



Northside Church of Christ

2500 Parrish Street, Waco, TX 76705

Building a community of Faith, Hope and Love; Where people meet Jesus and learn to walk with Him.

Schedule of Services: Bible Class 9:30am; AM Worship 10:30; PM Worship 6:00; PM Wednesday 6:00

Date: Sunday, January 13, 2019

It's Hard To Forgive

No one ever said forgiveness would be easy. In my years of ministry I have been betrayed, leveled by criticism and felt the disdain of those who should (are commanded to) love me. I'm sorry, I'm far too human, and when I recall these events I can still feel the sting of tears in my eyes, the ache in the heart. Yet we are commended to love our enemies: "But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (**Matthew 5:44**).

Now that's hard. *Forgiving* is hard.

Yet we are commanded to forgive. Repeatedly.

Jesus says that if we don't forgive others, God will not forgive us (**Matthew 6:14; Mark 11:25**). God will not forgive us? The stakes could not be higher! The parable of the unmerciful servant elegantly demonstrates that the debt we owe each other is far smaller than the one we owe God (**Matthew 18:23-35**).

The real question is, how? How do we forgive? Thankfully we have that answer, too: We forgive "as" Christ has forgiven us: "Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (**Ephesians 4:32**). "Bearing with one another in love, and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive" (**Colossians 3:13**).

Oh, you thought it was easy for Christ to forgive you? Perhaps you believed the level of his caring for those whom you hurt was shallow? Perhaps he is not capable of feeling disappointment and hurt as much as you?

- * None of us was worthy of Christ's forgiveness.
- * Nothing we could do would earn his forgiveness.
- * He need not have forgiven any of us. Ever.
- * And yet he does. Over and over again, certainly in my case!

Can I draw a distinction here? Often it is pointed out that the Lord demands repentance of the one who sins before He forgives. Therefore, some say, we should wait on the offender to repent. The difference is this: When God forgives, it is to save that person's soul. When I forgive, no soul is saved (except my own), because I do not have the power to save souls. Only God has such power. The distinction is not subtle!

I forgive in order to expunge the stench of anger, the blackness of resentment from my heart. In many ways I forgive for my benefit as much as for his. This is a case of not being overcome by evil (it is so easy to be consumed with anger and resentment) but to "overcome evil with good" (**Romans 12:21**).

That is why, and how we should forgive each other. We the forgiven, forgive. We the mercy-given offer mercy; we, the beneficiaries of grace offer grace. We only have two options, forgive each other, or have no relationships. And when we fail to forgive, the Lord is clear, we lose a relationship with him, the most consequential relationship of all. Yes, it is hard to forgive and those we forgive are undeserving (that's why they need to be forgiven, they have erred, sometimes gravely). Spend a moment to revel in the warmth of Jesus' love, given so freely and undeservedly, then, my beloved, forgive your brother.

By Stan Mitchell

Northside Church of Christ

Your Calling & Election

2 Peter 1:3-11

- *Introduction*

- Are election and predestination involved in salvation? (**Rom. 8:29-30; Eph. 1:4-5**)
- Does God elect and predestine certain specific individuals to be saved or lost?
- If this were true think of the consequences (**Acts 2:40; 10:34; Mt. 7:13-14**).
- God wants? (**2 Pt. 3:9; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Thess. 1:5-8; 2:14; Mt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8-9**)

- *The Promises of God (2 Pt. 1:3-4)*

- Salvation begins with the generosity of God because it is good (**James 1:17**).
- What specific promises? (**Acts 2:38; 5:32; Gal. 3:26-27; Eph. 3:16; 1 Cor. 10:13**).

- *The Duty of Human Beings (2 Pt. 1:5-9)*

- *Faith (Heb. 11:1)*
- *Goodness/virtue*
- *Knowledge (Eph. 5:17)*
- *Self-control/temperance*
- *Perseverance/patience (James 1:2-3)*
- *Godliness*
- *Brotherly kindness (Rom. 12:10)*
- *Love (Jn. 13:34-35)*

- *The Confidence of Salvation (2 Pt. 1:10-11)*

- Can Christians be confident about eternal life and know they are saved?
- Is God capricious, giving salvation to some and denying it from the rest?

- *Conclusion*

- Is there a practical, measurable test of faith for Christians?
- If these graces are identifiable, we truly have something to hold on to...

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Proud parents Lauren Bancale & Josh Mayfield had an 8 lb 8.5 oz baby boy (Brayson Mark Mayfield) on Thursday, January 10th. Proud grandparents and great grandparents are Angela and Billy Carey and Lillian & Phil Bancale.

Pete Commander had back surgery on Wednesday in Temple. He went home on Thursday and is doing well.

