

Sunrise Christian Church

May 2019 Family Newsletter

Love, Learn, Lead- called as the church to love God with all that we are and all that we have, to learn to become like Jesus, and to lead others to the saving cross of Christ.

“I can do all things through Him who gives me strength”

Philippians 4:13



“Yes, I can be faithful and loving to my spouse- just as God wants me to be.”

“Yes, I can be a mother or dad to my children- just as God wants me to be.”

“Yes, I can be a parent-honoring son or daughter- just as God wants me to be.”

“Yes, I can grow up to be an educated, responsible, and mature adult- just as God wants me to be.”

“And, yes, I can grow in Christian knowledge and faith- just as God wants me to.”

How can I do these things?
Through **“Him who strengthens me!”**



The Joy of the Lord is your strength

There’s a story in the Bible about the priest Ezra reading the holy Scriptures to the Jews who had recently returned from years of captivity. It says, “Then Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” “Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

(For more of this story read Nehemiah 8:1-12.)

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John Piper, pastor and Christian author, says about joy: “**Christian joy is a good feeling in the soul, produced by the Holy Spirit, as He causes us to see the beauty of Christ in the word and in the world.**”

In agreement, the apostle Paul, in his letter to the church in Galatia, wrote, “*The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ...*”- Gal. 5:22.

Thoughts to live by:



Sow a thought, reap an action;

Sow an action, reap a habit;

Sow a habit, reap a character;

Sow a character, reap a destiny-

The book of Proverbs tells us:

“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches”- Pr. 22:1

Want to change your life? Good! Then start today and build upon it.



I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.- ETIENNE DE GRELLET- 1773-1855



Healthy churches:

Just as people go to their doctors for a yearly wellness checkup, so too should churches do an annual assessment to see if they're healthy. This assessment is something wise church leaders should be willing to do, for being good servants they understand that they've been given a great responsibility by God for the health of the church.

And though there are different ways to measure, this list seems especially pertinent to the wellbeing of the church.

1. A healthy church produces new leaders.
2. A healthy church helps members crave spiritual meat, not milk.
3. A healthy church devotes itself to prayer.
4. A healthy church has members who serve with joy.
5. A healthy church has members who resolve interpersonal conflict in a healthy way.
6. A healthy church is made up of people who appreciate the past yet look forward to the future.
7. A healthy church is an accountable church.
8. A healthy church gives cheerfully.
9. A healthy church bears one another's burdens.
10. A healthy church welcomes strangers.

*Did this list miss any important areas of church health? If not, then it gives leaders and members a way to judge their church's strengths and weakness; as well as where to invest their resources and energy.



Looking back at the Garden, the apostle Paul wrote, "*For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman*"- I Corinthians 11:12.

He recognized that other than the first man, Adam, we all have had mothers. And mothers are important to God, that's why He praises diligent mothers in Proverbs 31, saying:

*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:
 "Many women do noble things,
 but you surpass them all."* Pr. 31:25-29.

So it's no wonder God calls us to honor our own mothers, saying that doing this will lead to a long and blessed life (Ex. 20:12).

Here are some quotes about mothers:

- **An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy."
- **"If someone wants to see genuine beauty, he will find it in the tender lines that sacrificial love has drawn upon a mother's face."
- **"If we want to change our nation, begin by enlisting the mothers."

Blessings to you, Mothers!



Upcoming events:

***National Day of Prayer:** Thursday, May 2, noon to 1pm at Lions Park; 6:30 to 7:30pm at Calvary Chapel.

*Faithful Men **men's breakfast-** 7:30am, Saturday May 4 at Rusty's.

***Baskets of Love** food drive- Sunday, May 5

***No** Crockpot Sunday in May

* Boise Bible College's **Spring Conference-** May 14-16.

***SCC Movie Night-** 7pm, Wednesday, May 22

* Cove Christian Camp's annual **spring business meeting-** Saturday, May 25.

*Bill and Pam's last Sunday- May 26.

Just for laughs-

A boy said to his father, "Daddy, Daddy, I want to get married!"

The father replied: "For that son, for that you have to have a boy and a girl."

"I know," says the son. "I've found the perfect girl."

"Who is it?" asked the dad.

"My grandmother," replied the son.

"Let me get this straight," the father said. "You want to marry my mother? You can't do that!"

"Well, why not? You married mine!"