

TRUST IN GOD

At the beginning of the 20th century, John Singer Sargent was considered the “leading portrait painter of his generation”. His paintings accurately capture what it was like to live in Edwardian era luxury. However, when he first revealed his painting, Madame X in a Paris salon in 1884, it received so much negative criticism that Sargent left Paris altogether and moved to Britain. For decades, he suffered with doubts, discouragement, and despair that was brought on by the negativity of the critics. Then, around 1886, Sargent painted a panel of roses and it was well liked by many. It wasn’t a particularly large picture, but it was as close to perfect as you could get. Many collectors and critics alike offered large amounts of money for the small painting, but Sargent refused to sell it. You see, John Sargent found something he was proud of, and whenever he began to feel discouraged in any way he would look at that painting and remind himself, “I painted that”. Then his confidence and ability was restored and he was able to finish his work.

It is easy to get discouraged in this world. Especially as a child of God, when the world is truly against you. But this is nothing new. Jesus said to his disciples in **John 15:19**, “I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” Even during the Old Testament we see the despair of God’s children through the prophets. Being a prophet was not easy. Most of the men that God called to be prophets were expected to boldly bear bad news about God’s displeasure with the sins and the mindset of the Israelite nation. Jeremiah found himself in such a pit of despair that he said in **Jeremiah 20:16-18**, "let him hear a cry in the morning and an alarm at noon, because he did not kill me in the womb; so my mother would have been my grave, and her womb forever great. Why did I come out from the womb to see toil and sorrow, and spend my days in shame?"

Jeremiah was so discouraged that he was wishing he died at birth. Now, we might say that is a little bit dramatic, or that maybe he is overreacting a little, but Jeremiah’s struggle was no laughing matter. Israel had been drifting away from God for a long time when Jeremiah showed up and he had the dreadful task of proclaiming God’s warning of judgment unless they repented. By understanding the true weight of his task, it becomes easy to see why he was in such agony. Unfortunately, he is not alone with those feelings. As children of God, we are tasked with the same job as the

prophet Jeremiah, to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation (**Mark 16:15**). To call all men everywhere to repent and to be baptized into Christ (**Acts 17:30**). To warn them of the final judgment day and how we will all be judged based on our obedience to the word of God (**John 12:44-50**). And these are not easy tasks. It can be discouraging when you continue to preach and teach the importance of being obedient to God and His word and see so many ignore it, overlook it, or simply fall away.

But it’s exactly in times like that when we must remember God’s promise to deliver and to provide. To stand by our side and bring comfort to our troubled minds. Just as David wrote in **Psalms 34:17-18**, “When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” That is God’s way and It always has been. Just as we saw Jeremiah in so much despair, wishing he would have died in the womb even, just a few years later wrote some pretty great words of victory. In **Jeremiah 29:11** it says, “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” His sorrow turned to joy when he realized the love of his creator.

Maybe you are feeling discouraged right now for one reason or another. Maybe you are struggling with recently losing a job, struggling financially, or dealing with a tough relationship. I want you to remember that there are plans for your good and not for evil or disaster. Maybe you are feeling distressed because you are waiting for some results from a doctor. Remember that God knows the plans He has for you. Maybe you are feeling despair because you are struggling with the recent loss of a loved one. Remember that God wants to give you a future and a hope. We must remember that God is in control and that we shouldn’t let our faith struggle over what He has planned. Because, in the end, it is for our own good and His glory. David said in **Psalms 37:5**, “Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act.” Let us remember to never become discouraged by the world but to be encouraged by the love of God and continue to do the work of an evangelist until we have finished our work and receive our eternal reward.

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Acts 21

Wednesday Read – Acts 22:1-29

Questions for last week's reading of;

Romans 15-16 & Acts 20:1-38.

Questions:

1. Tell one way Paul says we can be more like Jesus.
2. Name Paul's helpers who lived in Rome and tell their occupation.
3. What happened at Troas while Paul was preaching?
4. What was Paul's concern for the church?
5. Why did Paul call the elders "shepherds"?

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The next Ladies Bible class will be on **March 5th at 6:30 pm** at Nashville Road. ****Notice time change for class.**

SENIOR GROUP

The Senior Group will be meeting again starting on **Thursday, March 21st at 5:00 pm.** Bring finger foods and ready to play games.

EGG HUNT

Our annual Egg Hunt is set for **Saturday, March 23rd at 1:00pm.** If you would like to help out and donate candy for the hunt, that would be great. Please bring in the candy by March 17th. You can bring candy to the office or leave in the fellowship room. Thank you in advance.

TIME CHANGE

Daylight savings will be **Sunday March 10th.** Set your clocks forward one hour Saturday evening.

The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.
Proverbs 11:3

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

March 3, 2024

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Don Wilson
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry
Scripture Reading.....Mike Lyle
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
Lord's Supper.....Charlie Seals
Servers.....C. Suddarth, C. Nelsen, J. Johnson
M. Ellis, R. Buck, G. Rowlett

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

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Carl Newby
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Brent Smith
Closing Prayer.....Bob Brown

WEDNESDAY

March 6, 2024

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Jim Cherry
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....David Johnson

Ushers for March.....T. Cummins/A. Williamson
Door Greeters – West Door.....T/J Cummins
East Door.....B/S Sever
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Pam Newby

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

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

Nashville Road Church of Christ
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 Gallatin, TN 37066
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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

David Williams is home now and doing some better. Michael Lemley received good news from the biopsy on Feb 9th. No cancer was found. Tom & Faye Hart, both having health issues. Paul Gruber neighbor of Bob & Sherry Sever had bladder cancer surgery on February 23rd. 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 some tests done and received a good report.

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.....	116
Morning Worship.....	154
Sunday Evening.....	72
Wednesday Evening.....	78
Contribution.....	\$8,087.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$5,220.00

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	Adam Williamson	

PRAYER LIST

James Spivey; Ottis Cothron; Sara Hosman; JoAnn Williamson; Anita Cato; Shauna Lockett; Tony Perry; 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; Alan Greene, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; Bethany Shoulders, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; Samantha Hager, friend of June Thompson; Bryan Grissom cousin of 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.

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

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 Gallatin, TN 37066

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 Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

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