

Who Is God?

What is God like? Why does He do the things He does? How does He feel about us? As we received questions from our community through the OneQuestionHSV website, it became very obvious that there was a great desire among many in our community to understand more about God. What an encouragement it is to know that people want to know more about God and are willing to seek answers to their questions! As we begin these services devoted to addressing many of the questions that have been asked, we will focus our attention on God. In three lessons today, we will examine the Nature and Character of God, Misconceptions About God, and The Will and Works of God. I hope that you will stay with us for all of these services as we search God's word for the answers to our questions.

We are privileged and blessed to have Doug Burluson with us today to discuss these important topics. Dr. Doug Burluson began preaching at the age of 15 and has, since that time, served several congregations. He currently serves as a professor in Bible at Freed-Hardeman University and preaches for the Estes Church of Christ in Henderson, Tennessee. In 2012, Dr. Burluson completed a PhD in New Testament and Greek at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary working in the area of New Testament Textual Criticism. He is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman and has Master's degrees from Freed-Hardeman University ('01), Lipscomb University ('03), and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary ('07). In 2015, Dr. Burluson began directing the Annual Bible Lectureship at Freed-Hardeman, joining a very distinguished group of men who have held that position.

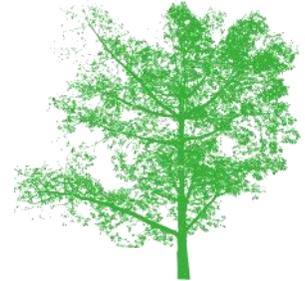


Dr. Burluson is married to Kristi Johnson Burluson and they have three children: Eden, Canaan, and Jordan, and are expecting a fourth child (another daughter) in December. He has written articles in several brotherhood periodicals and spoken at congregations of the Lord's church throughout the United States.

To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



Chase Park Church of Christ

Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit
Nathan Adams..... Outreach
John Denney Education
Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

Elders

John Denney
Curtis Hill
Sam Kachelman
Dennis Lawson
Greg Parker
Barry Todd

Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico
Slava Savkovsky Ukraine
Barton Kizer..... Peru
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

As we continue the series of articles on the idea of being thankful, I hope it has helped you to come to a better understanding of just how blessed you are. As we go through the ups and down of daily living, we sometimes fail to stop and count our blessings, which are many. If we will only stop and think about all the wonderful ways God blesses us, it will no doubt help us to have a better outlook on life.

For this week's article on being thankful I want us to consider the idea of being thankful for forgiveness. Forgiveness is a blessing on both sides of the issue. It is a blessing to be someone who is able to forgive when someone has hurt us and it is a blessing to be forgiven when we are in the wrong.

Have you every unintentionally or maybe even intentionally hurt someone? If you have ever been on

the wrong side of a disagreement or issue, you know what it is like to need forgiveness. Maybe you said an unkind thing or committed an act that was hurtful to someone and needed their forgiveness. If you ever found yourself in one of these situations, you know the wonderful blessing of being forgiven!

As wonderful as being forgiven by others is, there is a forgiveness that is even sweeter, a forgiveness that comes from God the Father. When we come to a realization of our sins against God, which, in turn, causes us to desire to turn away from those things, God offers complete and total forgiveness. Consider what is written in 1 John 1:9, "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins, and purify us from all unrighteousness.*" What a blessing it is that God offers complete forgiveness and cleansing when we

turn away from the wrongs that we commit against Him! God holds no grudges, and desires us to have a right relationship with Him.

In turn, if we want to receive the blessing of forgiveness from God and others, we need to be a people who are forgiving. It can be a struggle to forgive those that we feel "don't deserve forgiveness." We must take a deep look into the mirror and come to the realization that we don't deserve God's forgiveness either, it is a result of His grace. We must be a people who offer grace to others if we want to receive it. Consider the words of Jesus in Matthew 6:14, "*For if you forgive others their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you...*" Christians, forgiveness is a blessing to receive and to give; I am thankful for forgiveness!

Joy Is Not Found In You—*Nathan Adams*

We often hear that Philippians is about joy. That assumption is based on the 23 times that a form of the word appears in the short book. People often consider Paul's call to "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!*" (4:4). Yet, just telling someone suffering in some way to rejoice with no teaching about how that comes about is found by such people to be of little help. To desire joy simply for the benefits that come to you from joy will insure that you never find it in your life. Joy has nothing to do with what you want for your own life. Paul teaches in Philippians that your life must have a completely different focus if you are to find true joy.

This life is filled with suffering. That is one of the great attractions of heaven where such things do not exist. When Paul is writing to the Philippians, he is suffering imprisonment in Rome for his preaching of the Gospel. Consider that for a moment, how can Paul be so joyful while in prison? It seems contradictory that

one can suffer difficulty and be joyful at the same time. The answer is simple and is clearly seen throughout his letter to the Philippians. Paul is not focused on his situation, he is focused on other people. He is not wallowing in pity over his circumstance, he is rising above his circumstances to focus on those things that are more important than his suffering.

