

WELCOME

WEST END CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 16, 2022

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SUNDAY

- 9 AM Bible Study
- 10 AM Worship
- 5 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY

- 7 PM Bible Study

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US, YOU ARE OUR HONORED GUEST!

Please scan the QR code to fill out a visitor's card or ask one of our members. We would love to get to know you better!



KEEPING A HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE

JON WHITAKER

Life is full of challenges. We all know that. Challenges often arise without notice and while they can most often be temporary inconveniences, they can also rock us to our very core. No one likes to go through situations where we can ask things like "why me?" or "what did I do to deserve this?". In the Bible we have an example like Job who through all the unfortunate things he went through remained true to the God he served.

One example in scriptures that has always amazed me is when Abraham was tested by God in Genesis 22 and told to take his long-awaited son, Isaac, to Moriah and to use him as a burnt offering. How do

you think that journey went? Was Abraham nervous? Did he at any point tell himself to turn around and not do it? I think we all can use this as an example of trust and faith in God and what his plan is for each of us. Abraham showed zero hesitation to do what God told him and when Isaac looked at his father and asked "where is the lamb for the offering?" (vs. 7) Abraham simply told him "God will provide...".

Keeping a Heavenly perspective is something I have been challenging myself with lately, and I challenge every one of you to do the same. Stressful things happen to us all, but how we react to those things can be used to glorify God without us even realizing such a thing. Abraham knew that even though God blessed him

with a son, God was the one in control and that earthly blessings were temporal. Therefore, Abraham trusted God when he was presented with something unimaginable...sacrificing his own son.

Are you currently going through a situation where you feel there is no way out? Are you having problems with your marriage? Family? Finances? Work? Challenge yourself to change your perspective from things of the world to heavenly things. Do not let those circumstances consume your daily thoughts, but rather fill your mind with Godly thoughts and try to keep in mind that through all the worldly struggles we can face just remember "God will provide...".

Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Genesis 22:2

SUN AM

Call to Worship

Song Leader

Matt Finley

Scripture Reading

Matthew Mayo

Opening Prayer

McCord Thomas

The Lord's Supper & Giving

Terry Windom

Sermon

Mike Thomas

Closing Prayer

Todd Embry

Alternates

David Hehner

Brandon Overton

AM/PM/WED

Soundbooth

Jon Whitaker

Alan Hudson

SUN PM

Song Leader

Shawn Quinn

Scripture Reading

Thomas Hehner

Opening Prayer

Jace Caldwell

Sermon

Ben Edwards

The Lord's Supper

& Giving

Clint Laird

Closing Prayer

Travis Renfrow

WED PM, OCT 19th

Invitation

Nicolas Boyd

Song Leader

Brian Smith

Closing Prayer

David Dowdy

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES

- Chris Irvan (Roger and Tracy Ansley's son-in-law) received scan results back this week. They found a mass that will be removed via surgery on Monday. He will also have a spot on his lungs biopsied.
- Jenny Holton completed chemotherapy treatments this past week and is scheduled to have an MRI in two weeks to evaluate her progress.
- Ronnie Vinson (Gary Vinson's brother) passed away last week. The memorial service was Friday

ONGOING NEED OF PRAYERS

- Rodney McGaughey's family with the passing of his mother
- Barbara Vance
- Tommy Vance
- Gary Cassibry
- Matt Holden's reovery
- Heather Dowdy's Mother, Carol Ewing
- Ed Zaleski's recovery
- Geoffrey Whitley
- Brian Smith's father, Dean Smith
- Travis Renfrow's cousin, Jennifer Stinnett
- Erthel Willis
- Kari Carr's father, John Forsee
- Dara Price and her son
- Terry Windom's grandfather, John Lowe
- Clint Laird's cousin's family
- Orby & Janet Massengill
- Judy Cary
- Jean Webster



VERY MUCH LAND TO POSSESS **ERIK BORLAUG**

The book of Joshua appears to have a contradiction. In 11:23 we read this, "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses..." However, Joshua 13:1 says, "there remains yet very much land to possess." Was the land captured or was it not? This is a tension that runs through the second half of the book. Perhaps we could answer it like this... there is still much land to possess even though the main threats had been removed. The nail in the coffin had been driven against Canaan, but there were remnants of enemies to be destroyed.

This parallels our lives as well. In Christ, the main enemies have been defeated. Satan can no longer accuse us of sin because sin has been forgiven. Satan can no longer use the fear of death to enslave us, because death

has been conquered. Even so, we still have land to possess. God has done the heavy lifting, but there remains work for us to do in putting sin to death.

Israel failed to remove the rest of these enemies (Joshua 13:13; 15:63; 16:10; 17:12). We can make this same mistake. We can become Christians and appreciate our forgiveness. We can appreciate that we have an eternal hope after death. At the same time, we can fail to remove pride, sensuality, covetousness, greed, and other enemies that need subjugation. The 12 tribes had further work to do, and so do we.

What happened when Israel failed? These enemies became thorns in their sides and

caused them to fall back into life without God. These influences led even to their exile - but they didn't see these things coming. Sin grows and morphs in ways that nobody can predict. This is one reason why walking in sin is compared to walking in darkness (Proverbs 4:19). When you are not fully driving out sin, you do not know where it will lead.

Not knowing the future is scary. We might cling to the news and listen to the "smart people" who can tell us the weather, economics, and world affairs to help us feel assured. We cannot control these things, though. What if we became more concerned about the land that we can possess rather than the things we cannot control? Ironically, you would then know the future that matters most.



WHAT IS BEING SEEN IN YOU?

CLINT LAIRD

The theme of our VBS this year was “Let the Beauty of Jesus Be Seen in Me.” How’s that going? If asked what they see in you, what would others say?

Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount to “let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven” (Mat. 5:16 CSB). Has God been glorified by the works seen in you? (If you’ve ever been pulled over at night

and had the officer shine his spotlight in your mirror in such a way that blinded you, you understand there is difference between “letting your light shine” and “shining your light”!)

In I Pet. 3:15, we’re told to be “ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you” (CSB). For years, I read this as being ready to “duke it out” with anyone that “came at me” about some doctrinal

issue. When I started to ask myself “who has asked me lately about my hope?”, I started to read the verse differently.

The world is watching... what are we showing them?

BIBLE CLASSES

Listen to all class recordings online at westendchurch.com

ADULT CLASSES

Sun AM

Prayer

Brad Wood

Auditorium

Sun AM

1-2 Kings

Mitch Cybulski

James McClenny

Room A-7

Wed PM

Hosea & Joel

Mike Thomas

Auditorium

Wed PM

1-2 Kings

Mitch Cybulski

James McClenny

Room A-7

COLLEGE CLASSES

Sun AM

The Church

Ben Edwards

Jon Lindsey

Erik Borlaug

Room B-7/8

Wed PM

1 Corinthians

Ben Edwards

Jon Lindsey

Erik Borlaug

Room B-7/8

YOUNGER CLASSES

Sun AM & Wed PM

High School

Middle School

9 Month - 6th Grade