Larry Havard Sr had a TIA on Sunday. He is home doing well.

Bobby Wheat, Chris Wheat's dad, had successful Cataract Surgery. He will have another Cataract Surgery on Monday January 21st.

OUR SHUT-INS PRAY FOR

➤Mark Hardwick, Dolores Davis, Maudine Reed, Diana Grant (broken ankle) Garland Haverkamp (high blood pressure) Kelli Volcik (cancer) Darlene Chatman (heart problems) Warren Garland (health) James Lewis, Anna Mullins, Terry Wiggins, Ed St Claire, Danny Paschal, Ever Johnson, Larry Havard Sr, Cotton & Charlotte Lindloff; Arthur Mae Maloy; Shela Havard, Lottie Washington. David Banda, David Anderson, Bea Stewart, Sherlynn Erwin, Glenda Tynes, Kim Bond, Leo Kirkland, Emma Greenawalt, Eve Rasberry, Gene & Bobbie Southerland, Horace Litton, Jane & Sam Munn, Jackson Pratka, Charlotte Griffin, Lorene Allen, Tyran Williams, Karen Weaver, Joe Cook, Joyce Cunningham, Dixie Frost, Kim Bledsoe, Tommy Cross, Sherril Polansky, Cora & Sonny Gore, Joey Primeaux, Larry Scott, Madeleine Anderson, Larry Lykins, Wanda Knutson, Rick Keeton.

The Atrium of Bellmead Betty Johnson, Ruby & Billy Evans.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Mike Olson (13th) Pete Commander (16th) Joyce Minchew (16th) Carson Moore (22nd) Merlene Warren (23rd) Johnathan Ibanez (24th) Clara Wheat (31st)
Angela & Billy Carey (6th)

OTHER NEWS

Men's training Class starts today from 5:15 to 5:45 in the auditorium.

Wednesday night meal will be Taco Bowls starting at 5:30.

The Elders & Deacons meeting will be next Sunday at 5pm.

There will be a workroom work day on Saturday, February 2nd from 9am to 2pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2nd work room work day.

February 3rd Pot Luck after morning worship.

February 3rd No evening services.

February 9th FAC reserved for Tricia Nehring.

February 19th FAC reserved for Bancales.

March 10th change time. Spring forward.

March 23rd Stronger Marriages workshop.

March 31st Pot Luck after morning worship.

March 31st singing at the Atrium of Bellmead.

March 31st No Evening Services.

April 28th Pot Luck after morning worship

April 28th Singing at The Atrium of Bellmead at 1.

April 28th No evening services.

May 24th FAC reserved for the Fedro's.

May 26th Pot Luck after morning worship.

May 26th Singing at The Atrium of Bellmead at 1pm.

May 26th No evening services.

June 14 & 15, 2019 FAC reserved for the Bancales.

December 2nd through 7th garage work days and sale.

Children ages 2-7 are invited to the front of the auditorium during the singing of Jesus Loves Me for children's time.



Northside Church of Christ

10:30 Assembly

Welcome

Song Order:

39 – Awesome Power
679 – Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus

Prayer: Phil Bancale

Song Order:

493 – It Is No Secret
332 – Lead Me To Calvary

Scripture:

Luke 23:32 - 38

Communion:

Randy Eubank Nelson Moore
Karl Helpert Joe Saucedo

Song Order:

66 - Doxology

1014 Jesus Loves Me

Children go to the front of the auditorium

Song Order:

4 – To God Be The Glory

Sermon by Chris Wheat

“Your Calling & Election” (2Peter 1:3-11)

Invitation Song:

940 – Only A Step

(Opportunity for response to the message)

Closing Prayer: Charlie Scott

	<u>Week of Dec 30</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>
Bible Class	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>
AM Worship	<u>118</u>	<u>92</u>
PM Worship	<u>38</u>	<u>37</u>
Wednesday PM	<u>60</u>	<u>46</u>
Contribution	<u>\$2,620</u>	<u>\$3,103</u>

Northside Leadership

Elders

Phil Bancale
Chris Borland
Aubrey Minchew
Nelson Moore

Deacons

Randy Eubank
Karl Helpert
Joe Saucedo

Minister

Chris Wheat
806-216-0342

Worship Leader

Chris Borland
254-495-5508

Please let the church office know any news or information you would like to see in the newsletter.

You can email, fax, phone or write your information. Visit our website

www.northsidewaco.org

nchurchchrist@hotmail.com

WIFI Code is: John3161

Office Phone: 254.799.1595



Words of Wisdom



God's plans are like the ocean, varied as the winds that fall. All are products of His wisdom. All are subject to His call. Not a breeze that stirs the tempest. Or a sparrow down doth fall. But our heavenly Father knoweth. For He watches over all.