

May 16, 2021

Sharpe Insight...

Gideon was a judge over Israel. Although the Bible describes him as timid, Gideon is known as the greatest of all the 15 judges God called to lead Israel. Gideon gets a lot of coverage in the Old Testament, covering more than two chapters (compared with some of the Judges only getting part of one chapter). Known as the **greatest judge of Israel**, we may be surprised to learn he is described as a timid ruler. In fact, when we first meet him in the Bible, he's hiding from his enemies on a threshing floor.

Gideon, comes from the least of the least in terms of tribes, receives a call from God to take on the Midianites, <u>a nomadic and huge group of people</u> attacking Israel. As we look into the life of Gideon, reveals how God makes him into the leader who saves Israel, and why it matters for us today.

When it comes to Gideon, we have much to learn in <u>Judges 6:11</u>- <u>Judges 8:32</u>. These two brief chapters contain a full picture of Gideon and all God accomplished through him.

Gideon Tested God Using A Fleece:

When Gideon hears he will save the Israelite people from his oppressors. First he doesn't believe it. So he tests God. This seems to contradict the command "not to put the Lord to the test" (**Deuteronomy 6:16**). But Gideon appears to test God a lot.

- First, he asks God to put dew on a fleece he lays out, instead of on the ground.
- Then, he asks for the opposite, for a dry fleece and the ground be wet.
- Then, once more, the opposite.

This wasn't the proper thing to do and reveals a lack of faith. He needed complete reassurance. Nevertheless, God pulls out all crutches from underneath him and helps Gideon to learn to rely on God. Now, when God wants Gideon to bring an army to take on the enormous Midianite army, Gideon brings 32,000 men. Although not as sizeable as the Midianites, it's enough for Gideon to be comfortable with leading the charge.

God has other plans. He decides to enlist a series of tests of His own on Gideon, reminiscent of the earlier tests Gideon had for God.

- First, he makes Gideon send home anyone who is afraid. It turns out 22,000 of the people in the army have their doubts and head on their way.
- Now, with 10,000 left, God makes them drink water. Apparently only 300 of the men drank water by putting their hands to their mouths. The other 9,700 who knelt to drink are sent home.

With just 300 men now, Gideon knows he has to rely on God to provide a miracle.

But God has an even odder plan in place. They won't even have to invade or attack to wipe out the Midianites. He has them create as much noise as possible by blaring trumpets and smashing jars. This confuses the men in the Midianite camp, and they end up killing each other in the chaos.

Learning from Gideon's Story...

1. God can work with a little bit of faith. Overall, we can learn that God can work through anyone, even timid believers of little faith.

A leader doesn't always mean the boldest and most extroverted. God often works through believers who come from the least of the least, like Gideon. When we're hiding from what scares us most, God compels us to tackle it head on.

2. But God wants us to trust Him. Second, God doesn't allow metaphorical crutches. Although he plays along with Gideon's fleece tests, when it comes to the actual battle, he refuses to let Gideon have a cushion of a bulky army. Reducing him to the bare essentials of 300, they now realize relying on God is the only way for a victory. The same happens in our lives. When God reduces our "numbers" down to 300, we then have to rely on him to do what we thought was impossible....Welcome to Gideon's world!

The Promise and the Practice in Faith *May 16, 2021*

11 a.m. Worship Service

Prelude Mr. Donald Traser

"The Prelude is the thin veil of solitude dropped so softly by the Holy Spirit between last week's sorrows and today's moments of spiritual strength for God's presence."

Chiming of the Hour

Mr. Traser

Invocation and Welcome Pastor Sharpe

Responsive Call to Worship

Pastor Sharpe

Leader: We begin today joining our hearts, spirits, and minds with the Holy Spirit.

People: We ask the Spirit to come and lead us, speak to us

and comfort us.

Leader: Today we desire to learn the importance of Jesus' teachings when he shared the need

for us to grow to become more as He.

People: We need to have open minds, hearts, and spirits.

Leader: We now stand in the twenty-first century looking back and can see clearly how Jesus

ushered in the Kingdom of God through His church. Where is Jesus leading us today?

How is Jesus leading us?

Everyone: As we learn from Jesus through the gospel's teaching, we are sure to learn

something new, and to grow, and be prepared for the coming of our Lord.

Hymn of Praise

Mr. Traser, Mr. Warren Mitchell

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King, of creations!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all thing so wondrously reigneth

Praise Him in glad adoration.

Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here

daily attend thee.

Ponder a new What the Almighty can do If with His love he be friend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.

Let the Amen Sound from His people again, Gladly for aye we adore Him. *Offertory Prayer Ms. Virginia Garrett

*Doxology

Scripture Luke 17:26-30 Dr. Carol McCann

Hymn of Praise Mr. Traser, Mr. Mitchell

"O Day of God, Draw Neigh" (623)

O Day of God, draw nigh In beauty and in pow'r; Come with thy timeless judgment now To match our present hour.

