

January 11, 2024

HARDSHIPS

If I were to ask you who went through the most hardships in the Bible, one of the first names that would come up is Job. A man who tried to do good in all things and suddenly loses everything. He loses his children, his financial security, livestock, servants, health, even his own wife and friends begin to turn against him. When we read of all Job went through, we can't help but feel sorry for him. Other times we might even feel like him. The popular phrase "when it rains, it pours" seems to hold true when it comes to Job. Often, when we think of Job, we focus on all the pain and suffering he endured. But have you ever taken a moment and focused on what God thought of Job, and what that means about us?

Beginning in Job 1, there was a divine council in heaven. Satan was there with all the other angels and in **Job 1:8**; "And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" Now, we may often read over this verse quickly and not realize what all is being said, or maybe we are so amazed with the concept of Satan and God having a conversation that we forget what is actually being said. But, do you realize that God was bragging about Job? He was proud of Job. God had watched him and noticed his character and faithfulness, even when no-one else did.

Think about it, Job would offer sacrifices and prayers to God on behalf of his children, just in case they had sinned, and he did this continually. Even though his time of suffering and temptations, he did not sin. His wife and friends obviously didn't notice all that he had done. His wife told him to simply curse God and die and his friends thought surely he had done something wrong. But Job knew and he bragged about it.

In like manner, God notices us as well. He sees our faithfulness. He sees how hard you work for Him, even when no-one else does. He sees when you give your time, energy, and strength to others without thanks. He sees you avoid temptation and work honestly. He sees you faithfully give to His church and pray earnestly, and that makes Him glad and He will reward you for it. Jesus teaches us in **Matthew 6:2-6**. "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the

synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

Because Job is so faithful, Satan accuses God of bribing Job, and God does something amazing. God puts His reputation on the line and trusts in Job's faithfulness. In **Job 1:12** God says to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord." Later in **Job 2:6** God says to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand; only spare his life." God let Satan attack everything of Job. He could practically do anything but kill him. Yet Job remains faithful, as God knew he would. God does the same thing to us as well. It is amazing to think that God trusts us that much!

1 Corinthians 10:13 says, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it." Every adversity, challenge, and attack is an opportunity to prove God right! God is faithful and He is willing to put His faith in us. Therefore, let us remain steadfast under trials and understand that God is with us and for us.

Finally, as we skip to the end of Job, we see something else that is quite encouraging. Through Job 38-41, God straightens out Job's perspective. Then He does three things for Job. He rebuked his friends, elevated his status, and restores his fortunes with extra. God honored Job's faithfulness. **Job 42:12** says, "And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning." The same can be true for us as well. When we face opposition and remain faithful. When we put all of our faith and trust in Him. He will lift you up, reward, and bless you. **Colossians 3:23-24** says, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." Also, **Hebrews 11:6** says, "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him." Maybe today you are being blessed by God, or maybe you are going through trials and temptations. Whether good or bad, remember what that means God thinks about you. Stand firm in the faith, resist the devil and he will flee from you.

(James 4:7)

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – 2 Corinthians 10-11

Wednesday Read – 2 Corinthians 12-13

Questions for last week's reading of;

2 Corinthians chapters 5-9.

1. How can we live by faith and not by sight?
2. How does Paul describe Christians?
3. How can God bring us back to Him?
4. Why could Paul write about himself as "having nothing and yet possessing everything?"
5. What kind of people should we choose as our best friends?

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The next Ladies Bible class will be on **January 23rd at 6:00 PM** at Nashville Road.

YOUTH FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

The youth group will be having several activities coming up soon. Challenge Youth Conference, at the end of February and Lads to Leaders Convention at the end of March. These activities are funded through the Youth Fund. If you would like to help the youth enjoy these activities, please consider making a donation to the Youth Fund. Envelopes are available on the back of the pews to place your donation in and then put in the collection baskets or boxes.

REPURPOSING OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you have any used Christmas cards and would like them to be donated for remaking the cards into new cards which are then sent to area veterans, please put them in the basket in the foyer or see **Melanie McCreary**.

BAPTISM

Jessica Kobiec was baptized for the remission of sins on Sunday night, January 7th. If you have not met Jessica, please take a chance to meet her.

Learn to yield to others. "Let your moderation be known unto all Men". (Philippians 4:5)

This moderation means to be reasonable, fair, and gentle. If you insist on always having your way you will never be at rest inside.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

January 14, 2024

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Bob Brown
 Opening Prayer.....Eric Stephenson
 Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
 Scripture Reading.....Don Wilson
 Song Leader.....Bob Brown
 Opening Prayer.....Charlie Seals
 Lord's Supper.....Allyn Hosman
 Servers.....T. Cummins, C. Newby, J. Sever
 M. Lyle, D. Thompson, J. Cherry

Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Closing Prayer.....Fate Evans

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
 Song Leader.....Bob Brown
 Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Brent Smith
 Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis

WEDNESDAY

January 17, 2024

7:00 PM

Welcome.....David Johnson
 Song Leader.....Bob Brown
 Opening Prayer.....Garrett Rowlett
 Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
 Closing Prayer.....Tony Butler

Door Greeters – West Door.....B/S Sever
 East Door.....L/J Clark
 Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Linda Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
 Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroadcoc.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Kenneth Stephens at home with covid. **Peggy Buck** with health issues. **Jerry Watson** is now back at home in Cookeville. **Maxine Cothron** has been diagnosed with vitreous hemorrhage. She has been referred to an eye surgeon. **Tom & Faye Hart**, both having health issues. **James Spivey** has finished his radiation treatments for lung cancer. **Tony Perry**, husband of Sherry Perry & son of Betty Buttrey, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. **Larry Bailey**, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer. **Heather Lemley**, daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley, had surgery for breast cancer. **Bethany Shoulders**, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris has been diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She is home now and will continue with treatments.



PRAYER LIST

Sara Hosman; JoAnn Williamson; Anita Cato; Shauna Lockett; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Lena Baggett; Maxine Cothron; Frances Catron; Jean Deaton; Charlie Cliburn; Alexa Miller** sister of Olivia Ellis **Bryan Grissom** cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Wade Kennedy** father of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals; **Betty Ann Muncie**, sister of Stella Messer.

SHUT-INS

Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615;
Melba Hill.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	93
Morning Worship.....	125
Sunday Evening.....	83
Wednesday Evening.....	89
Contribution.....	\$7,748.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$4,706.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister