

# 2, 2024

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

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM John 2:18 ff

Youth Class: Eddie Fisher

Children's Class: Debra Young

PRAYER TIME 9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

WORSHIP TIME 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

**Elders** 

Eddie Fisher 342-8337 Garry Nelson 331-3858 Mike Westbrook 910-2197

Deacon

Ron Nunlist 746-6531

Minister

**Church Office** 

Jim Young 527-7026 jimyoung2work@aol.com

#### Office Hours:

746-2205

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



June 4 - Elder's Meeting 8 a.m.

June 6 - Thursday Night Dinner

June 14 - MOVIE NIGHT at 6:00 p.m.

June 23 - World Broadcasting Presentation

## 6 - Earl and April Barton

29 – Ron and Lynn





5 – Leann Keeley

8 – Sharon Phillips

11 – Chris Booth

12 – Esmeralda Moreno

15 – Trina Pflugh

15 – Buggie Piazza

18 – Natalie Booth

20 - David Moreno

25 – LaDona Rawlins

30 - James Pflugh

# Well-meant are the wounds a friend inflicts.

- Proverbs 27:6

Lord, help me to be willing to receive constructive criticism from friends whom I know are looking out for my best interest. Even when I feel protests rising up inside of me, help me to hear them out and to receive their words with grace, giving careful consideration to what has been said before responding. If they have misunderstood me in some way, help me not to take offense. If we simply cannot agree, preserve our friendship with the love you have given us for each other.

A true friend loves you enough to support you and to confront you. – Anonymous

Taken from My Personal Prayer Book

# Pastor's Corner of Light: Running the Race 1 Cor 9:24-27

When the apostle Paul challenged the Corinthian church to "run in such a way as to get the prize," he used a recognizable image: the athlete. "They do it to get a crown that will not last," Paul wrote. "But we do it to get a crown that will last forever" He challenged them to treat their life like an athlete: to train, run, fight, and finish well.

Often, we meditate on the gift of salvation but there is a difference between a gift and a prize. A gift is given freely; a prize is earned and won. The prize Paul speaks of is not salvation, but the reward for the works we do as saved people of God. How we live out our salvation on earth has real ramifications, both in the present and eternally. Paul spoke of this earlier: 1 Cor 3:11-13 "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work". Each follower of Christ receives the free gift of salvation by the grace of God (Eph. 2:8). How we build on that gift is the working out of our salvation - how it plays itself out in our living (Phil. 2:12). If we build with hay and straw— worthless, temporary pursuits—there is little to be shown for our faith on earth. But when we build with the gold, silver, and costly jewels of a mature Christian life, of good works done for the world, the quality of our building will be revealed at the last.

To build in such a way, we must be strong. Like an athlete training for the games, we must discipline our bodies and keep them under control: not out of legalism, shame, or fear, but out of love for the God who saved us. Discipline—living a disciplined life—brings freedom. By saying no to unhealthy impulses and listening to the Holy Spirit's leading us, we are freed to have deeper relationships, better health, stronger faith, and a greater witness. The disciplined life is not aimless, but focused. We have set our eyes on the prize of "well done, my good and faithful servant". (Matt. 25:21) and we run with His approval in mind.

We do not choose discipline to earn salvation; we choose to discipline ourselves because we ARE saved and want to enjoy the fruits of that salvation today. Because we are in Christ, a new creation, we must choose to say "no" to some things and say "yes" to what is better—for the sake of our time, for rest, for connection, for discipleship, for health, and for growth - so that we may experience a much deeper, more fulfilling "yes" to God. Any area in which we learn to delay gratification out of love for God leads us to a deeper experience of His affection and the profound impact of the Spirit-led life. The reward which Paul says we are to receive is not one that is perishable, but rather, imperishable - eternal and unchanging. May we too echo Paul's words: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. In the future there is laid up for me crown of righteousness . . . ". (2 Tim 4:7)

"Eyes on the Prize of Faithful Service" by Phylicia Masonheimer

### A LIVING HOPE: The Promise of Faithful, Forever Love

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. – John 20:3-4 (NIV)

I scramble up stone, making my way along whatever serves as a trail. Footings are loose.

It is my last morning in Colorado. During this trip, I've camped on mountains and hiked in valleys. I've celebrated the marriage of two friends. I've learned more about who I am and who God is.

But in twenty-four hours, I will be back in my office. I will no longer explore wilderness. I will sit in a chair with four wheels.