In Philippians 1:3-11 Paul speaks of how he loves the Philippians and constantly prays for them. Paul did not spend his time bemoaning his circumstances, instead he spent it praying for these beloved brethren and their spiritual growth. His joy was in their growth and spiritual success because of his great love for them.

Beginning in verse 12 Paul speaks about the good that had come from his imprisonment. His imprisonment provided opportunity for some to be exposed to the gospel like the Praetorian guard. Brethren had also been strengthened with courage to speak about Christ because of Paul's

example while imprisoned. Paul was making the most of his imprisonment for Christ.

Perhaps my favorite part of this section is Paul speaking about those preachers who are actually seeking to selfishly benefit from Paul's imprisonment. Paul makes it clear that he is not offended by this, but instead rejoices that Christ is still preached.

We must take note that Paul's joy never came from self. He rejoices in what the Philippian brethren are doing for the cause of Christ. He rejoices in the people that are hearing the gospel and growing because of his imprisonment. He finds joy even in those who are taking advantage of his difficult situation as long as Christ is preached. Simply put, Paul is not focused on himself, he is focused on Christ, His church, and the gospel. These are things far bigger than any life circumstance and can bring us joy in difficult times by our being focused on these before self and circumstance.

News Of Interest

Sick

HealthSouth Rehab

Louise Merryman

Home: Martha Norris, Donell Parker, Max Horst, and Libby Lewter.

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Rossin Lamica** in the death of his sister, Ruth Mayville, in Massachusetts.

Sympathy also to **Joan Parker** in the death of her mother, Dolly Sutton, in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

Balance Class

Tues, Nov. 8; Thurs., Nov. 10; 1:30 p.m.

Offices Closed

Church offices closed Friday, November 11, in observance of Veteran's Day.

Note From Our Elders

Mike Jones has expressed his appreciation for concern shown for him. After several conversations with the eldership, Mike has chosen to withdraw his membership at Chase Park and attend elsewhere. Please keep Mike in your prayers.

Special "One Question" Sunday

Alan Highers will be the speaker Sunday, November 13, to address questions. Will have combined adult classes, (7th grade up) potluck lunch, and an early afternoon service.

Pantry Items

Instant mash potatoes, family size box; canned cranberry sauce; and boxed stuffing/dressing mix.

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Curtis Hill**

Song Leader: **Jon Rosenblum**

Hospital Visitation

Team #1 (**Toney Atchley**), please pick up your assignments today after afternoon worship.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Class

Tuesday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, November 9. Cooks will prepare lunch.

Lunch Class Assignments for Today's Meal

Small Auditorium/Ladies Class

Set Out Food

Keepers/Providers

Drinks

L.I.F.E./A.C.T.S.

Clean Up

Family Ties/Young Pros/Teens

Place chairs on tables and vacuum under tables. Tables will remain up for Sunday, November 13.

Thank You

"Dear Chase Park,
Thank you so much for helping celebrate my 90th birthday. I received 91 cards, phone calls, gifts, and visits. I feel so thankful and so blessed to be part of this loving and caring family of God's people. I love you."

Juaneez Tanner

"Thank you for your prayers, cards and every expression of sympathy extended to our family during the loss of our loved one. You are such a loving, caring and compassionate church family and you were a comfort to us during our time of sorrow. May the Lord bless you all."

The Sims family
(Michael Sims' brother)

"Dear Chase Park family and friends,
Thanks so much for the wonderful love and friendships all through the years with Memorial Parkway and now Chase Park. Thanks for your many acts of kindness to the Gerald Price family. We were truly blessed to be a part of this great congregation and be lifetime friends with many. With love,"

Helen and family

Weekly Bible Reading

Reading for November 6 – November 12: **1 Peter 1-5**

Peter’s first letter focuses on many of the blessings and challenges of living a faithful Christian life. It is very interesting to read the writings of this great apostle of Christ who we often remember as rash and undisciplined in words and actions but who has matured greatly in his faith and wisdom as he instructs and encourages his readers to live lives of faithfulness and submission to Christ. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *How do you think Peter was helped and made stronger by the mistakes of his early days of discipleship?*
- *How can we learn from our mistakes and overcome them to become stronger and more faithful?*

VERSES TO REMEMBER:

1 Peter 2:9-10

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

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Statistics

Sunday, October 31, 2016

AM Worship	358
Month Average	352
Bible Class	313
PM Worship	234
Wed., Nov. 2 Bible Classes	250
Regency Ret. Worship	47
Offering	\$17,379.79
Budget	\$18,300
Average '16	\$17,943
Under Budget for year	-\$15,723
Building Fund	\$339.00

Services

Sunday

Worship	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class	10:15 a.m.
Worship	5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Super Seniors	10:00 a.m.
Bible Class	6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>
(Lesson 1 Link)
The Bible—God’s Holy Word