

# The Pathway Home

Volume 2, Number 27



September 13, 2020

## Bow Down to Babylon?

Let's do a perspective-taking exercise. You are a young person...let's say thirteen years old. You have served your God faithfully for your entire young life. One day, the news comes. A foreign nation has swept through and taken your people and is now carting your friends, family and loves ones off to be taken into captivity. They are helpless at the hands of their enemies.

Fast forward a few years. You grow up, carefully manicured by this foreign land to walk in their way, adopting their language, even changing your name. This foreign nation does everything that they can do to tear your faith and identity from you...eventually demanding that you bow the knee to their king and worship. This was the reality for Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—three faithful young Jewish men who were staring down the barrel of a very hard decision. Bow to the Babylonian idol or remain faithful to God and be burned alive.

*"And the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace"* Daniel 3:4-6.

Yet, surrounded by people with their faces to the ground, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stood up. They said, *"but if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."* They had real courage—the kind that can only come from holy confidence in the promises of God.

As Christians we are called to endure all kinds of spiritual attacks. We are told that we will face pressure and persecution so long as we try to live the way Jesus wants us to live. These things are sure. How will we respond, then? Even if everyone around us bows their faces to the idols of today—will we have the courage to stand? Will you make your faith in Christ known?

Will we find our identity in culture or in Christ? Will we bow down to Babylon? Not a chance.

*"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect"* Romans 12:2.

- Cain Atkinson

### WELCOME!

We want you to feel comfortable and at home with the Cornerstone family and we hope you'll visit with us again soon!

### RESTROOMS

Handicap accessible restrooms are located in the entryway.

### FOR SMALL CHILDREN

Our nursery/cryroom are both accessible from inside the entryway. The nursery is just behind the auditorium. The cry room is to your right and just down the hall. The Lord's Supper will be served in both places.

# OUR FAMILY AT WORK

We believe the church can do all of the work God has given it to do: teach the gospel, build up the members, and help needy Christians, (1 Peter 2.9-10, Ephesians 4.15-16, Romans 15.25).

All other "good works" are the responsibility of individuals. Featured in our family news each week, you will find both. A church focused on the work God has given it to do. Within this church are Christians doing their part individually to encourage and build up the family, (Matthew 5.16, Hebrews 10.24-25, Galatians 6.9-10).

## CONNECT



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## CONNECT WITH US ONLINE OR IN PERSON

### SUNDAY

Your Pathway Home	8:00 am
Bible Study	9:30 am
Worship	10.45 am

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study	1:00 pm
Bible Study	7.30 pm

# Family News

## Week of September 13

### TODAY @ 2:30 - Elder/Deacon Meeting

### GUEST FOLLOW UP MINISTRY...

...our guests are very important. They come to us because they are in need of what Christ offers—restoration, redemption and rest. Offering these things is an effort the whole church should make. If you want to help follow up with guests and contacts, **Cain** will have information for you at the welcome center. A card, a text, a call...every effort makes a difference.

### EASY WAY TO INVITE PEOPLE TO CHURCH...

...beginning today, **Cain** will have printed materials that you can hand out in the community. These are great invitations for people to come to our services. Feel free to grab a few from the welcome center or inside the rack in the back entryway. and hand them out as you go about your day. Every single outreach effort counts.

### COMING SOON...

...access our **livestream and on-demand videos** on your Roku device or SmartTV. We will also be available on your Apple TV device. No smartphone or tablet needed. Be sure to spread the word!

### 2020 MEN'S RETREAT...

...is still on! We have room for you if you'd like to sign up. The retreat will be **November 13-15** at Cowan Lake State Park. **Deadline to sign up is October 11**. A signup sheet has been posted on the bulletin board. Cost is \$100. See **Matthew Allen** for payment and details.

### OUR FLOWER FUND...

...is getting low. If you would like to contribute please see **Pam Grushon**.

