



Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association Newsletter

November 2023

Star of Wonder, Star of Light.. Star of Wonder, Star of Light.. Star of Wonder, Star of Light..

Prayer Requests

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Jerusalem & Israel



Our military overseas and at home



Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association and it's Ministers



Our country and leaders



John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." #

The President's Message

Dear Fellow Believer,

Sister Conni and I pray that you are being blessed by the Lord, and you are working diligently for the Kingdom of God. It's been a while since we have been able to get out a newsletter, and I apologize for that. For those of you that currently hold credentials with Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association (FFMA), you should have received a letter pertaining to how the new name has been finalized and the banking account information has been settled. You were also informed that everyone in good standing with their dues will receive updated cards during the month of January. If your dues are not current, please make sure to bring them up to date before the end of 2023, so there will not be a delay in you receiving your new card.

Although Campmeeting 2023 was held back in June, I did want to let you know that we had an incredible time! God's Spirit was rich and powerful in each service. We saw God's hand in salvation and rededications, and many experienced a spiritual renewing. The nightly food and fellowship was an added bonus, and it seemed that everyone enjoyed this "icing on the cake." We want to say a special "Thank You" to Sis. Tidwell and Sis. Paulette Allen and their church for providing us with much of the food that was served. In addition, we want to say "Thank You" to Bro Joe Gilman and the Whitfield Pentecostal Church for providing our lunch on Wednesday, and to Bro. Paul Waynick from the community for providing smoked pork for our Wednesday evening fellowship. All of this was a huge help, especially with this being our first Campmeeting at Indian Ford VFC. I also want to thank all of the ladies and men of the church that helped to ensure food was prepared and ready to serve, for serving the food, and for all the clean-up that followed. Sis. Shelia Smith did an excellent job as kitchen supervisor, and we never lacked for good food! I especially want to thank my wife for all she did not only to help get everything organized, but also for her many wonderful desserts, lasagna and that remarkable turkey pot pie! Even with all of that she managed to create a beautiful message that stirred our hearts to start our Campmeeting services Tuesday morning. We hope that you are already thinking about making plans to attend Campmeeting 2024.

A few weeks back during a Wednesday night service, I made a statement that was something like this, "As ministers, we continue to say the same thing over and over because really there's nothing else to say. It really is just that simple. There are indeed only a few fundamentals of the gospel." I proceeded to explain further that according to what we believe from the Bible that to get to heaven, one must be born again. I'm sorry to tell you, but death is not the vehicle that automatically escorts one to heaven.



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I hear so many speak of how their loved one that has passed away is so much better off since they have passed to the other life. If they are born again by the blood of Jesus, then yes, they are indeed much better than we could ever imagine. However, if they did not know Christ, or if they were walking estranged from Him, if there was still iniquity in their heart when they breathed their final breath, they are not in a better place. Instead, they are in a place of torment according to Luke 16:23, "And in hell he lift up his eyes being in torments,...." Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:3, "...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Regardless of what sort of life a person may live, the absolute only way to get to heaven is to be born again. Being born again will get you to heaven, yet we are given directions in God's Word of how we can not only become born again, but also how we can remain in a relationship with Christ. As I write this, I am still preaching this series of messages God has given me. After we are born again, God expects us to live for Him and keep Him as the Lord of our life. In order to maintain our relationship with Him, there are things we must do. It's truly as simple as three things: we must pray, we must read and study God's Word, and we must regularly attend the House of God. Without going into a great deal of detail, I will give you the basics of the messages in this series. The first fundamental of the gospel being you must be born again, and in no particular order of importance, a

born-again believer must maintain an active, frequent, and fervent prayer life. As Jesus said, Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." The first message was "What is Prayer?" Prayer is our way of directly communicating with God. Next, "Why Do We Pray?" According to Hebrews 4:16, we are encouraged, if not mandated to enter the throne of grace that we may find mercy. This mercy we receive is the extension of God's heart toward us. The mercy we receive is the pardon and forgiveness we need, that we must have to be able to stay in communion with Him. Isaiah 59 says that it is our iniquities that separate us from Him. We must have mercy! Next was "Why do We Pray? Part 2." The scripture in Hebrews says that we not only are to ask for mercy (God's heart), but we are also to ask for grace. If mercy is God extending His heart to us, then grace is God extending His hand. We pray for grace to sustain us, to lead us, guide and direct us. What we may need from God His grace will provide. Then I preached "Why do We Pray?" Part 3. I truly believe that we need to be in right standing with God before we will be any benefit to anyone else. That is why it is so important that a Christian maintain a fervent prayer life because others are counting on us to intercede for them. Just like Moses did for the children of Israel, we must pray and intercede, especially for those who do not know Jesus as their Savior. 1 Timothy 2:4 says, "Who will have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth." In verse 1 Paul mentions four types of prayers: supplica-

tions—precise requests for specific needs (for ourselves and others); prayers—general word of various kinds of prayer confession, adoration, etc.; intercessions—prayers to God on behalf of others; and giving of thanks—prayers of praise. Jesus spends the entire 17th chapter of John praying for His disciples and for everyone who would become a disciple—He was another great example of interceding for others. We also are to pray for those in leadership positions at every level all the way to world leaders, and we are even to pray for our enemies. There is really no excuse for one not to pray, especially if the excuse is, "I have nothing for which to pray." Next, a born-again believer must read and study the Word of God. The scripture in second Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." The Bible is our roadmap to heaven. If you don't read and study the map, you won't know how to get there. No wonder Paul admonished Timothy to "Preach the Word..." The Bible is the book of the ages. Mt 24:35, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." The Word of God is both our lamp and our light (Ps 119:105). Hebrews tells us that the Word is both alive and powerful, and it is still very much relevant and needful today more than ever. Finally, the last fundamental of the gospel is that a born-again believer must regularly attend the house of God. This means by any means possible, he/she should be in every service.

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So many churches no longer hold Sunday evening services because only a few attend the Sunday evening service. As far as mid-week service goes, folks are just too busy to take time to come to church. We are given scriptures regarding the importance of assembling together as a body of believers. In Hebrews 10:25, it says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." We gain strength from one another as we come together in public worship. I hear so many making claims about how they can live for God and not come to church. My question to them is "Why would you want to do that?" If we believe God's house is where we come to worship Him, then why would we not want to be in His house? I do understand there are legitimate and valid reasons why some are not able to come to church. I also know that there are many more excuses than valid reasons. Which ones are we offering to God for our lack of attendance? Church really has become less of a priority than it used to be. If we really want God's blessings, it is going to have to be a priority again. Now I know this sounds like a simple formula for maintaining a Christian life, and in essence, it is. However, not only will one have to do these things, he or she also will have to live according to what is in the Word, the truth that is



preached, and what is revealed to him or her during times of communion with God. All of these together will make anyone fit for heaven. To leave any of these undone is a recipe for backsliding.

On behalf of Sister Conni, we pray that you will have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas as we approach this holiday season. Jesus is the reason for the season!

May God richly bless you in all you do for Him is our prayers.

Brother Danny Carnley
President FFMA



Hello All. We pray all is well with you. I just thought I'd share that the Lord has been moving in our ministry services. We've had some healings in necks and backs and in folks' feet. GOD is good! God is also moving in answer to prayer concerning a few that have been in a backslidden state. They have confessed that the HOLY SPIRIT is dealing with them, and they feel the need to get back in fellowship with the Lord. We are thankful that our Great GOD hears and answers our prayers and lovingly draws the backslidden in Jesus' name. GOD Bless you all; we Love y'all!

Brother Richard Vickers
Vice President FFMA
Callahan, FL



The Fruits Of Obedience

1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

From the text above we can see that obedience is a principle thing with God. Obedience is "better" than sacrifice and to "hearken" than the fat of rams sets forth the preeminence of obedience to God's Word. The word "hearken" simply means to listen or hear with the intention of obeying. If Noah had not hearkened to God and built an ark the results or fruit of Noah's actions would have been vastly different. If Abraham had not fully obeyed God there would have been no ram for a sacrifice. The widow at Zarephath obeyed the Lord and God sustained her, her son, Elijah and only eternity will tell how many more. Because she obeyed, God kept supplying oil in the cruise and the meal in the barrel!

Jesus said if you love me, "keep my commandments", so obedience comes out of love. Thou shalt love the Lord with "all" thy heart, and with "all" thy soul, and with "all" thy might, is the Great Commandment, so obedience and love are requirements for a relationship with God.

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"Obedience" springs out of "Faith", and "disobedience" is the "fruit" of "Unbelief". Both "obedience" and "disobedience" bear fruit, but I want to primarily look at what the Bible means by "obedience" and the fruit or outcome of obeying God. I will include several quotes out of A.W. Tozer's book "Paths To Power." If you have not read this little book and others written by what I consider to be one of God's clarion Ministers of the 1950s and early 1960s, I would encourage you to do so. Brother Tozer went home to be with the Lord May 12, 1963. If obedience was a problem in the early 60s how much more is it a problem today?

Excerpts from A.W. Tozer's book "Paths To Power":

To obey, in New Testament usage, means to give earnest attention to the Word, to submit to its authority, and to carry out its instructions.

Obedience in this sense is almost a dead letter in modern Christianity.

The Church of our day has soft-pedaled the doctrine of obedience, either neglecting it altogether or mentioning it only apologetically and without urgency. This results from a fundamental confusion of "obedience" with "works" in the minds of preacher and people. To escape the error of "salvation by works" we have fallen into the opposite error of "salvation without obedience."

The Bible knows nothing of salvation apart from obedience. Paul testified that he was sent to preach "obedience to the faith among all nations." He reminded the Roman Christians that they had been set

free from sin because they had "obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." In the New Testament there is no contradiction between faith and obedience. Between faith and law-works, yes; between law and grace, yes; but between faith and obedience, not at all. The Bible recognizes no faith that does not lead to obedience, nor does it recognize any obedience that does not spring from faith.

"The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth," and "He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."

The Fruits of Obedience:

The house of the obedient man is built upon a rock:

Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

He shall be loved of the Father and the abiding of the Father and the Son.

John 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

He shall abide in the love of Christ:

John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

By "obedience" to the doctrines of Christ he is set free from sin and made a servant of righteousness.

Romans 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

The Lord gives the Holy Ghost to them that obey Him

Acts 5:32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

Dear Brothers and Sisters let us Love and Obey God with all our hearts, soul and might, so that God may fulfill His glorious promises! Then when God pours out His Spirit upon the obedient saints, signs and wonders will be manifest through that obedience and God will be exalted in His people and mankind will behold the power of God. Conviction, salvation and healing will follow in the path of the obedient just as the Word of God declares "these signs shall follow them that believe"!

***May God Bless and Keep You all,
Pastor Joseph Gillman
Milton, FL***



TREASURING CHRISTMAS

In the Christmas story, I like how Luke used the phrase,
"All who heard the shepherd's story were astonished, but Mary quietly treasured those things in her heart and thought about them often" (*Luke 2:19*)

The King James says, "Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

It means that year after year she thought about the events leading to the first Christmas -- how she was chosen to participate in God's story of salvation, how God brought everything together, how she witnessed firsthand that, like the angel had said to her many months before,
"Nothing is impossible for God." (*Luke 1:37*)

Mary's example is good one to follow. We should remember to treasure these things and think about them often. There are so many lessons to be learned the nativity story.

- From the wisemen we learn that God speaks to anyone who will listen, and he leads anyone who is willing to follow.
- From Mary and Joseph we learn what it means to fully submit to the will of God. We learn that obedience takes courage, and that it's better to obey God than worry about what others think or say.
- From the shepherds -- those minimum wage workers who were watching sheep late in the night -- we learn that no one is too poor or too insignificant to have a personal experience with God.
- Even from cruel Herod, we are reminded of how foolish it is to try to hinder the purpose of God.

Most of all, from Jesus, we learn that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that every one who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

We're beginning a busy season of the year -- stressful sometimes, hectic, and financially challenging. Follow Mary's example: Remember to remember the first Christmas. Treasuring the story, think about it often, ponder its meaning in your heart.



Submitted By: Sis Conni Carnley

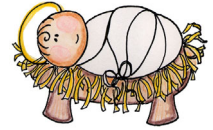
*For newsletter comments ,
contributions, or if you would like to
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IT'S A CHURCH CHOIR, ED. THEY DON'T TAKE REQUESTS

HE BECAME ONE OF US



Father Damien was a priest who became famous for his willingness to serve lepers. He moved to Kalawao—a village on the island of Molokai, in Hawaii, that had been quarantined to serve as a leper colony. For 16 years, he lived in their midst. He learned to speak their language. He bandaged their wounds, embraced the bodies no one else would touch, preached to hearts that would otherwise have been left alone. He organized schools, bands, and choirs. He built homes so that the lepers could have shelter. He built 2,000 coffins by hand so that, when they died, they could be buried with dignity. Slowly, it was said, Kalawao became a place to live rather than a place to die, for Father Damien offered hope.

Father Damien was not careful about keeping his distance. He did nothing to separate himself from his people. He dipped his fingers in the poi bowl along with the patients. He shared his pipe. He did not always wash his hands after bandaging open sores. He got close. For this, the people loved him.

Then one day he stood up and began his sermon with two words: "We lepers...." Now he wasn't just helping them. Now he was one of them. From this day forward, he wasn't just on their island; he was in their skin. First he had chosen to live as they lived; now he would die as they died. Now they were in it together.

