$5,626.00

### Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

### Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith  
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister  
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister