



May 12, 2024

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFER, 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

UPCOMING

May 16 - Thursday Night Dinner

June 1 - Men's and Ladies Breakfast

June 4 - Elder's Meeting 8 a.m.

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

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



*to all of the mothers
this morning.
You are such a
blessing.*

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.

Proverbs 31:25-28

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 Do We Need the Lord?

1 Cor 12:7-10 "... to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh which I implored the Lord 3 times that I might leave me. He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' ... Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

Have you heard the Christian cliché that says, "God won't give you more than you can handle"? It's not that there isn't some truth to this aphorism. But it is misguided insofar as it places the emphasis on what **we can manage**— through our own strength and sufficiency— rather than what God will provide when we inevitably fall short.

During our struggle, despair and lost moments in our life – He hears our broken and anguished cries. He sees our weakness on full display. But with each breath Jesus invites us into His grace, strengthening us with a promise of victory.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."

Reaching the end of ourselves, finding rock-bottom is what finally brings us to letting the Lord enter, wash us with His mercy and cloth us with **HIS** strength – thus Paul's "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me"

During some of our darkest moments we may finally recognize that we are not meant to handle the weight of life's hardships on our own. If God did indeed give us only what we could handle, there would be no need for a savior beyond ourselves, and the death of Christ would not be needed. The weight of the world's brokenness would rest squarely on our shoulders as we struggle through the broken relationship that may never be mended, the ongoing illness we never imagined we would have to bear and every other unknown tragedy that is before us. Our absolute inability to save ourselves shows the reality of our need for a savior. With Jesus as our Savior, we can take great comfort in knowing His tender heart feels for our pain, just as He too endured unimaginable pain and sorrow. His innocence is evidence that He is the only one worthy of being the Sacrificial Lamb for our sin. It is a truth that the one who is innocent must bear the weight and punishment of every sin, yet this is the very reason we must believe Christ when He says His grace is sufficient. The glory of God shines ever brighter when we allow our weaknesses to be a proclamation of His infinite grace, power, and strength.

When we finally give up trying to fix ourselves and/or our circumstances we will find that His sovereign strength can be enough to get us to the other side. In the same way Christ endured the cross and found the resurrection we too can find God's Son/sun on the other side of the tomb/darkness in OUR lives. May we trust His sufficiency when we are weak – then we are strong.

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

Habakkuk 3:17-18

REVENGE BUILDS A LONELY HOUSE

In 1882, a New York City businessman named Joseph Richardson owned a narrow strip of land on Lexington Avenue. It was 5 feet wide and 104 feet long. Another businessman, Hyman Sarnar, owned a normal-sized lot adjacent to Richardson's skinny one. He wanted to build apartments that fronted the avenue. He offered Richardson \$1,000 for the slender plot. Richardson was deeply offended by the amount and demanded \$5,000. Sarnar refused, and Richardson called Sarnar a tight-wad and slammed the door on him.

Sarnar assumed the land would remain vacant and instructed the architect to design the apartment building with windows overlooking the avenue. When Richardson saw the finished building, he resolved to block the view. No one was going to enjoy a free view over his lot.

So seventy-year-old Richardson built a house. Five feet wide and 104 feet long and four stories high with two suites on each floor. Upon completion he and he wife moved into one of the suites.

Only one person at a time could ascend the stairs or pass through the hallway. The largest dining table in any suite was eighteen inches wide. The stoves were the very smallest made. A newspaper reporter of some girth once got stuck in the stairwell, and after two tenants were unsuccessful in pushing him free, he exited only by stripping down to his undergarments.

The building was dubbed the "Spite House." Richardson spent the last fourteen years of his life in the narrow residence that seemed to fit his narrow state of mind.

The Spite House was torn down in 1915, which is odd. I distinctly remember spending a few nights there last year. And a few weeks there some years back. If memory serves, didn't I see you squeezing through the hallway?

Revenge builds a lonely house. Space enough for one person. The lives of its tenants are reduced to one goal: make someone miserable. They do. Themselves.

No wonder God insists that we "keep a sharp eye out for weeds of bitter discontent. A thistle or two gone to seed can ruin a whole garden in no time" (Hebrews 12:15 MSG)

His healing includes a move out of the house of spite, a shift away from the cramped world of grudge toward spacious ways of grace, away from hardness toward forgiveness. He moves us forward by healing our past.

When you are angry, do not sin, and be sure to stop being angry before the end of the day. Do not give the devil a way to defeat you. Ephesians 4:26-27

Forgiveness doesn't diminish justice; it just entrust it to God. He guarantees the right retribution. We give too much or too little. But the god of justice has the precise prescription.

Fix your enemies? That's God's job.

Forgive your enemies? Ah, that where you and I come in. We forgive.

Taken from God Will Carry You Through by Max Lucado

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.

*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.

There were no NEW prayer requests this week. Please remember to keep the following people in your prayers.

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 and flooding

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...

