



3,2026

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFTER, CA 93263

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

Mark 6:41 ff

Classes in English & Spanish



9:00 Prayer Worship

Please give us your requests

9:30 Worship Service

Worship in English & Spanish

Elders

- Borjas Gonzales 599-9311
- Eddie Fisher 342-8337
- Garry Nelson 331-3858
- Mike Westbrook 910-2197
- Ron Nunlist 746-6531

Deacon

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](mailto:Sandy.Westbrook@att.net)

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



Reminder...The sign-up list for the building cleaning for May is on the back left table. Please sign up.

May 5 - Elder's Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

May 7 - Men's Bible Study 7:30 a.m. in the church kitchen

May 7 - Thursday night dinner - Cook: Jan

May 10 - Mother's Day

May 14 - Men's Bible Study 7:30 a.m. in the church kitchen

May 21 - Men's Bible Study 7:30 a.m. in the church kitchen

May 21 - Thursday night dinner - Cook: Darlene

May 28 - Men's Bible Study 7:30 a.m. in the church kitchen

June 4 - Men's Bible Study 7:30 a.m. in the church kitchen

June 6 - Quarterly Brunch/Lunch at 11:00 a.m.

Let's See Through Jesus' Eyes

They scoffed, "He's just a carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And his sisters live right here among us." They were deeply offended and refused to believe in him. – Mark 6:3 NLT

Too often, people see aspects of our past and define us based on whom we were, what we did, how we spoke, and how we reacted, which may be far from whom we are today. We are all guilty of seeing people as they once were and assuming things about them. Satan wants us to see imperfections in others and ourselves and to be blinded to the perfection Jesus sees in his children. Rather than condemning us for our past, the Lord uses our past to change us into the person he created us to be.

We have free will and fail daily, which Satan exploits. Still the offenses of our wayward choices were washed white as snow at the cross. Jesus tenderly guides us back onto the path of his plan, seeing us through his lens of perfection.

Jesus of love, help us put on holy spectacles and see others as you do by giving grace to those who are in the process of transformation. Help us influence them by our lifestyle and see them through your eyes as they are today, not as they were yesterday.

PASTOR'S CORNER OF LIGHT- Three Lessons from Judges (1)

The Gospel Coalition (TGC): Moriah Lovett – “Don't Skip Judges...”

In Judges 11, a father named Jephthah makes a hasty vow: If God gives him a military victory, he'll sacrifice the first thing that walks through his door. Tragically, it turns out to be his daughter. The story gets more confusing as we see her response. She accepts her fate, saying her father must keep his word to God, only asking that he allow her two months to mourn.

How could God allow this girl to be sacrificed in his name? She seems so brave and righteous. As we consider Scripture's larger context, though, we see that her sacrifice isn't noble but tragic. There's clear evidence that Jephthah keeping his vow wasn't pleasing to the Lord, because God opposes child sacrifice (Lev 18:21), and God had already provided a way out of foolish vows (Lev 5:4-6). If this family had known and followed Scripture, the daughter might have seen that her death in this situation wouldn't honor God, and Jephthah might have honored his vow through the alternative means God allowed.

Studying Judges can help many of us grow in faith and knowledge of God.

Many stories in Judges, like this one, are descriptive (not prescriptive – teaching how things should be). The point isn't that we should act as Jephthah and his daughter did, keeping foolish vows no matter the cost. Instead, their story is a cautionary tale. **They didn't know God's Word.** They thought they were doing the right thing because they were unaware of the truth. We see that even people who earnestly desire to obey God can be misguided without proper understanding and knowledge of Scripture. And we can take comfort in knowing that God doesn't look on this horrific event with approval. We can also look at 2 Tim 3:16,17 and see how God has provided help for us in living our lives.

