



October 4th, 2020

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness: who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”
- Isaiah 5:20

The contrast in the news is startling. The other day a group of Christians were arrested for singing worship songs in a public area while groups of rioters are applauded for criminal behaviors such as destruction of property, assault on police officers and looting. Both have the legal right to assemble. Both have the right for peaceful protest. But our society (what the Bible refers to as “the world”) is selective and biased to anything that has a Christian religious nature to it.

Christians got the blame for the burning of Rome almost 2,000 years ago and now we get any blame for standing for what the Bible teaches about marriage, or even asking folks to be consistent in their open mindedness about others opinions. It’s okay to judge Christians, just for being Christians. Never mind that when the floods, fires, tornadoes, and hurricanes come, it’s the Christian community that are the hands and feet on the ground. Never mind that when other people groups from impoverished nations struggle, it is overwhelmingly the Christian community that has a lasting and enduring presence to love, feed, and care for people.

In the name of “you are just judging others”, it is now considered almost immoral to hold to Christian values. We have no rights to our opinions or stances for what we believe to be true and Biblical. Someone pointed out, “A wrong deed is right if the majority of people

declare it not to be wrong.” Morals shift depending on what the popular majority of society deems as okay. They change from year to year depending on what the next mood is, of those with the loudest voices declare something to be true and good, those things then then become true and good.

Jesus warns folks to not build their houses (their lives) on sandy soil. It shifts and moves when the winds blow and the floods come. He tells us to build our lives on the rock - that which is solid, firm and lasting. Holding to Jesus’ words, morality doesn’t shift based on popular opinion. It’s remains solid, firm and true. And, we get that moral code from God’s word and His example through the life of His Son.

Even Christians today, are deciding what parts of the Bible they want to pick and choose to believe and hold to. People say, “That was Paul’s words, not Jesus’”, “I think that was for that culture, but culture has changed”, or “The Greek means something different then how you are interpreting it.” In reality it is just a shifting of the sand, it’s moving foundational truths to fit how people want to be immoral and agree with immorality.

“A person’s own folly leads to their ruin, yet their heart rages against the Lord.”
- Proverbs 19:3

We need to pray the Prayer of Psalm 51:1-12 (take the time to look it up and read it) and ask God to renew a steadfast spirit within us all.
- Pastor Wes Davis



GRACE YOUTH



2nd Annual FCA event.

Who: Middle School and High School area FCA groups are gathering @ Show Me Bird's Resort. 6186 SE 20th St Baxter Springs

When: Wednesday, October 7th (youth group will be at the FCA event)

What time: 6:00-8:00

What to expect: Food, fishing, fellowship, fun, worship. (yes, you can bring a fishing pole)

Cat-on-a-banjo meets today

after worship.

MS

Students come on upstairs to study



A 4-WEEK SERIES ON IDENTITY

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Many of our favorite movies, from Toy Story to Moana, tell the stories of characters who are on a journey to discover who they are and what they were created to do. The stories in Scripture are like this too, but with one big difference: in the Bible, humans aren't the main characters — God is. In this series, we'll explore the stories of people like Cain and Abel, Elijah, Naomi, Ruth, Esther, and some of the earliest Jesus-followers in order to see that who we are can best be understood in the context of who God is. When we discover who our Creator is, we can better understand who we were created to be. Because of who God is, we can trust how God has made us, we can do difficult things, we can embrace the unknown, and we can take risks for others.

BOOK CLUB

9:15

High School students are welcome to join Book Club as we go through Ray Pritchard's book He's God, We're Not.

We meet **every other Sunday Morning @**

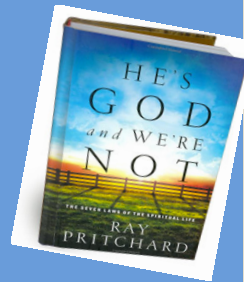
Conversation has been really great so far and will only get better. A digital copy on Amazon is only \$2 or hardcopies of the book are around \$5 or less.

BOOK CLUB MEETS UPSTAIRS OCT 4th @ 9:15
We are on page 19

Last meeting we discussed the freedom God has as sovereign ruler of the universe. That he:

1. is completely free to do whatever He wants. (He is never obligated to do something He doesn't want to, nor can anything prevent Him from doing anything He DOES want to do.)
2. has the right to treat me any way he chooses.
3. doesn't have to treat me the way He treats my neighbor
4. doesn't have to treat me today the way He treated me yesterday.

Hard truths. great discussion.





GRACEKIDS

ROAD TRIP: A 4-WEEK SERIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Have you ever been on a road trip? When we think of road trips, we might think of gas station snacks, singing along to our favorite songs, and taking in the sights — but when the Israelites went on a “road trip” of their own through the wilderness, it was a little less glamorous. Okay, it was a lot less glamorous. In this series, we’ll introduce kids to some of God’s “rules of the road,” from Moses and the ten commandments all the way to what Jesus called the Greatest Commandment — to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Together, we’ll discover that we can love God and others by putting God first, worshiping God, loving our families, and loving everyone.



Here’s a look ahead at what we will be learning this Wednesday night.



Our kids are going to be doing an 8 week study on Wednesday nights called Hi-Yah! We will learn how to be made new in our hearts and in our thinking as we take off the bad habits of the old self and train to put on the new self. Our hope is that kids will see how to be that new person who was made to be like God, truly good and pleasing to Him.

GraceKids

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 2020

- 9-16 WK 1: Take off the Old, put on the New.
- 9-23 WK 2: Take off Lying, put on Truth.
- 9-30 WK 3: Take off Hate, put on Love.
- 10-7 WK 4: Take off Anger, put on Self-Control.
- 10-14 WK 5: Take off Stealing, put on Hard Work.
- 10-21 WK 6: Take off Bad Words, Put on Good Words.
- 10-28 WK 7: Take off Bitterness, put on Forgiveness.
- 11-4 WK 8: Take off the Old, put on the New.
- 11-11 WK 9: Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- 11-18 WK 10: Church Wide Thanksgiving Dinner



Happy October! While your kid is busy planning their best costumes for Halloween, we hope you take a second or two this month to trick-or-TREAT yourself (maybe with an extra nap or your favorite snack?), because you are an incredible parent.



Melissa “MJ” Smith

We need

YOU!



We need volunteers!

FALL FESTIVAL

we have 1/2 hour shifts we need to fill. Can you help?

- bounce house
- putt-putt race
- obstacle course
- painting pumpkins
- hot chocolate

WORSHIP TEAM

- Soundboard tech
- Computer/Visual tech

CLEANING CREW

- windows
- bathrooms
- vacuum



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection:

Our Wednesday Night KidMin Programs are packing shoeboxes and need your help! We are accepting donations of shoeboxes (cardboard or plastic) and contents to fill them by Nov 8.

- The list of needed items is at shoebox table in foyer. If you like to fill shoeboxes, please bring them by Nov. 18.
- You may also donate money toward shipping or contents, please mark your check/envelope and place in offering or give to Alisha Webb, 785-844-2316.



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