



17, 2026

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

**WORSHIP TIME**

**Sunday Morning**

**8:30 Bible Classes**

**Mark 6:53 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](mailto: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](mailto:grammyjan51@yahoo.com)

[Sandy Westbrook 910-8143](mailto:SandyWestbrook910-8143)

[mikewestbrook@att.net](mailto:mikewestbrook@att.net)

Don't forget to check out our website

**No te olvides de visitar nuestro sitio web**

[www.shafterchurchofchrist.com](http://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.**

**Men's Bible Study finished the book May 14 and then hold off doing a Bible study during the summer. Re-start to be determined.**

**May 21 - Thursday night dinner - Cook: Darlene**

**May 31 - SONG AND SUPPER; Please plan to attend**

**Graduations will be starting to happen**

**June 4 - Thursday night dinner - Cook: Jan**

**June 6 - Quarterly Brunch/Lunch at 11:00 a.m. - NO Men's or women's Prayer Breakfasts this month**

**June 18 - Thursday night dinner - Cook: Buggie**

**REMEMBER** to sign up in the back for the **QUARTERLY LUNCHEON** for **SATURDAY, June 6<sup>th</sup>** in lieu of the monthly prayer breakfasts.

Tri-tip and chicken will be provided so will need side dishes and dessert.

So please sign up on the list what you'd like to bring and share.



Joyce Vontz has recently moved into Bakersfield to live with her sister. Please change in your bulletin. Her new address is:

5717 Wisteria Valley Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93306



## PASTOR'S CORNER OF LIGHT- Three Lessons from Judges (3)

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

In reading some of the accounts given us in the book of Judges we see many bad situations about the way humanity has chosen to live their lives. Paul tells us in Galatians 3 that the Law was given to us in order to allow us to see that human nature has sin at its core. This sin then brings about condemnation from God. When we see this terrible state in which we live then when we hear the story of Christ and the freedom and redemption which He offers us – we jump at the chance to partake of His life.

In a similar fashion we have been given the book of Judges. We can learn the easy way by knowing and obeying God's Word, we can learn the hard way by suffering the consequences of our mistakes, or we can learn by watching others and “taking heed” from their experiences.

Amid the grievous stories recorded in Judges, we find the refrain “There was no king in Israel” (Judg. 17:6; 18:1; 19:1). And that’s where this dark, hopeless, cliff-hanging book ends: “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (21:25). The repetition of this phrase invites us to conclude that if there were a king, these atrocities wouldn’t have happened. It invites us to hope for a king to enter the story who would not only do what’s right but set all the wrong things right.

Reading Judges brings us to our knees, begging God for something better. It forces us to assess whether we truly believe in God’s goodness and sovereign care for his people and compels us to look holistically at Scripture for an answer. We need Judges, because in our darkest days, these stories remind us there is a King: Jesus Christ.

Whether you or someone else you know has experienced injustice, abuse, or betrayal, take heart: We serve a King whose love, justice, power, and compassion are limitless. He will heal the broken, comfort the oppressed, and set wrongs right. (Rev 21:4) While Israel once longed for their promised King, we rejoice because he has come. Jesus lived, died, and rose again so that in our darkest moments, we can turn to One who will never fail, abandon, or harm us. He’s our compassionate Savior, risen Lord, and reigning King.

Judges is filled with bad news about humanity so for all the more reason, let us look to the good news of Jesus Christ.



*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is his faithfulness! (Hopefully you are singing in your heart as you read this.)*

# 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.*

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

## NEW

**Debra's** procedure for emplacing her stent in a stomach blood vessel was moved from last Monday until tomorrow, the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Nina's relative, **Bob**, was unable to have his tumor removed so this and other health issues continue to cause suffering.

**Sandy** CT results for her just lead to needing to see cardiologist, neurologist and a gastrologist. In the meantime, has more medication adjustments and restricted from driving.

**Sue**, Sandy's sister fell and broke her arm at the shoulder joint.

**Earl** saw a doctor on Monday regarding his stomach problems.

**LaDona** that she continues to improve daily and will be able to get out soon. She is getting around carefully. She hopes to be back with us soon. Continue to keep her safety in your prayers. Had a Dr appointment this past Friday

**Mike Dover's** health problems continue to worsen. Pray for healing as the Lord sees fit.

**Angela's boyfriend's mother** is in the hospital with pneumonia

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

**Anne** is part-way through her chemotherapy

**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

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

*Many of those from Newsletter were moved to the Extended Long-Term Prayer List.*

*If you would keep this list handy so you can continue to pray for those on the list*

*But we still need you to let us know on updates so we can stay on top of the prayers*

"Let he who has ears to hear, use them." Eight times in the Gospels and eight times in the book of Revelation we are reminded that it's not enough just to have ears—it's necessary to use them.

Jesus spent regular time with God, praying and listening. Luke 5:16 (NIV) tells us, "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." If Jesus, the Son of God, the sinless Savior of humankind, thought it worthwhile to clear his calendar to pray, wouldn't we be wise to do the same? Jesus also spent regular time in God's Word. Three times in the wilderness temptation he used the Word of God to repel the attack of Satan.

If we are to be just like Jesus, then we need to imitate his habits of prayer and Bible reading.

## FINDING HAPPINESS IN GOD'S WORD

by Rick Warren

When you choose to dwell on a worry, it will always get bigger in your mind. So if you want to change the way you think and renew your mind, then you've got to stop dwelling on your worries and meditate on God's Word instead.

How do you meditate? Well, if you know how to worry, then you already know how to meditate. Worry is when you take a negative thought and think on it over and over and over. On the other hand, when you take a passage of Scripture and think on it over and over and over, that's meditation.

If your only contact with the Bible is when you hear it at church, you'll have a weak grip on God's Word, and it can easily be pulled out of your mind.

But if you hear God's Word and you also read it every day, then you'll start to get a better grip. Then, if you hear it and read it *and* study it, you'll get an even better grip. And then, if you hear it and read it and study it *and* start memorizing and meditating on it, you'll have a solid grip on the Word of God.

You'll struggle to hold tightly to God's Word if you're not doing all the important steps of Bible study.

Psalm 119:16 says, "*Your laws make me happy. I never forget your word*" (GW). Do you want to be happy? Following God's principles will produce happiness. You remember those principles by hearing them, reading them, studying them, memorizing them, meditating on them, and then applying them to your life.

The Bible says in Psalm 119:35, "*Make me walk along the path of your commands, for that is where my happiness is found*" (NLT).

If you've been looking for happiness in all the wrong places, then turn around. God says happiness is found in the path of his commands.

### Talk It Over

- What distractions keep you from meditating on God's Word?
- Who in your life can help you as you memorize Scripture? How can you help each other develop this healthy habit?
- You find happiness when you obey God's commands. What does that truth tell you about God?

*Love God ~ Love Each Other ~ Love the Lost ~ Live in His Light*  
*Amar a Dios ~ Amarse Unos a Otros ~ Amar a los Perdidos ~ Vivir en Su Luz*

