



Covenant Partner News

Sunday, June 16, 2024

Volume 4

Issue 24

Message From Evangelistic Outreach

(Excerpt from EVANTELL by David Souther, May 17, 2024 Blog, Christian Living, Personal Evangelism)

“How to be “For Culture” without Being “Of Culture”

In John 17:15-18, Jesus prayed for His disciples, “I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth: Your word is truth. As You have sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.”

Jesus revealed that we are both “sent” and “sanctified,” sent into the world to be salt and light, yet sanctified (“set apart,” “made holy”) from the world system that is often opposed to the things of God.

How should a Christian maintain the balance between being sent, yet set apart? Here are a few principles to consider.

1. Recognize that holiness comes from spending time with the LORD, not separating ourselves from others. Sanctification comes from where we focus our minds, not from whom we avoid.
2. Remember that growing closer to God includes growing closer to those who do not know Him.
3. Rely on the Holy Spirit, who enables us to live for Christ, love others like Christ and witness about Christ to those who don’t know Him. Without Him, we can do nothing. (John 15:5)
4. Reflect on God’s grace. When we are tempted to separate ourselves from those who don’t know Christ, we need to remember the only thing that separates us from them is Christ! If Christ had not saved us, where would we be? Who would we be? Sinners deserving the wrath of God!

The reason we are sent and sanctified is not because of anything we have done, but because of what Jesus has done for us. Our job is to extend to others the grace and mercy we ourselves have received by sharing the same gospel that transformed us!

BETHESDA ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR WEEK OF June 9, 2024		
Sunday School	Prayer Meeting	No Bible Study
Men (7)	Tuesday (27)	Tuesday (0)
Women (18)	<i>Prayer Focus:</i> 1) Praise God for His protection in that there were no incidents or threats against participant safety. 2) Praise God for the presentation of the Gospel during Community Day. 3) Pray for the Ice Cream social and the Food and Clothing giveaway on June 22nd. 4) Pray for Dea. Jones and Sis. Sanders and all the workers who will be participating in VBS. 5) Pray for our sick & shut-in and those asking for prayers and other expressions of compassion and comfort.	Wednesday (0)
Phone (10 avg.)		Thursday (0)
Children (3)		

On Prayer by James Banks

(A Pastor and Writer for the Daily Bread)

Now sometimes we might mistakenly think that prayer has something to do with skill. Sometimes you hear someone who is very well meaning say “I don’t have the Spiritual gift of prayer.” But did you know that of all the spiritual gifts listed in Scripture, prayer is not among them? And there’s an excellent reason for that. Prayer is meant for all of us. “Why Pray?” “Because you prayed!” “Bend down, O LORD, and listen!” Isaiah 36 and 37. That doesn’t mean things will go our way every time we pray, but if we learn to pray proactively---making prayer our “first resort” and not “a last resort” ---we will or may see God do breathtaking things. He wants us to help us lift our eyes above our circumstances so that we can catch a glimpse of His goodness and love. He wants us to pray so that we will get to know Him---and that really is the best part about prayer. True prayer is about so much more than just request or answers---it’s about a relationship with the One who will love and sustain us even when the answers don’t seem to come.

ODBU.org/SF120 is worth reading on prayer. Listen to his lecture on “Why Pray” by James Banks.

- Why Pray
- Why Not Ask?
- When You Don’t know What to Say
- Obstacles to Prayer
- Praying for Others
- Prayer and Fasting
- What about “Unanswered” Prayer
- Persevering in Prayer
- Living a Prayer-Filled Life
(Course Completion)

RECURRING EVENTS

Hour of Power & Bible Study *Tuesday Bible Study will resume in September.*

Each Tuesday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via *ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, *please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

We encourage all members to submit prayer requests as the Holy Spirit leads by 12:00 Noon on Monday.

Open Praise Forum & Bible Study

Every Tuesday leading up to Communion Sunday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via ZOOM and on conference line referenced above. *

Bible Study Young Adult Edition

Each Wednesday at 7:30pm EST and 6:30pm CST via Zoom.

Register by text at 202-262-4476 or email kgoady07@gmail.com.

Men's Prayer Hour

Each Wednesday at 9:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access 875378#

Women's Prayer Hour *Women's Prayer will resume in August.*

Each 4th Saturday at 9:00am via conference call: 1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

Questions and Answers

Held each 4th Sunday at 6:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

Please submit your questions *today* by email to: SoulCare@Bethesdaweb.org or in Q&A box located on the table outside of the church office.

