



5, 2024

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFTER, CA 93263

BIBLE CLASS

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

John 2:1ff

Youth Class: Eddie Fisher

Children's Class: Debra Young

PRAYER TIME

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

WORSHIP TIME

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Elders

Eddie Fisher	342-8337
Garry Nelson	331-3858
Mike Westbrook	910-2197

Deacon

Ron Nunlist 746-6531

Minister

Jim Young 527-7026

jimyoung2work@aol.com

Church Office 746-2205

Office Hours:

Monday ~ Tuesday ~ Wednesday
8 am to 1 pm

Thursday
11 am to 4:30 pm

Friday Out of the Office

Bulletin

Jan Nelson 332-6146

grammyjan51@yahoo.com

Sandy Westbrook 910-8143

mikewestbrook@att.net

Don't forget to check out our website

No te olvides de visitar nuestro sitio web

www.shafterchurchofchrist.com

Bible on your phone

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G

MySpectrumWiFif8-5G

password: purplelemon096



May 7 - Elders meeting

May 9 - Thursday Night Dinner

May 10 - MOVIE NIGHT this FRIDAY at 6:00 p.m.

June 1 - Men's and Ladies Breakfast

June 14 - MOVIE NIGHT at 6:00 p.m.

June 23 - World Broadcasting Presentation - Please plan to be here

As you come to know Me more intimately, you grow increasing aware of your sins. This presents you with a choice: to focus on your flaws and failures or to rejoice in my glorious gift of salvation. When you keep your focus on my sacrifice for your sins, you live in the joyful awareness that you are wonderfully loved. There is *no greater love than mine*, and it is yours forever! The best response to such a fathomless gift is to *love Me with all your heart*.

Tragically many people think they have little – or even nothing for Me to forgive. They've been deceived by the prevailing lie that there is no absolute truth. They believe good and evil are relative terms, so they see no need for a Savior. These deluded ones do not seek My forgiveness, and their sins remain unpardoned. The evil one's deceptions have darkened their minds. *But I am the Light of world*, and My Light can shine through you into their lives. Because you are My follower, *you never walk in darkness – you have the Light of Life!*

(Taken from Jesus Calling by Sarah Young)

There are sign-up sheets on the round table in back for May if you would put your name down to help with cleaning assignments of the building.

They are broken up into 3 groups so should make it a little easier to pick a group you feel you can do to help with. And we really need the help!

1. Clean auditorium and disinfect chairs / door handles
2. Clean the 2 outside restrooms and North entry doorway
3. Clean foyer floor, dust, glass doors / windows / Nursery restroom

Ask Vivian or April where the vacuums are and cleaning supplies. If supplies are needed let Mike know as he has key for toilet paper and paper towels.

We really would appreciate it if you or your family would pick 1 of the 3 chores that need to be done. THANK YOU!

Pastor's Corner of Light: When the Church Hurts a Member

Crossway - Daniel Miller Mar 25,2023 *This article is abridged but is a part of the [Open Letters](#) series.*

Local churches hurt people. People hurt people, of course, but since churches are people, churches have the capacity to inflict severe relational pain. By God's grace the reverse is also true. The local church is designed by Christ to function as a spring of encouragement and joy to its members. I hope that you have experienced the blessing of walking in fellowship with a body of believers that Jesus used, or is now using, to strengthen your faith and envelop you in covenantal love.

But despite Christ's gracious provision, you may find yourself experiencing heartache in the context of a church for which Jesus died. Ironic, isn't it? By grace alone the risen Christ is gathering out of the nations a people for His name ([Acts 2:38-39](#)). He forms us into a new humanity, uniting us to Himself ([Eph. 2:11-22](#); [Gal. 2:20](#)). We are adopted as His children and chosen as His holy bride ([Rom. 8:14-17](#); [Eph. 5:23-32](#); [Rev. 19:6-8](#)). He sovereignly places us in the body to complete one another ([1 Cor. 12:12-27](#)). How ironic, then, that relating to God's people can result in a deep heartache.

Ironic, but not mysterious. The closer the human relationship, the more pain one suffers when that relationship falters. The closer the relationship, the greater the potential not only for joy but also for sorrow.

In the spiritual family of a local church, such heartache often stems from personal offense—one member wrongs another. At other times the problem is more corporate in nature—the departure of a leader, a change in policy, an altered ministry direction that seems to betray much of what you once loved about your church, and the like. It's not hard to identify the source of the pain we suffer in the context of a body of believers. It's considerably harder to respond to that pain **in God-honoring ways**.

Don't breeze past that "God-honoring" bit. Our training in individualism programs us to feel our pain while avoiding hard questions about our responses to it. *Hurt feelings are as natural as shivering from cold on a wintry day*, we are assured by our therapeutic world. *Therefore, how I feel about someone's ill treatment of me or how I feel about a hurtful ministry change becomes not only my responsibility to own but everyone else's obligation to affirm.*

The Bible does not counsel us in this direction. Rather, it calls us to respond to such pain **with a devotion to love others** and glorify Christ in His church. Therefore, my affections for His honor in the assembly must never fall below affections for my fellow brothers and sisters. If it does, I am likely to cause as much damage in the future as I've suffered in the past. *(emphases added are mine)*



And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. - 2 Corinthians 12:9 NKJV

You can gaze over the fence and covet another person's life or tell yourself that God has blessed you in ways you never could have earned.

