



20 2026

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

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

Mark 14:1ff

Classes in English & Spanish

**PRAISE &
WORSHIP**

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

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

*Do all things without murmuring and
arguing, so that You may be blameless
and innocent, children of God.
Philippians 2:14-15*

Father, how holy and great is your promise. You've been so good to us, but somehow, Father, we find things about which to complain even though we've been given life eternal. Renew our vision; help us to see heaven. Help us to be busy about the right business – the business of serving you.

*When our focus is on the Lord, our problems
cannot impair our vision.*

(Taken from My Personal Daily Prayer Book)



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

September 18 - Friday night song service at West Visalia Church of Christ at 7:00; desserts and beverages provided. 4525 W. Caldwell Ave. (559) 731-4522 wvcoc@yahoo.com

September 24 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 1 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 1 - Thursday night dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Cook - Lori

October 3 - Men's and Ladies' Prayer Breakfasts
Men's 8:00 a.m. in the church kitchen
Women's 9:30 a.m. Nelson's home

October 6 - Elders Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

October 8 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 15 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 15 - Thursday Night Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Cooking?

October 24 - Ladies Day at West Visalia Church of Christ

Pastor's Corner

The Mundane Life

TGC: A Mundane Life Is a Courageous Life 04/21/2026 Alan Noble

When we think about courageous people, we typically imagine first responders, soldiers, or people who shield children from the bullets of mass shooters. And of course, they **are** courageous. It takes great courage to risk your life for the sake of another. But there are other kinds of courage. It takes courage to live out all the roles of our lives as a Christian. It takes courage to be a Christian parent, child, spouse, employee, friend and/or just living out some of our worse days. It takes courage to live out each "mundane" day where each step of the day takes a little bit of courage even to do a 'small' task.

According to one scholar courage is the act of risking suffering for the sake of the good. It requires vulnerability, which frightens us because our culture has taught us that suffering is inherently bad and must be avoided at all costs. Where there is suffering, the world offers us a product or service to cure, treat, numb, soothe, or solve it. But **suffering is part of life** in a fallen world. And according to the apostle Paul, suffering produces perseverance, which leads to character and hope ([Rom. 5:3-5](#)). Accepting the reality of suffering and learning to suffer well is part of knowing how to live well as a Christian. And to suffer well means to suffer courageously. In our mundane lives, we must dare to risk suffering for the sake of the good.

What I mean by the "good" is glorifying God and enjoying Him forever. What that practically looks like in any particular situation will vary. For example, one could risk the stress of "change" and rejection when changing jobs to bring glory to God in a new situation. But trying to avoid suffering—trying to avoid vulnerability so you don't risk anything—leaves you timid and inhibited. It feels like you're protecting yourself from harm, like you're being careful. In reality, overprotection harms you as much as recklessness does. It harms you by preventing you from experiencing the wonders of the world God has created.

Life involves risk and vulnerability. It takes courage to enjoy many of the blessings God has given us. In [Joshua 1:9](#), God instructs Joshua, "Have I not commanded you to be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." [Philippians 1:20](#), "I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have complete boldness, so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death."



Hopelessness is the doorway to hope. You have to give up on yourself before you will be excited about the hope that is yours in Christ Jesus.

We tend to give ourselves far too much credit:

- We tend to attribute too much righteousness to ourselves.
- We tend to think we have more wisdom than we do.
- We tend to pride ourselves on having the "right" character.
- We tend to think of ourselves as being more patient than we are.
- We tend to regard ourselves as perseverant.
- We tend to think we are submissive and obedient
- We tend to believe we are more committed to the kingdom of God than we are.
- We simply tend to see ourselves as more godly than we are.

Here's the problem with this tendency: when you name yourself as righteous, when you attribute to yourself more maturity than you actually have, you don't seek the grace that is your only hope. We don't think we devalue grace, but that's exactly what many of us do. Because we look at ourselves and conclude that we're spiritually okay, we don't tend to have a deep esteem and appreciation for the grace that is our only hope in life and in death. You see, only people who acknowledge how deep their need is and who admit that they have no ability whatsoever to meet that need on their own get excited about the grace that meets every one of their spiritual needs.

On the other hand, we don't like to think of ourselves as needy, so we tend to minimize our sin. Sadly, many of us are far more concerned about the sin of others than our own. We pay far more attention to the spiritual needs of others than our own. Because we minimize our sin, seeing ourselves as righteous, we don't cry out for and run after the rescuing and transforming grace that is ours as the children of God. As long as we still have hope in us – that is, hope in our ability to be righteous on our own – we won't run after the grace that is offered us in Christ Jesus. It's only when we are willing to give up on us that we seek the rescue that God offers us.

Yes, it really is true that hopelessness is the doorway to hope. Seeing yourself as hopeless and helpless, if left to yourself, initiates and ignites your pursuit of God's grace. The fact is that we all give daily evidence of our continuing need for grace. Simply put, we have no ability to make it on our own. We still stand in desperate need of divine help. Are you willing to admit that and run to where grace can be found?

For further study and encouragement: Hebrews 4:14-16

(Taken from New Morning Mercies by Paul David Tripp)

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

Prayer REQUESTS

*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

Joyce was in pain after her sinus surgery but is finally feeling better

LeRoy has been dealing with a body rash

Reuben, Borjas's brother-in-law, needs knee surgery as soon as possible

Victor is returning to Mexico – blessings and safe travels

Jan, back and neuropathy issues

Continued Prayer

Clara, Buggies friend, waiting for the pathologist results from her recent surgery

Sally, having knee issues

Trina's **Aunt Doreen**, had a massive stroke and had to have surgery due to swelling and bleeding.

Borjas's grandson is having serious health issues

Debra continuing with PT and has some testing coming up from the new neurologist

Joe/Lori's children as they deal with various life struggles

John and Ashley are dealing with personal family issues

Mike will be having several tests over the next few weeks; he and **Sandy** are having multiple issues.

Natalie is dealing with work stress

Rhonda, Trina's friend, has been diagnosed with stage four lung cancer

Sally's brother, **Reuben**, is struggling with back pain

Tank as he deals with health issues and **Mary** as she cares for him



Let the whole earth shout triumphantly to the LORD! Serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Acknowledge that the LORD is God. He made us, and we are his - - his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name. For the LORD is good, and his faithful love endures forever; his faithfulness, through all generations.

~ Psalm 100