

### LIVE FOR HIM

In **2 Kings 5** we learn of a commander in the Syrian army by the name of Naaman. We learn that through God, Syria had been blessed with several victories because of Naaman as well. However, Naaman had a problem as well. Although he was a mighty man of valor, he was also a leper. (**2 Kings 5:1**) One day, an Israelite servant said to Naaman’s wife that she wished that he would go to see the prophet and be healed. Naaman took this news to the king who sent Naaman on his way with the equivalent of 750 pounds of silver, 150 pounds of clothing, and 10 changes of clothes along with a letter of recommendation. (**2 Kings 5:2-6**)

Naaman goes to the king of Israel with all his gifts and his letter, seeking a cure. The king is distressed for a moment thinking that this was the king of Syria’s way of picking a fight by sending a man with leprosy to him, but when Elisha hears about it he has the king send Naaman to his house. (**2 Kings 5:7-8**) And here is where it gets interesting. I can imagine what Naaman is feeling at this moment. I imagine that Naaman has already tried just about everything to remove this disease from himself. He is desperate to be cured, and now being told by the king of Israel to go visit Elisha. He goes there with all his horses and chariots and...Elisha doesn’t come out. He doesn’t invite Naaman in or anything. Instead, he sends out a messenger to Naaman and simply says, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.”

(**2 Kings 5:10**)

What would you feel in that moment? You’ve just heard that there is the possibility of being saved from a terminal and painful illness. Wouldn’t you be a little bit excited? Wouldn’t you be hopeful? Wouldn’t you run off immediately to wash in the river? Well, Naaman wasn’t. He got angry and began to walk away. He obviously wanted to be cured, but he also wanted things to be done the way he expected them to be done. **2 Kings 5:11-12** says, “But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his

God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So, he turned and went away in a rage.” It is as if he has heard this from other people before. He has had people tell him “All you need to do is wash and it will go away.” He even knows of some better places with some cleaner water than that of the Jordan. So, he begins to leave angrily. I mean, Elisha wouldn’t even come out to see him! He wouldn’t even come out and wave his hand over him and make the leprosy vanish.

At this point is where Naaman’s servant says something quite profound. In **2 Kings 5:13**, “his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, “My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, ‘Wash, and be clean?’”...If the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it?

What if God had asked us to do “some great thing” to receive his love and forgiveness, would we do it? What if God said that to get to heaven we each had to be able to lift 600 lbs. Do you think we could start a gym and a weightlifting plan? If God said that to be forgiven we would have to swim across the English Channel, wouldn’t we start practicing our backstroke? But God doesn’t ask some incredible feat from us. What He wants is something that anyone, anywhere, at any time can do. No physical ability required. No minimum cash payment. No prerequisite IQ. God wants us to love Him and submit to His will. We may want to have things our way so that we can still have control over our lives. But what we need to be cured of cannot be fixed by our own efforts. Christ has already done ‘some great thing’ for us. We need only to be washed in the water and live for Him. (**John 3:5**)

Andrew Spivey

### BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!



### COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Mark 1:21-45

Wednesday Read – Mark 2:1-22

Questions for last week's reading of;

**John chapters 4 & 5:1-11; Luke 4:16-30**

Questions:

1. How did Jesus tell the Samaritan woman she should worship?
2. What prophet did Jesus read from in the synagogue at Nazareth?
3. What was the people’s reaction?
4. What happened when Peter let down his fishing net in the deep?
5. What did Jesus tell Peter, James, and John after they came in from fishing?

### UPCOMING EVENTS

\* **4:15 Singing class every Sunday\***

**Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm**

Dec.25<sup>th</sup> – Merry Christmas

(church office closed Dec 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>)

**Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday night services will not be held**

**on Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup>. We will have services on Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup>.**

Dec. 29 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing/evening service

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – Happy New Year

(church office closed)

### THANK YOU NOTE

To all my brothers & sisters at Nashville Road. Thank you so very much for all the love and concern you have shown me through your prayers, visits, cards & phone calls. My love goes out to all of you.

In Christ, Syble Johnson

### SCHEDULE CHANGE

**Services for Wednesday, December 25th, have been moved to Thursday, December 26th. Please make a note of the change.**

### ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

December 22, 2024

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

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

### 10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Ben Hutson  
Scripture Reading.....Kevin Siler  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....Charlie Seals  
Lord's Supper.....Jonathan Senn  
Servers.....Z. Tooley, G. Rowlett, C. Newby  
T. Strickland, J. Sever, R. Gallagher  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

### 4:15 Singing Class

### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Ben Hutson  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....Allyn Hosman  
Sermon..... Andrew Spivey  
Lord's Supper.....Matt Ellis  
Closing Prayer.....Bob Sever

### THURSDAY

December 26, 2024

7:00 PM

Welcome.....Ben Hutson  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....David Thompson  
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale  
Ushers for December.....T. Cummins/A. Williamson  
Communion Care for December.....C/P Newby  
Door Greeters – West Door.....B/M Smith  
East Door.....E/D Stephenson



## 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

**Ida Lou Sherrill** mother of Alex Sherill, is in rehab at The Waters of Gallatin, Room 407. **Myra Rasnick**, mother of Meredith Andrews, is recovering from surgery for a broken fibula. **Jean McCurdy**, mother of Olivia Nelsen, is recovering from surgery for breast cancer. **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby has completed his chemo treatments. He returns to the doctor in six months. **Larry Bailey**, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with lung cancer. He has begun chemo.

### PRAYER LIST

**Hugh Fulford**; **Maddie Andrews**; **Mary Spivey**; **Charlie Cliburn**; **Ottis & Maxine Cothron**; **Sara Hosman**; **Sauna Lockett**; **Tony Perry**; **Jean Knowles**; **Zach Tooley**; **Mary Ann Reinhart**; **Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Lena Baggett**; **Pat Watson**; **Frances Catron**; **Jackie Williams**; **Pat Crump**; **Scott Seals** son of Charlie & Wanda Seals; **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby; **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; **Jean McCurdy** mother of Olivia Nelsen; **Elaine Reynolds**, friend of Christie Coleman; **Alan Greene**, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; **Bethany Shoulders**, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; **Samantha Hager**, friend of June Thompson; **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; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson.

### SHUT IN

**Jean Deaton**; **Mary Spivey**;  
 Both have new address, please call the church office.

### OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	92
Morning Worship .....	141
Sunday Evening.....	80
Wednesday Evening.....	63
Contribution.....	5,931.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$10,008.00

### 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

### Deacon

Carl Newby Jonathan Senn Brent Smith  
 Eric Stephenson Adam Williamson

