

Sunrise Christian Church

November 2018 Family Newsletter

L3- called to Love God with all that we are and have, to Learn to be like Jesus, and to Lead others to the saving knowledge of Christ.

The seasons belong to the Lord



“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven”- Ecclesiastes 3:1, KJV.

Yet there is one thing that does not change- **God**

*“Trust in the LORD forever,
for the LORD, the LORD himself, is the
Rock eternal”- Isa. 26:4*

Our worship

Have you ever wondered what kind of worship God wants from us, what He will accept? In the Old Testament times people would bring animals up to the temple to be sacrificed as an act of worship, in fact this was something God commanded them to do. So what about now, what does God expect from us?

We don't have to go far into the gospels to find the answer. For many, the story of the Samaritan woman at the well is a story of God's now acceptance of the Samaritans. It is, and it isn't; it's much more than only that. In the story, this unnamed woman asks Jesus about the proper place to worship: *“Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem”* (Jn. 4:19-20). But notice Jesus response: *“Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what you do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet the time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for these are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks”* (Jn. 4:21-24).

Notice, God wants us to worship in “spirit and truth,” so what is that? Many, myself included, say that our worship is inward, not outward. Oh, we give our tithes, we sing our songs, we greet one another, and yes, that is part of worship. Yet we can do all those things and never connect to God with our hearts. In other words, what we do

can be all show. If the heart is not there, then it is not worship. Additionally, God gives us His Spirit to connect to our spirit (yes, man is both flesh and spirit). In his letter to the church in Rome, Paul says this: *“The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And He who knows our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit”*- Rom. 8:26-27. There is an interaction between God's Spirit and our spirit. And we feel this in true worship.

Yet, what about the “truth” part? On the last night he was with his disciples, Jesus prayed this: *“Sanctify them by the truth; You word is truth”* (Jn. 17:17). This, then, is why we emphasize the Bible as the word of God, good nourishment for our souls!

Worship the Father in spirit and truth; worship Him with your heart and by His word. For that's the kind of worship God wants from us!



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, Nov. 3 so that you're ready for the time change on Sunday.

Interview with God

A poem by Hamid Yeganeh

I dreamed I had an interview with God.
So you would like to interview me? God asked.
If you have the time? I said.
God smiled: My time is eternity.
What questions do you have in mind for me?
What surprises you most about humankind?
God answered...
That they get bored with childhood,
they rush to grow up, and then
long to be children again.
That they lose their health to make money...
and then lose their money to restore their health.
That by thinking anxiously about the future,
they forget the present,
such that they live in neither the present nor the future.
'That they live as if they will never die,
and die as though they had never lived.
we were silent for a while.
And then I asked.
As a parent, what are some of life's lessons you
want your children to learn
To learn they cannot make anyone love them.
All they can do
is let themselves be loved.
To learn that it is not good to compare
themselves to others.
To learn to forgive by practicing forgiveness.
To learn that it only takes a few seconds to open
profound wounds in those they love,
and it can take many years to heal them.
To learn that a rich person
is not one who has the most, but is one who
needs the least
To learn that there are people who love them
dearly,
but simply have not yet learned how to express
or show their feelings.
To learn that two people can

look at the same thing and see it differently?
To learn that it is not enough that they
forgive one another, but they must also forgive
themselves.
'Thank you for your time, ' I said
'Is there anything else you would like your
children to know'
God smiled and said, Just know that I am here...
always.

Upcoming events

- *Faithful Men **men's breakfast**- 7:30am,
Saturday, Nov. 3, at Rusty's.
- *Sunday, Nov. 4, guest speaker, **Nate Banta**
here.
- * Sunday, Nov. 4, SCC's **Baskets of Love** food
collection
- *Sunday, Nov. 4- SCC's **Crockpot Sunday**
- *Sunday, Nov. 11, guest speaker, **Joe Barnett**
here.
- * Wednesday, Nov. 14, SCC's **Movie Night-**
That the World May Know- 7pm.
- *Thursday, Nov. 22, **Thanksgiving**- the perfect
time to share with family and friends that there
is a God above who loves them!



Just for laughs



A woman shared the story of
when her husband, Jim, was in the
seminary, he was invited to preach at a
small rural church. However, the person
who was to introduce him to the
congregation had difficulty pronouncing his
last name- Rowles. So her husband offered
this verbal clue: "Remember rolls, like hot
buttered rolls."
It must have worked, for when it came time
for the introduction, the man announced,
"We are pleased to have with us the
Reverend James Biscuits."



A young mother shared that
once, when their minister and his wife
stopped by for a visit neighbor, her four-
year-old daughter answered the door.
Upon seeing them, the little girl shouted,
"Mom! God's here, and he brought his
girlfriend."
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"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them
pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs
of praise" - James 5:13.