### TRAVELING...

...Carol Schwegel is in Michigan; **Lenora Holland** is in TN; The **Russ Robins, David Williams**, and **Roger Robins'** families are traveling home from SC today.

## Additional Notes

## Mark Your Calendars

**October 13, Tuesday** - Ladies Bible Class at the building. It will be the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Contact **Amanda Fles** for more information.

**2020 PIG ROAST** will be October 10 at the Allen home.

**2020 MEN'S RETREAT** will be November 13-15 at Cowan Lake State Park.

# In Your Prayers

## Week of September 13

New this week:

**Carl King**, who has spent most of last week at Hospice of Dayton. Please continue to remember him in your prayers.

**Mike Wilson** has not eating or drinking well and not as alert as he has been. Christa believes he is dehydrated and will be contacting his nurse.

**Dave Pennington** will be having a procedure Sept. 18 at Miami Valley South to remove kidney stones. Then on Sept. 30 they will removed the stents.

**Randy Mullin's brother, Dennis**, is in intensive care at University Hospital in Cincinnati. He had surgery on Sept. 6 because his feeding tube was coming loose and going into his abdominal cavity causing an infection.

Those who lost loved ones:

**Nathan Armstrong's** cousin **Kaitlyn Aber** passed away after a long battle with cancer.

**Mike & Gina Hummerick's**, son **Phillip**, from Waynesville, passed away after an auto accident. His funeral was Saturday.

**Sadonna Schofield's** grandma, **M. Gwen Tustin**, passed away and her funeral was Tuesday.

Address' are on the bulletin board (hall way near the front entrance):

**Hummerick family; Collin Schofield, Dennis Mullins, & Seth Robins.**

Previously Announced:

**Jeremy Price's** sister, **Lorissa Logan**, is requesting prayers for her and the family.

**Seth Robins**, is at home but has a G tube for the next week.

## Continue to Remember

Those ladies expecting:

**Lolli Mitchell**

Recovering from surgery:

**Butch Sims' step-daughter, Mindy**

Those grieving over the loss of a loved one:

**Marisol Jerez; Tommy Ray; Barbara Chavez & Diane Rutter; Tricia Spargo & family.**

Those in care centers/assisted living:

**Michael Braden; Aubrey Measel, Kermit & Isabelle Copeland, Ronny Gallihar, Felanese Webb.**

Those with various ongoing health issues:

**Josie Armstrong's uncle, Jon Boser; Dr. Chandra; Barbara Chavez's sister (Brenda Bevil); Lynne Pyle's sister (Vicki Miller); Connie Curry's son (Mark); Connie Walker; Chris Fles' nephew (Levi); Shannon Key's father (Eddie Rose); Lenora Holland; Carl King; Kevin Elkins; Joyce Hoffman's son (Randy); Morgan Ringle's grandma; Mary Ann Lohman's father (Maurice Stierwalt); Mike & Christa Wilson; Nathan Armstrong's uncle (Robert Aber).**

Those battling cancer:

**Mary Ann Lohman's** friend **Theo Parrish; Dan Spargo's** friend (Dave Nitcher); **Emily McDonalds** brother-in-law, (Kevin McDonald); **Kay Moore; Kathy Stewart's** friend (Janice Spicer); **Pam Garret**, a member at Waynesville; **Randy Mullins** brother Dennis Mullins; **Connie Curry's** son (Nathan); **Oscar Arias; Shane Brown's** mother; **The Allen's** neighbor (Janice Kubina); **Dan Spargo's** friend (Mack Moriarty); **John Key's** father (David); **Juanita Hellard's** nephew (Scottie); **Emily McDonalds'** friend (Jody Baize); **Mike Rosato's** friend (Jeff); **David Williams'** mother (Rosemary); **Cheryl Wacks'** mom & **Dick Kelso's** sister (Marlo Sigler); **Vicki Rosato's** friend (Lauren Patrick).

## CAN WE SERVE YOU?

Every week we are blessed with guests visiting our services. Thank you for sharing your time with us today! We hope you've been blessed by our worship.