Bring justice to our land, That all may dwell secure, And finely build for days to come Foundations that endure. Bring to our world of strife
Your sovereign Word of peace,
That war may haunt the Earth no more,
And desolation cease.

O Day of God, draw nigh
As at creation's birth;
Let there be light again, and set
Thy judgments in the Earth.

Pastoral Prayer Dr. McCann

Special Music "Then Jesus Came" Mr. Traser

Arranged by Franklin D. Ashdown

Message Pastor Sharpe

The Promise and the Practice in Faith: "Life Today and Living in the Day of Noah and Lot"

Hymn of Resolution Mr. Traser, Mr. Mitchell

"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder" (516)

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, and time shall be no more
And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

Refrain:

When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in Christ shall rise
And the morning of His resurrection share
When His chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond the skies
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

[Refrain]

Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun
Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care
Then when all of life is over, and our work on earth is done
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there

[Refrain]

Pastor Sharpe

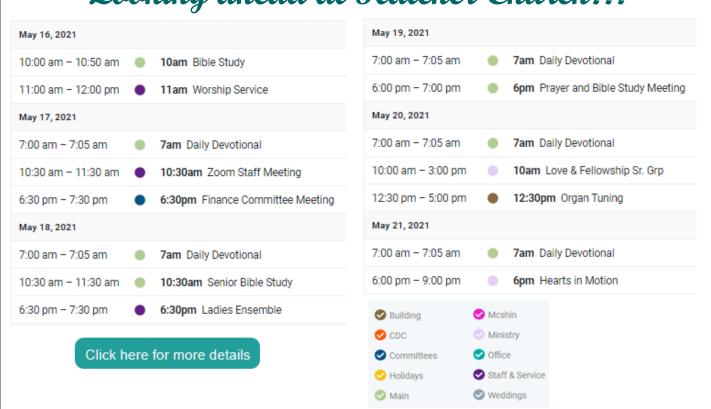
Postlude Mr. Traser

(*Invitation to stand and sing as one is able)

Printed and Musical Permission CCLI#297953 and CVLI#50422429



Looking ahead at Hatcher Church...



Hearts in Motion No-Sew Blankets



Hearts in Motion will be making blankets again on Friday night, May 21st, from 6 – 9 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Please bring scissors and make sure your name is on them. There is no sewing involved – just cutting and or/knotting. Blankets have been distributed to St. Vincent's Island, a local women's shelter and the Ronald McDonald's house located in downtown Richmond. Please let Sue know if you can come – need a head count for snacks. If you need to come later than 6, call or text her so that we can let you in. **(804) 513-4086**

Church Happenings

May 2021 WORSHIP THEME

"PROMISES OF GOD AND PRACTICES OF FAITH" OR...(OUR WORLD'S CRISIS OF FAITH)

In a recent interview, several world leaders voiced very real concerns regarding our world's condition as division, strife, mistrust, and aggression continue to further divide our world's community, cultures and countries. These circumstances are revealing how humanity is imploding on itself. Incivility is becoming the standard in communication and relationships. It is most difficult to seek spiritual answers, find Godly assurance, and discover biblical direction for these life changing concerns as most churches and houses of faith in the United States are pumping out "Liberation" Theology, "Justice" Theology, "Prosperity" Theology, "Political" Theology, "Self-Help" theology, or preaching Denominational Dogma as truth.

During the Month of May, Hatcher's members are being encouraged when coming to worship to bring their Bibles, note pads, and bring their inquiring minds as we get down to brass tacks in the study of the Word of God!

May 16

The Promise and the Practice of Faith

Reveals...

LIVING TODAY AND LIVING IN THE

DAY OF NOAH

May 23

The Promise and the Practice of Faith

Reveals...

LIFE IN TURMOIL, NO CONFESSION-

REPENTANCE

May 30

The Promise and the Practice of Faith

Reveals...

HEAVENLY PEOPLE HAVING AN

EARTHLY EXPERIENCE

MAY 2021 Wednesday Evening Bible Study

May 19

"The Commands of Christ"

May 26

"The Biblical Church Model, and the 4 Phases

of Christian Movement"

Church Happenings

Do you know how best to serve your church?



The Nominating committee is busy at work seeking candidates to serve our church this year, and the coming year. There are several positions that need to be filled. A list of these positions will be in the front entryway of the sanctuary this Sunday. We invite you to take a look at the list and sign up for any position you would be interested in.

Next week the Hatcher Herald will post the list of all the vacancies that are available for you. If

you have any questions about what any of the positions entail, please contact the Nominating Committee chair Alice Phillips at alice phillips51@yahoo.com

Deepest Sympathy to:

The family of John Schneider (Shirley Tuck's husband) passed away on 5/1/21.

The family of Yancey Lynn (David Lynn's brother) who passed away 5/3/21.

The family of Bobbie Johnson (Glenda Jone's sister) who passed away 5/6/21.

The family of Nora Welch (Margaret Carneal's sister) who passed away 5/11/21.



Fellowship Gathering for the Love & Fellowship Seniors Group When: Thursday May 20th 11 a.m. - 3 o.m.

When: Thursday, May 20th 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Where: Joe & Kay Craig's House

You don't need to bring a thing - it is all provided! Transportation will be available. Board the bus in the church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. and back to the church at 3:00 p.m.

*COVID guidelines will be practiced at this event

Tech Tips/Social Media

Tip # 12 Beware of computer viruses

If you download a "PDF" file and you see it ends in ".exe" delete it. It's a virus!



Church Happenings

Class of 2021



Graduation Sunday

One great way our church can nurture and encourage graduating seniors is set aside a special Graduation Sunday to honor them and their accomplishments. If you have a family member who will be graduating from high school or college this season, we want to honor them at Hatcher! Graduation Sunday will be held on June 6th during our worship service. If you have a family member

who will be graduating this season, please submit their full name with a short bio, the name of the school and a photo to Karen Cook at office@hatcherchurch.org. Please submit by May 26th.

Oh Baby Oh Baby Oh Baby Oh Baby

Congratulations

to Travis & Emily (Dunston) Adkins on the birth of their daughter Joanna Marie on April 26, 2021 at 11:08 am in Kentucky. Joanna was 7



lbs, 5.8 ozs and 20 1/4 inches long at birth. Joanna is the great granddaughter of Dot Dunston, the first grandchild of Bob and Norma Dunston and the great niece of David and Mary Dunston and Jim Dunston.

Congratulations

to Angela & Matt Ford on their new baby son, Zachary Grant Ford, born May 6, 2021 at 9:11 pm. Zachary



weighed 7 lbs,10 ozs and was 21 1/2 inches long. Mother and son are home and doing well. Congratulations to grandparents: Mary and David Dunston, great step-grandmother, Dot Dunston.



Daily Devotional with Pastor Sharpe



Cook needed for the CDC

The cook is responsible to plan, budget, prepare and serve balanced meals and snacks that meet the nutritional needs of the children. The cook oversees all kitchen operations, maintains a safe, clean and sanitary facility and meets the safety of all food preparation. Also, the cook must store and dispose food in accordance with the food handling practices, as well as follow food safety regulations and child care food guidelines at all times.

It is important that the cook supports the centers philosophy, programs and policies to maintain a standard of care that contributes to the center's reputation for excellence.

Duties ad Responsibilities

The primary job duties and responsibilities for the cook include but are not limited to the following:

Child Development and Care

- * Meet nutritional needs
- * Plan and provide nutritious meals and snacks
- * Prepare and provide infant nutrition
- * Promote healthy eating
- * Accommodate for allergies, special dietary and nutritional requirements

Equipment and Facilities

- * Maintains cleanliness in the kitchen and storage areas
- * Develops and complies with a regular sanitization schedule for oven, refrigerators and other appliances and areas
- * Ensures a safe and healthy environment

Certification

* Must have a Serve Safe Certificate

Job Type: Full-time

Pay: \$10.00 - \$13.00 per hour

HATCHER CHURCH LEADERSHIP FOR 2020-2021

* indicates serving one additional year & rotates off in 2021

Deacons

Chair — Karen Stamey Secretary: Alice Phillips

Mary Dunston*Janice ConroySusan HaynesVirginia GarrettJackie MatthewsTerry HooverBill MoselyStuart MatthewsAlice PhillipsKaren StameyDonna MyersLena Taylor

Jerry Myers

Church Officers Program Leaders

Moderator: Rick Bancroft Outreach/ Mission Director: Sue Mitchell and

Treasurer: Jackie Matthews Kathy Ridenour

Clerk: Sharon Vecchione (interim) Sunday School Director: Alice Phillips
Love & Fellowship Coord.: Kay Craig

Committee Chairpersons Team Leaders

Sharon Vecchione* Audio/Visual: CDC: Ray Clary Jimmy Blanchard Mary Atwell **Building & Grounds:** Counting: **Endowment:** Bob Llewellyn Flower & Decorating: **Betty Bancroft** Finance: Belinda Blanchard **Hostess: Kay Craig** Phyllis Johnson McShin: Kitchen: **Iune Banes** Alice Phillips Nominating: Transportation: Ray Clary Personnel: Wayne Duke Ushers: **Eddie Harris**

Building Use Coordinator: William Moseley

Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church

Rev. Terry M. Sharpe, Pastor

Daniel Ripley, Associate Minister for Communication and Outreach

J. Warren Mitchell, Jr., Minister of Music

Amanda Owen, Director, Child Development Center

Stuart Joerg, Organist

Joyce Salmon, Financial Secretary

Karen Cook. Office Administrator/Communications Coordinator

Karen Cook, Office Administrator/Communications Coordinator
Kay Craig, Love & Fellowship Coordinator
Ierry Myers, Webmaster

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