

DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT

Disappointment can make us react in many ways. For example, Alexander the Great conquered Persia. He was persistent in all of his endeavors but when his troops were too exhausted to push on to India, Alexander broke down and wept. Robert Louis Stevenson, author of books like Treasure Island, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, and many others that continue to delight and enrich our lives, yet what did he write for his epitaph? "Here lies one who meant well, who tried a little, and failed much." John Quincy Adams, sixth President of the U.S. once wrote in his diary, "My life has been spent in vain and idle aspirations, and in ceaseless rejected prayers that something would be the result of my existence beneficial to my species."

Expectations plus reality often result in disappointment, and if disappointment is not addressed in the proper perspective, then it can quickly spiral into negative thinking, pessimism, and further depression. Unfortunately, Christians are not exempt from this and the outcome of disappointment can form us to become critics of God. We can begin to blame Him or His own creation for inaction or being unfair. We can soon turn our backs on God or His church because of our times of distress. However, this is extremely counterproductive when it actually comes to dealing with disappointments in our lives. **Psalm 34:8** boldly says, "taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!" Also **Psalm 22:5** says, "To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame."

But where does this disappointment come from? One of the hatching spots is in high expectations. When we look in Matthew 1, we see such an example. I am sure Joseph expected a virgin wife and now finds Mary is pregnant. Imagine the disappointment and pain that Joseph had. He even contemplates divorcing her. Then in a dream, Joseph is told of the miraculous birth that this is going to be. There were probably tons of Israelite men who would want the honor of getting to care for God's only Son. (**Matthew 1:18-25**) Similar to Joseph, sometimes our high expectations disappoint us only to find out later that God has a better plan. **Proverbs 16:9** says, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." Also, **Proverbs 19:11** says, "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

Another way that disappointment is formed in our lives is through having the wrong motives. Think of Judas. He joined the group following Jesus, expecting Him to build an earthly kingdom. Considering how much Judas cared about money, I could imagine he was hoping to one day make it rich by being close knit with the "future king of Israel."

(**John 12:6**) But later he realized that Jesus has no plan to build an earthly kingdom. Instead, Jesus is always talking about a heavenly kingdom, which, in his limited understanding, he could not grasp. In the end, his wrong motives disappointed him and led him to his grave mistake of treachery and defection. Simon, the sorcerer, did the same in **Acts 8**. He thought that he could buy the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit, but Peter humbled him. Just like Simon, we too can fall into disappointment, even when doing the right thing, if it is for the wrong reasons. To overcome this disappointment, we need to repent and turn to God with humility and remember that the purpose of this world is not about ourselves or our own personal gain. (**Acts 2:38, 8:22-24**)

A third form of disappointment comes from having a limited or narrow perception. For example, the Apostles did not understand why Jesus had to be crucified. Their understanding was so limited and caught up in their own culture that they considered crucifixion to be a defeat. However, they did not yet understand that it was all part of God's great plan to redeem the world from the slavery of sin and death. It is easy for us to get caught up in a limited perception. Instead of getting stuck in our own thoughts and struggles it is important for us to open up our minds and look at the bigger picture. **Romans 12:2** says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Our limited perception disappoints us many times, but the very source of our disappointment can also become our joy and blessing if we are willing to be still and know that God is in control. He has a plan and a purpose for us, even in our sufferings. Peter said in **1 Peter 4:12-13** "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed." Paul also said in **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**, "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

Whatever in your life that is causing disappointments, remember that God is God and we are not, and He is in control. Finally remember the promise of eternity that God promises to all who follow Him, set your eyes upon that eternity and continue to walk the path following Christ. **Andrew Spivey**

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Mark 14:32-52
Wednesday Read – John 18:12-14;
Matthew 26:57-75

BIBLE STUDY

- Questions for last week's reading of **John 16 & 17**.
1. Of what will the Comforter reprove the world?
 2. When the Spirit of truth comes, into what will He guide Jesus' followers?
 3. What will the Father do when we ask?
 4. Who did Jesus pray for in **John 17:9**?
 5. How are we sanctified and what is truth?

SENIOR GROUP

Senior Group will meet again on **Thursday, October 7th**. We will skip September's meeting and try to go every other month for now. More details will be available soon.

NEW MEMBERS

Matt & Olivia Ellis have moved back to Gallatin and are placing their membership with Nashville Road. Matt & Olivia have 2 children, Lilliana & Christian. Please take the time to meet them and welcome them back.



THE GOOD OLE' DAYS!

Let's talk about the good 'ole days. I'm sure you've heard about them. Perhaps from a sentence starting with "back in my day..." And that's followed by all kinds of things. Back in my day kids respected their parents. Back in my day you didn't have to spend your whole paycheck on gasoline. Back in my day if you broke your leg you walked it off. You guys are soft.

I know it's very tempting to see past times as better and to dwell on them. But before you do I want to tell you the Bible says that isn't wise. **Ecclesiastes 7:10** says, "Do not say, "Why were the old days better than these?" For it is not wise to ask such questions." Remembering the lessons of the past is good, but let's not live there. God has something in store for us today. As the Word says: "I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." When you're with God, today is a good day.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

September 5, 2021

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

- Song.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

- Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Allyn Hosman
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Lee Boone
Closing Prayer.....Jonathan Senn
Ushers.....D. Fitts/C. Suddarth

5:00 PM SERVICE

- Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tim Cummins
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Jim Cherry
Closing Prayer.....Adam Williamson

WEDNESDAY

September 8, 2021

7:00 PM

- Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Tim Strickland
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....JoAnn Williamson

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

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

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 Gallatin, TN 37066
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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

Brent Smith covid. **James Spivey** covid. **Lynette Young** covid. **Bob & Wanda Gregory** are both having health issues. **Vicky Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato is now in Centennial, has improved some. **Art Vernon**, nephew of JoAnn Williamson, covid with pneumonia. **Randy Hawkins**, brother of Julie Cummins is on a ventilator. **Laura Irwin** sister of Julie Cummins is doing some better. **Doug & Kathy Hawkins**, brother & sister-in-law of Julie Cummins, are doing better. **Ann Beska**, neighbor of Mattie Carter & Betty Buttrey, has been diagnosed with cancer. **Ty Tyler**, son of Ann Tyler, continues with serious health issues. **Ron Kloes** step son of Sue Kloes, stage 4 lung cancer. **Allen Plunk**, cousin of Donna Jennings, colon cancer that has spread to his liver. **Ronnie Love**, cousin of Pam Newby, bone cancer. **Donny Pedigo**, friend of Tim Cummins, stage 4 cancer. **Jerry Ladd, Sr.** CLL Leukemia. **Craig Sweeney**, son of James & Doris Sweeney, continues cancer treatments. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.



PRAYER LIST

Demar Elam; Ricky Cantrell; Linda Wesbrooks; Maxine Cothron; Gerald Miles, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 100; **Jim Sweeney; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Presley Fitts; Jean Deaton; Ben Mayberry**, brother-in-law to Frances, Bernice, Jean, Kenneth & Mary Ann; **Ricky Cross**, friend of Betty Buttrey; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Will Flowers**, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey; **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; **Wayne Holt**, nephew of Grace Bracey; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Pam Flory**, friend of Sherry Sever; **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

Ilene Kinney; Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 309A; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 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.....	95
Morning Worship.....	124
Sunday Evening.....	53
Wednesday Evening.....	60
Contributions.....	\$6,832.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$7,949.69

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