We are here to help you on your spiritual journey. Life can be hard. If you need advice or help navigating it's curves, we are here for you. One of our ministers or shepherds would love to serve you.

## FAMILY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

**"Like Jesus, our aim should be to serve, not be served."**

### MONDAY

**Matthew 20:20-28**

**Key Idea:** *The important thing in life is serving others, not being served.*

**Wisdom for the Day:** Prov. 27:21

### TUESDAY

**1 Timothy 1:12-17**

**Key Idea:** *It is a privilege to render service as a follower of Christ.*

**Wisdom for the Day:** Prov. 27:22

### WEDNESDAY

**Matthew 7:12**

**Key Idea:** *We ought to do for others whatever we would want them to do for us.*

**Wisdom for the Day:** Prov. 27:23-27

### THURSDAY

**Mark 6:30-44**

**Key Idea:** *Other people's needs are more important than our own comfort.*

**Wisdom for the Day:** Prov. 28:1

### FRIDAY

**Luke 10:25-27**

**Key Idea:** *We show love for others by serving their needs.*

**Wisdom for the Day:** Prov. 28:2

# This Morning's Sermon

## Courageous Spirit

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. Paul is describing a Christian life that possesses strength of character, boldness, and courage. It is the spirit that stands strong ... no matter what comes. It is the ability to act with complete faith and trust in God. How do we get there? What does it look like? Today we'll examine 2 Timothy 1.6-7 and learn how.

### I. Rekindle Your Gifts

- A. 1.6 - *I remind you to rekindle the \_\_\_\_\_ that is in you.*
- B. 1 Peter 4.10-11 - *Just as each one has received a gift, \_\_\_\_\_ to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.*
  - 1. What talents are you not using presently that God has given you?

### II. Remember Your Resources

- A. 1.7 - *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.*
- B. The spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ is the same thing as *timidity*.
- C. Notice God \_\_\_\_\_ you these things.

### III. Three Spiritual Resources You Possess:

- A. Power (*dynamite*) might/energy; capability; ability; force; or vigor. *The energy that produces results.*
  - 1. Ephesians 1.18-20 - Paul prays that we come to a greater understanding of this power and how it is working inside of us.
  - 2. Ephesians 3.20-21 - When our trust is only in Him and our only desire is to serve Him, God is willing and *able to do* \_\_\_\_\_ *all that we ask or think.*
- B. Love
  - 1. Romans 5.5 - This hope will not disappoint us, because *God's love has been \_\_\_\_\_ out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*
  - 2. Ephesians 3.17-19 - so great it goes beyond understanding.
    - a) John 15.13 - *No one has greater love than this: to lay down his \_\_\_\_\_ for his friends.*
    - b) 1 Peter 4.8 - *love \_\_\_\_\_ a multitude of sins...*
    - c) 1 John 4.18 - *There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love \_\_\_\_\_ out fear...*
  - 3. What you love, controls your action.
- C. Sound judgment
  - 1. This is self-control / discipline / the properly prioritized mind.
  - 2. Romans 12.3 - another form of the word is found here.
  - 3. 1 Corinthians 9.26-27 - *I \_\_\_\_\_ my body and bring it under strict control...*

### Conclusion

- A. You have the resources. You have the strength to carry on.
- B. Ephesians 3.20-21 - when these things come together ... amazing things happen!

### Speaker

Matthew Allen

### Scripture Reading

2 Timothy 1.6-7

### Thinking Through Today's Lesson

1. What are some things you're coping with in real life right now? How may these things be impacting your spiritual outlook and attitude?
2. What are some of the gifts or talents God has given you?
3. What are you expected to do with these gifts? (1 Peter 4.10-11)
4. What does it mean to you to know you've been given power?
5. What is so important about having the ability to exercise sound judgment?

### Notes

### Answers

Use it	Life
Above and Beyond	Poured
Gift of God	Covers
Has given	Drives
Discipline	Fear