



UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT

Becoming New

2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21; 6:1-2

God created us to relate to one another, but He also created us to relate to Him. Our greatest need is to be reconciled to God. Sin has created a barrier that must be dealt with if we are to come into a right relationship with Him. Sin also creates barriers between people, and barriers must be removed if two sides are to come into agreement. In this week's Scripture passage, we'll see that Paul thought deeply about reconciliation and insisted that genuine reconciliation comes only through a right relationship with Jesus. Further, as you study this passage, keep in mind that churches that reconcile fractured relationships will be more effective in proclaiming the gospel message. Understanding affliction in the Christian life has been a key theme from Paul in this letter to the Corinthians. One of the reasons why believers "do not lose heart" (2 Cor. 4:16) is because we trust that our momentary afflictions will produce an "an eternal glory that far outweighs them all" (4:17) in heaven. Christians can expect the temporary "earthly tent" of their bodies to be replaced with "an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands" (5:1). This truth, of course, leads us to desire to be "away from the body and at home with the Lord"—but until that happens, "we make it our goal to please him" (5:8-9). Why? Because, as Paul stated, "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" (5:10). Because judgment is approaching, Paul insisted that "we try to persuade others" (5:11). Not only on account of judgment, but also because "Christ's love compels us" (5:14), our aim should be to convince people to live as those who have been reconciled by God. If Jesus died for all, then "those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (5:15). Living for Christ means living a life of separation from the world (6:14-18). If we are to be held accountable for the things we've done in our body, both good and evil, then "let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God" (7:1). Yet none of this is possible unless we've become new creations, having been reconciled to God through Christ's sacrifice.

Coming Up @ EBC

- ◆ **May 13**-Mother's Day
- ◆ **May 24**-Election Day
- ◆ **May 25**-Member use of facilities
- ◆ **May 28**-Memorial Day, office closed

The Mother's Day Offering

Benefitting Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress..." James 1:27

Jesus commands us to care for "the least of these." Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes provides safe, loving, Christian homes to children from hard places.

Our statewide goal this year is to get 3,000 churches to participate in the Mother's Day Offering. Our statewide financial goal is \$3,000,000. Won't you prayerfully consider helping us reach these goals?

Pastor's Message

Dear Church Family -

We are just a few short weeks away from being with you in person. We are excited about what God is doing and the way he is paving the path for us to be together. We have seen over a dozen churches come alongside us as we seek to make Jesus known in the East Nashville area and there have been several others who have reached out stating that they, too, want to come and join the movement of God at Eastland.

As we have been preparing for what God is going to do, a passage of scripture keeps coming to the surface over and over again: Romans 1:5 "...for the sake of Jesus' name among all the nations." Church, let me just say that this is why we exist.

This is why we worship.
This is why we fellowship.
This is why we serve.
This is why we go.

When all is said and done, this is the question we will have to answer: how well did we work for the sake of Christ's name among all the nations. There is nothing else in this life that is as valuable as the name of Christ on the lips of our neighbors, our family members, and those in the most remote of locations across the globe.

So, as we worship, fellowship together, serve together and go together we do so for the sake of his name among all the nations. It's a pleasure being your pastor.

Pastor Jason



A Godly Woman Called for God's Purpose (Esther 1-5)

Esther 4:14

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

Esther lived an ordinary Jewish life and then found herself crowned Queen of Persia. We clearly see the Lord's sovereign hand at work as He called her to fill this very important role in His plans for the Jews. But can you imagine how upset, confused, and uncertain Esther must have felt as the details of her life were unfolding?

We may all feel the same perplexity in our own lives as we face "the future." Sometimes it is easier to see God's calling in someone else's life than in our own. His plans and purposes are working out perfectly as we progress, but from a worldly perspective, the developments may seem chaotic and bewildering.