So today, I carry a heaviness. And a question: What happens next?

As the early sunlight warms my neck, I think of another man who grappled with the same question. Peter.

Peter had followed Jesus Christ across Judea. He had seen the power of the promised Messiah. Then, in less than a day, everything changed. His savior was murdered. His faith was shaken. The disciple of God once again became a fisherman.

What happens next?

Everything. A report of a disappearing body. A burning, gasping run to a tomb. Folded linens and wrappings. Peter's story had only begun.

On the quietest of Sundays, Christ had shattered the bonds of death. He reunited sinful humanity to a holy God. And he rolled back the stone and redeemed Peter, the rock on whom He had chosen to build His church.

For Peter, the best was yet to come.

I know the same is true for me. The faithful God Who brought me to this place will accompany me back home. And I can't wait to see what He has in store for me there.

"Jesus, thank you for the cross and the empty tomb. And thank You that my Relationship with You will continue for eternity."—Logan Eliasen

Digging Deeper: Deuteronomy 31:38; Philippians 1:4-6

Taken from Walking in Grace



There are sign-up sheets on the round table in back for May if you would put your name down to help with cleaning assignments of the building.

They are broken up into 3 groups so should make it a little easier to pick a group you feel you can do to help with. And we really need the help!

- 1. Clean auditorium and disinfect chairs / door handles
- 2. Clean the 2 outside restrooms and North entry doorway
- 3. Clean foyer floor, dust, glass doors / windows / Nursery restroom

Ask Vivian or April where the vacuums are and cleaning supplies. If supplies are needed let Mike know as he has key for toilet paper and paper towels.

We really would appreciate it if you or your family would pick 1 of the 3 chores that need to be done. THANK YOU!



If you need prayer, please let one of the Elders know, or put a note in the box at the back of the auditorium. You can call Vivian **Fisher (889-4075)** to start the prayer chain.

### **PRAISE**

- \*Ron & Nancy are improving but are still weak; it has been a slow process
- \*Cindy Fisher is home and feeling well after a brief stay in the hospital for a stomach infection
- \*Jan's results from endoscopy were nothing serious; a few minor issues

### **TRAVELING**

\*Garry and Jan are leaving Tuesday for a road trip to New Mexico to visit Garry's sister; back the 12th

## \*NEW

Lord, give me the same concern and compassion for the lost that you have. Open doors that I might share your message of love and salvation

- \*Ann as she goes through the stressful job of moving; prayer for safe travel and peace in her new home. She will be greatly missed here.
- \*Buddy has a PET scan this week and doctors' appointments; pray for good results
- \*Mary Nixon was ill with the stomach virus this past week; \*Carrington has had an outbreak of the stomach virus
- \*Mary C. was also sick with the stomach virus
- \*Cheryl White is still struggling from her stroke and back injury. She is moving to Kern River Transitional
- \*All those experiencing severe weather conditions; Some of Nina's family is New Mexico is experiencing a fire danger around their home
- \*Sean, friend of Trina's, was run over by a fork lift on the job in Texas; crushed pelvis and one leg amputated above the knee and the other below the knee
- \*Beverly Hurlbert as she continues to heal from the car accident her family was inrecently
- \*Mary C.'s daughter is having legal issues and her son, Terry, is looking for a job.
- \*LaDona pray for continued recovery from her fall.

Wesley, Connie's son, is dealing with some serious legal issues.

**Hannah**, Trina's daughter, continues to struggle with health issues.

**Travelers** pray for safe travels for all those traveling

Chelsea, continued improvement from the scooter accident

Ron, Nancy's son, has a job interview this week; prayer for a good interview

David, Ron's brother, impacted bowels and kidney stones and possible blood clot in his leg

Chloe and Lucia, both suffering from long COVID with extreme fatigue, depression, and anxiety

Demetrio, pray for good results from his MRI

Marsha, terminal cancer; prayer also for her husband, Wayne (friends of Don Loveless)

**Millie**, Ron's sister-in-law, declining on hospice; sleeping most of the day and low blood pressure **Robert** is still struggling with arthritic pain

Janese is struggling with a severe flair-up fibromyalgia; severe headache and pain all over

**Barbara**, doing physical therapy after her shoulder surgery

**Joyce** as she takes care of Tom who is now at home and **Tom** as he adjusts

Tank is struggling with health problems

**Jim**, liver cancer; needs a transplant, (a request from Adrianne's niece)

Unspoken Prayers . . . we know their names, and, above all, God knows them...