Do you ever battle with envy? Have you ever wondered why someone else's life seems easier than yours? Have you ever struggled to celebrate the blessings of someone else who had what you thought you needed? Have you ever wished you could just switch lives with someone? Perhaps there are ways in which envy haunts us all, so it's worth examining the heart of envy.

What things prepare the heart for envy?

1. *Envy is forgetful.* In concentrating on what we don't have that we think we should have, we fail to keep in mind the huge catalog of blessings that are ours simply because God has chosen to place his bountiful love on us. This forgetfulness causes us to do more comparing and complaining than praising and resting.

2. *Envy misunderstands blessing.* So often envy is fueled by misunderstanding what God's care looks like. It is not always the care of provision, relief, or release. Sometimes God's blessing comes in the form of trials that are his means of giving us things we could get no other way.

3. *Envy is selfish.* Envy tends to put us in the center of our own worlds. It tends to make everything about our comfort and ease, our wants, needs, and feelings, and not about the plan and the glory of the God we serve.

4. *Envy is self-righteous.* Envy has an "I deserve ____ more than they do" posture to it. It forgets that we all deserve immediate and eternal punishment, and that any good thing we have is an undeserved gift of God's amazing grace.

5. *Envy is shortsighted.* Envy has a right here, right now aspect to it that overlooks the fact that this moment is not all there is. Envy cannot see that this moment isn't meant to be a destination, but a preparation for a final destination that will be beautiful beyond our wildest imagination.

6. *Envy questions God's wisdom.* When you and I envy, we tend to buy into the thought that we are smarter than God. In envy, we tend to think we know more and better, and if our hands were on the joystick, we would be handling things a different way.

7. *Envy is impatient.* Envy doesn't like to wait. Envy complains quickly and tires easily. Envy doesn't just cry for blessings, it cries for blessings *now*.

What is devastating about envy is that it questions God's goodness, and when you do that, you quit running to him for help. So cry out for rescue – that God would give you a thankful, humble, and patient heart. His transforming grace is your only defense against envy.

***For further study and encouragement: Psalm 34
Taken from New Morning Mercies by Paul David Tripp***



Prayer REQUESTS

If you need prayer, please let one of the Elders know, or put a note in the box at the back of the auditorium. You can call Vivian **Fisher (889-4075)** to start the prayer chain.

*PRAISE

It was great seeing so many of our family back after a couple of weeks of absence. Pray that others will be able to rejoin us soon. We miss you!

*NEW

Lord, give me the same concern and compassion for the lost that you have. Open doors that I might share your message of love and salvation.

***Buddy** had an appointment at USC this past Tuesday for an overall evaluation

***Mary C.** was not feeling well last Sunday and did not have a good night's rest

***Cheryl White**, is in rehab after a stroke caused her to fall and fracture in one of her vertebra. If you would like to send a card, mail to: Bakersfield Rehabilitation Hospital, 4400 Kirkcaldy Dr., Bakersfield 93306

***Chloe**, daughter of Lynn's missionary friends in Thailand. She is suffering from long COVID with extreme fatigue, depression, and anxiety about leaving home. Please remember Lynn's granddaughter, **Lucia**, who is on our prayer list for the same long COVID issues.

***Please pray for all those affected in several states** by the tornadoes.

Demetrio, pray for good results from his MRI and for **Jan** for good results from endoscopy

Ron, Nancy's son, recently lost his job and is still looking for a new one; anxiety

Mary N. had a bit of a health issue earlier this week but is doing better. Pray she has no further issues.

Chelsea, granddaughter of Trina's friend, scooter accident; improving; pray for complete recovery.

Tucker, Nina's great-grandson, had surgery recently for two leg fractures because of an accident

Marsha, terminal cancer; prayer also for her husband, **Wayne** (friends of Don Loveless) of our

Hannah, Trina's daughter, is continuing to struggle with life issues

David, Ron's brother, dealing with kidney stones; to see doctor soon about removing them

Millie, Ron's sister-in-law, declining on hospice; sleeping most of the day and low blood pressure

Robert is still struggling with arthritic pain

Janese is struggling with a severe flare-up fibromyalgia; severe headache and pain all over

Barbara, doing physical therapy after her shoulder surgery

Joyce as she takes care of Tom who is now at home and **Tom** as he adjusts

Nikki, Nelson's granddaughter, struggling with mental health issues; pray for effective treatment

Lucia, Ron/Lynn's granddaughter, continues to struggle emotionally and physically post COVID

Tank is struggling with health problems

LeRoyce Savage, terminated his cancer medications and letting Hospice come in

Aidan, great grandson of Barbara, undergoing physical therapy after brain surgery

Jim, liver cancer; needs a transplant, (a request from Adrienne's niece)

Unspoken Prayers . . . we know their names, and, above all, God knows them...