Bible Study *Thursday Bible Study will resume in September.*

Each Thursday at 12:00 Noon via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

THIS WEEK EVENTS

Thursday, June 20

7:00pm Sunday School Staff Meeting via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

Saturday, June 22

9:00am Vacation Bible School Training, Room 120

10:00am Food & Clothing Distribution, Grounds of Bethesda

11:30am Combined Choir Rehearsal, Room 120

12:00 noon Ice Cream Social, Grounds of Bethesda

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

Join the Sunday School on Sunday, June 16th for our annual Father's Day program entitled: "Men you're in the army now!" Our presenter will be Brother Clarence Hope. Please join us and invite a friend or an unchurched father or man. Sis. Tigist Ashaka will also take pictures of fathers, grandfathers, etc. please plan to join us!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Women's Prayer hour resumes in August.

Reminder: Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center Bottle Mission Project

*"Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward."
Psalm 127:3*

The Women's Ministry has adopted an outreach effort and partnership with the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center. We requested that the entire Bethesda Family join with the Women's Ministry by putting donations of coins and/or dollars into baby bottles beginning Mother's Day (May 12) through Father's Day (June 16).

Let's be a blessing to those in need by supporting this outreach effort to assist with needed supplies for the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center. Your donations of any size will be a blessing!

A little change.....CHANGES LIVES!

Bottles can be returned to Sister Terri Burrell or Sister Jennie Sanders.

FOOD AND CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION

The next food and clothing distribution will be on the 22nd. We need nonperishable food items to restock the food pantry. The canned goods should have easy to open tops. If you would like to donate ready to eat foods (spam, tuna pouches, potted meat, wrapped crackers, boxed juices, fruit, etc.) and clean summer clothing for men, women and children, please bring to the church office by Wednesday, June 19th. Thank you for your sacrifice and commitment to feeding those in need in our community.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

VBS is quickly approaching. We need volunteers to serve. Pray how the Lord can use you in this outreach effort. The volunteer form is on the table near the church office.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

Happy Father's Day

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew his masterpiece was complete,
And so, he called it Dad. (Anonymous Author)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

A Christian Perspective on Juneteenth

On June 19, 1865 — Two months after the Civil War ended and more than 2 years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing enslaved people — Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to free 250,000 people still held in bondage. The arrival of Major General Gordon Granger and his troops signaled that the Federal Government would not relent until the last enslaved people in America were free.

On Juneteenth, we commemorate that day and honor the tireless work of abolitionists who made it their mission to deliver the promise of America for all Americans. We honor the generations of activists who have advanced the need for our Nation to recognize Juneteenth as a way to reconcile our past as we build a new American future together —in reminding ourselves and others what God did to rid our people from this cruel system, the worst system of its kind in world history, let's not forget to tell them true freedom can only come in Jesus Christ!

As believers in Jesus Christ, let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul reminding us that these rights are not earned but divinely ordained—“ It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5:1). “For one who has died has been set free from sin” (Romans 6:1) “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.” (Romans 13:8)

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

Ministry Leaders, this is a reminder to complete the Ministry Action Plan Special Event Form for any major events six (6) months in advance of the planned activity for approval. The objective of this process is to help ministries of our church plan activities prior to committing resources to them. Please see the church office if you are in need of a form. The pastor will meet with each leader to review the proposed activity. Thank you.

ROOF REPLACEMENT FUND

We have established a goal of raising \$62,000 over the next 12-months for replacement of the church's roof Section M. We are asking each member to give an extra \$62 per month or \$15.50 per week to the church's Building Maintenance Fund. If 100 members do this on a regular monthly basis over the course of 1-year, we will raise the \$62,000 necessary to finance the first phase of roof repairs. Please use the special "Roof Replacement" envelopes found outside of the church office and Sanctuary vestibule. Thank you in advance for your faithful giving, Bethesda!

"With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

IT SUPPORT MINISTRY

Dear Ministry Leaders,

As we continue to promote our church events, we want to make sure that we are doing so in the most effective and efficient way possible. To help us achieve this, we are introducing a new form that will allow you to upload flyers for your events and have them posted on our social media platforms. Please use the following form to submit your promotional materials:

<https://form.jotform.com/bbcitsupport/ministry-submit-form>

Please ensure that you submit any promotional flyers at least one week in advance of your event to allow enough time for us to post them.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us spread the word about our events. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

BBC IT Support Ministry

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER CONTINUED:

MINISTRY LEADERS

If you would like to hold your ministry meetings or events on Zoom, please contact Sister Bobbie Taylor at 202.635.2883 or submit your request by email: btaylor@bethesdaweb.org.

MINISTRY MAILBOX

All ministry heads or secretaries, please remember to check your mailbox.