One day God came to Earth and began his message: "We lepers...." Now he wasn't just helping us. Now he was one of us. Now he was in our skin. Now we were in it together.
(From John Ortberg's book, "God Is Closer Than You Think")

This passage reminds us of Paul words, "He took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form" (Philippians 2:7 NLT)



Recognizing Jesus

One of my favorite Christmas stories is about the old shoe cobbler who dreamed one Christmas Eve that Jesus would come to visit him the next day. The dream was so real that he was convinced it would come true.

So the next morning he got up and went out and cut green boughs and decorated his little cobbler shop and got all ready for Jesus to come and visit. He was so sure that Jesus was going to come that he just sat down and waited for Him.

The hours passed and Jesus didn't come. But an old man came. He came inside for a moment to get warm out of the winter cold. As the cobbler talked with him he noticed the holes in the old man's shoes, so he reached up on the shelf and got him a new pair of shoes. He made sure they fit and that his socks were dry and sent him on his way.

Still he waited. But Jesus didn't come. An old woman came. A woman who hadn't had a decent meal in two days. They sat and visited for a while, and then he prepared some food for her to eat. He gave her a nourishing meal and sent her on her way.

Then he sat down again to wait for Jesus. But Jesus still didn't come.

Then he heard a little boy crying out in front of his shop. He went out and talked with the boy, and discovered that the boy had been separated from his parents and didn't know how to get home. So he put on his coat, took the boy by the hand and led him home.

When he came back to his little shoe shop it was almost dark and the streets were emptied of people. And then in a moment of despair he lifted his voice to heaven and said, "Oh Lord Jesus, why didn't you come?"

And then in a moment of silence he seemed to hear a voice saying, "Oh shoe cobbler, lift up your heart. I kept my word. Three times I knocked at your friendly door. Three times my shadow fell across your floor. I was the man with the bruised feet. I was the woman you gave to eat. I was the boy on the homeless street."

Jesus had come. The cobbler just didn't realize it.



Joy To The World

Wordsearch: Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

B	D	O	P	F	H	R	R	Y	S	O	F	K	N	P
Z	E	S	E	P	U	D	O	D	H	R	T	W	N	P
S	V	T	E	H	I	I	R	I	A	Y	O	D	I	M
Z	T	S	H	F	A	E	M	N	V	R	T	O	T	I
U	O	A	S	L	H	J	K	A	S	A	R	N	M	R
J	Y	B	B	P	E	I	U	H	N	P	S	K	A	A
N	M	K	E	L	N	H	I	L	W	G	P	E	R	C
E	S	H	K	C	E	P	E	K	E	P	E	Y	Y	L
O	S	G	E	D	L	O	G	M	E	L	S	R	A	E
L	B	N	S	T	A	R	A	A	O	R	L	B	D	W
S	S	M	A	G	I	X	C	M	T	L	M	A	Y	T
E	E	C	I	O	J	E	R	G	H	J	B	G	H	J
G	M	H	Z	G	P	F	A	N	G	E	L	S	N	G
P	J	Z	Z	A	I	M	Y	X	G	H	V	T	L	W
F	C	R	R	I	X	V	T	K	P	E	A	U	B	D

Angels
Frankincense
Inn
Manger
Peace
Sheep
Star

Bethlehem
Gold
Joseph
Mary
Rejoice
Shepherds
Worship

Donkey
Hallelujah
Magi
Miracle
Savior
Stable

Looking for something quick and delicious that can be served breakfast through dinner or even as a party snack...try these.

Ham & Cheese Pinwheels

Ingredients

Cooking spray
1/2 lb. deli sliced ham
8 oz. sliced Swiss cheese
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. poppy seeds (optional)

1 (8-oz.) tube crescent dough
2 tbsp. Dijon mustard
4 tbsp. butter, melted
2 tbsp. freshly chopped parsley

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350°. Grease an 8-x-8" baking pan with cooking spray.
- On a lightly floured surface, unroll dough. Separate the sheet into rectangles and pinch together the perforations to seal. Spread mustard onto each rectangle and top with sliced ham and cheese. Starting with one short side, roll up each rectangle into a small log. Pinch edges to seal. Cut each roll into 5 to 6 slices. Place cut side up in baking pan.
- In a small bowl, whisk together butter, garlic powder, and parsley. Brush over pinwheels, then sprinkle poppy seeds on top.
- Bake until the rolls are golden, 12 to 15 minutes.