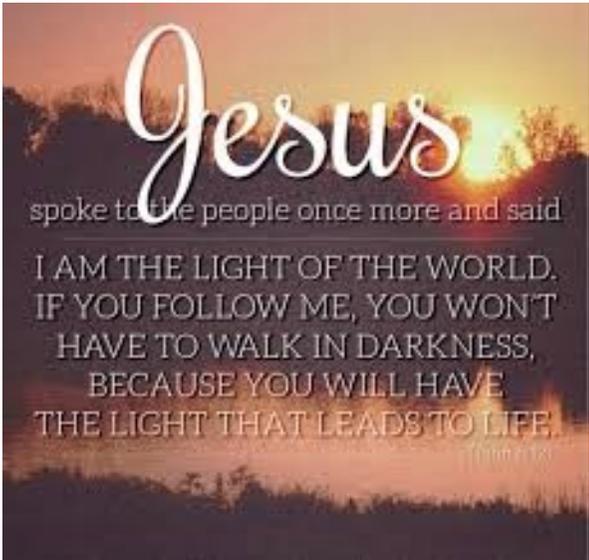
Every believer in Christ has a calling from the Lord. He does not save us and then leave us to fend for ourselves; instead, He continually guides His children in the work He has planned for each one of us. Our experiences in life are tools that the Lord uses to shape and equip us to become the person He wants us to be in regard to character and conduct.

Start looking for the Lord's hand in your life. He is working out His plan...silently and softly, with jarring disruptions in between. Remember, He is ALWAYS there, guiding and moving our hearts. Do not ever imagine yourself insignificant in His eyes. You are highly esteemed and almighty God has designed a unique calling just for you (Ephesians 2:10). You may be the only Christian in your family or in your neighborhood. Will you stand up for such a time as this? Will you use the "Belt of Truth" that is wrapped around you where you can and when you can to be a faithful follower of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

"But whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear or harm." Proverbs 1:33

OPERATING BUDGET	
May 6, 2018	
Worship Attendance	39
Sunday School	23
BUDGET OFFERING:	\$ 780.00*
DESIGNATED:	
2017 Thank/Windows	10.00
TOTAL:	\$ 790.00
Needed weekly for Operating Budget:	\$ 3,975.00
Needed to date for Operating Budget:	67,579.00
Rec'd to date for Operating Budget:	38,464.95
*Includes memorial to Katie Taylor	
2017 Thank/Windows received to date:	7,293.59
Other Income receipts to date:	21,459.15

5/13 TELLERS: Helen Brown



VBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday, July 9 through
Wednesday, July 11
6:00-8:00p

A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available very soon and we will have a meeting on Sunday, May 20th, immediately following church, for anyone that is interested in volunteering for VBS.

Continuing prayers for:
 Gary Anderson-Faye Crane-
 Thomas Crowell-Rob Darnell
 Lorene Givens-Cindy Go-
 thard-Sharon Hardaway-
 Sheila Kiley-Ann Stone-Ray
 Scherer

In our prayers this week:
 Juanita Cutrell
 Kay Hinson
 Patsy Huddleston
 Holley Hutto (Surgery for melanoma cancer)
 Patsy & Fred Johnson
 Ronnie Maxwell (Bro-in-law of Brenda Hutto)
 Beth Niemi (breast cancer, Charlie's sister-in-law)
 Transition Team
 Steve Phillips (brain tumor, friend of Vicki Watts)
 Bro Jason Rumbough, his wife Kelli & their children as they make the transition from NC to TN in the next few weeks
 Vicki Watts
 Youth Department/Youth Leader

If you have a prayer request or an update to the prayer list, please let us know.

5/13 Deacon Prayer: Bobby Goodwin

5/13 Nursery Worker: Kristin Burns

Mother's Day Acrostic Poem

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
 "O" means only that she's growing old,
 "T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
 "H" is for her heart of purest gold;
 "E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
 "R" means right, and right she'll always be,

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
 A word that means the world to me.

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TO:

CHURCH STAFF

INTERIM PASTOR - Dr. Fred Johnson

YOUTH MINISTER - Daniel Burns

PRAISE & WORSHIP TEAM -

Vicki Watts & Patrick Waller

ORGANIST - Lee Green

PIANIST - Jane Crocker

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR - Ginny Stuart



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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-3:30pm

Wednesdays: 8:30-2:30

MAY



10-Juanita Cutrell
16-Jane Crocker; Tiffany Manning
23-Katelynn Saunders
28-Tom Taylor
30-Geneva Watkins

Sunday

9:00-Welcome Center opens

9:30-Sunday School

10:50-Worship Service

Check out our Sunday sermons on our website!

WELCOME

Wednesday

6:30-Bible Studies for all ages