Faith

Increase our faith so we may see
What you're doing in our lives
And all that we'll accomplish in you
So our faith begins to rise

We need to be reminded, Lord,
Of the small mustard seed
And how the same amount of faith
Moves mountains if we believe

As we walk in pure obedience
With confidence in you,
Our faith begins to grow and flourish,
Bearing more abundant fruit

We must go beyond the limits
Of our comfort zones,
Our faith is activated at those times
When we walk into the unknown

For it's when the safety net is gone,
We realize we need our Lord,
When there's nothing left to fall back on,
We must lean on God much more

And faith is released in our hearts
As we bend our knee to pray;
We shall be strengthened as we walk
And commit to Him each day.

PRAYER REQUESTS

TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

If you need prayer, please let the Elders know, or call Vivian Fisher (889-4075) to start the prayer chain.

NEW

Lord, give me concern and compassion for the lost that I meet today. Open doors so I might share YOUR message!

Jim's heart-valve replacement procedure went well on Tuesday and he was able to come home on Wednesday; prayers for a speedy recovery

LaDona had the pins surgically removed on Friday

Earl's brother-in-law passed away this week; pray for the family

Tank continues to struggle with his health problems

Wendy, Debra's SIL, brain surgery went well; mobility and speech affected but to what extent not yet known; will be transferring to rehab

Continued prayer:

David is sore and struggling physically after his second car accident.

Mike Dover, elder at Central, is in the hospital and not doing well

Mary C.'s daughter fell and broke her arm and wrist

Doris Friesen, remember her in prayer for the recent passing of her son

Tom, friend of the Nelson's, is battling leukemia again; please pray for remission

Vanessa, Buggie's friend, found out she has stage 4 kidney disease

Joe Acosta, friend of Eddie's, has been diagnosed with prostate cancer

Anne is part-way through her chemotherapy

Trina's aunt **Betty** passed away; pray for her daughters, **Karen** and **Laurie**

Bob, Nina's relative, has been diagnosed with cancer

Tonya's mom is doing better but dealing with heart and respiratory issues

David is still trying to work out his transportation situation after his car accident

Pray for **Everett's wife and three children** as they grieve his passing

Sally's father is in Delano Skilled Nursing Care

Grandson of Sally and Borjas is struggling to find his way with the Lord



Choose What You Remember

Rick Warren – April 28, 2026

“I thank God for the help you gave me.” - Philippians 1:5 (NCV)

Paul wrote the book of Philippians to the church he planted in Philippi. There, a woman named Lydia opened up her home and, along with others, welcomed Paul to the city. The Philippian church even helped fund Paul's missionary journeys. In [Philippians 1:5](#), Paul says, *“I thank God for the help you gave me”* (NCV).

The thing is, Paul didn't have a good time in Philippi. In fact, it was one of his toughest churches to get started. When Paul went to this city to start a church, he was beaten, whipped, humiliated, falsely arrested, and thrown into prison. He even survived a major earthquake! Then he was asked by the city leaders to leave town.

Yet Paul told the believers, *“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God”* ([Philippians 1:3](#) NLT).

What is Paul doing here? He is choosing selective memory. Philippi was not a happy place for Paul. He endured a lot of persecution and suffering during his time there. But he chooses not to dwell on painful memories. Instead, he expresses his gratitude for the good things done for him and through him.

The longer you know someone, the more likely you are to take that person for granted, to look for faults, and to remember the bad things instead of the good things.

Are you still clinging to painful memories of people who are still in your life? Maybe you've never let them off the hook for mistakes they made years ago. You can't enjoy those relationships today because you're still holding on to the past.

You need to understand that memories are a choice. I've mentioned a story before about Clara Barton, who founded the American Red Cross. A friend reminded her of a particularly cruel thing somebody had done to her years before. The friend asked, “Don't you remember?” Her famous reply was, “No, I distinctly remember forgetting it.”

Your memories are a choice. If you want to hold on to your painful memories, go right ahead. But you're not going to be happy. Paul had a lot of reasons to focus on painful memories of Philippi. But he chose instead to be grateful for the people in his life and Gods' work in and through them.

When you do the same, God will bless your relationships far beyond your expectations.