

Add To Your Self-Control Perseverance...

“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
2 Peter 1:5-8

What a challenge self-control is for us, but, oh, how incredibly important it is as we continue to grow in our faith and move forward in our spiritual lives. Our path through this world is not always easy and is often littered with temptations and trials that threaten to destroy our faith and take us away from God. As we grow in our ability to harness our thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions, especially in difficult situations, we add another vital tool to our arsenal of weapons to be used in our battles with Satan – perseverance.

Perseverance is defined as “steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.” (*dictionary.com*) It is that ability to not give up when faced with challenging circumstances, and it can be applied in two different ways to our spiritual lives. First, perseverance is the strength to remain faithful to God and the faith to continue to trust Him when we meet with hardship and trial and are tempted to become discouraged and quit. To persevere is to stubbornly hold to God and not allow the difficulties of life to weaken us to the point of defeat. Secondly, perseverance can be understood to be the strength and determination to choose the right path and make spiritually sound decisions when faced with temptation. Temptation is nothing more than an inward trial that is created by our own fleshly desires and used by Satan to entice us to sin. To persevere against temptation is to, with dogged determination, deny those fleshly desires and resist the enticements of the devil (consider the example of Jesus in Matthew 4).

The very fact that perseverance is a needed virtue of the Christian life tells us that life is often difficult, but we must remember that we serve a great and a merciful God who is bigger than our trials and infinitely stronger than our enemy. We are not asked to persevere on our own but with the help of the mighty hand of God to comfort, strengthen, and aid us. With these things in mind, let us strengthen our resolve to grow in perseverance.

Rusty

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*

What is our attitude toward being with our brothers and sisters in Christ? Do we look forward to coming together on the first day of the week? Are we taking advantage of the extra opportunities found outside of our worship assemblies to fellowship with those who make up the body of Christ?

As Christians, it is important that we realize the value found in Christian relationships. The relationships Christians have with one another should be like no other relationship on the planet. A Christian friendship is a friendship that is different than the friendships found in the world.

Christians are bound together through the bonds of Christ and have a relationship that will go on into eternity. If we cannot have a relationship in a temporal world,

how can we expect to have a relationship throughout eternity?

The Apostle Paul felt a strong bond with the Christians who made up the young church in Thessalonica. The fact that he had to leave them earlier than he wanted to bothered him greatly and he desired to see them again. Consider what Paul writes in his letter to the Thessalonians *“But since we were torn away from you, brothers for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face...”* (1 Thessalonians 2:17). Paul had a great love for the church in Thessalonica! He wanted to be with them in the flesh, he wanted to spend time with them as soon as he possibly could. Though Paul was away from them physically, he points out that he was never away

from them emotionally, he loved them dearly.

What about us? Do we feel the same way about our brothers and sisters in the church? Do we feel the same sense of longing to see them when we are apart?

Consider a few verses of Scripture which relate to our relationships with each other:

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”
(Proverbs 27:17)

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”
(1 John 4:11)

“Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.” (Philippians 2:2)

Our New Website—*Nathan Adams*

This week our new church website went online. I am very excited about the new features of our site and the possibilities for what we can add to it in the future. In our modern world this is one of our most useful tools in outreach. The universal nature of the great commission can be better accomplished today than ever in the history of the world. People from all over the world can benefit from our website. God has blessed us with this ability and we must use it to its fullest. I believe the current site is just a foundation for greater efforts in this area.

Our site is now more visitor friendly. We have three menus developed for a person’s journey from visitor to member. These are large green buttons at the top of the screen.

The first is the “I’m New” menu. This menu will provide basic information about our family such as who we are and what a person can expect when they visit.

The second is the “Finding My Faith” menu. Our primary responsibility as the Lord’s church is to help people find Biblical faith. Faith comes through hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). Therefore this menu provides a number of means by which a visitor or a long-time member can learn more about God’s word. Included in this menu is information about our weekly classes, library contents, online Bible studies, topical Bible studies, and questions/answers. This learning material will come in the form of print, interactive forms, audio,

and video. New and useful teaching material will continuously be added, so check back every couple of weeks to see what is new.

The last menu is “Finding My Place.” When a person has visited us and found the saving faith set forth in God’s word, they must then find their place in the works of the Lord’s church. What talents, interests, or passions do they have? How can those be placed within the works of Chase Park? This menu lists our work areas. Currently it shows our Involvement, Children’s, and Youth/Family Ministries. This helps new and sometimes old members find areas where they can do the most good in the work of the church. If you are in charge of a ministry that you believe would benefit from being in this menu, see me for how we can include your work on the site.

While our site is more visitor friendly, our members still have all the items that they are accustomed to having on our site. These items are on the top menu bar and include the Newline, Bulletins, Youth/Family, Missions, Calendar, and links. We have added a blog called “The Servant Blog” which will have posts from all three ministers each week.

Take time this week to familiarize yourself with the new site. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or corrections that could improve the site in the future.

News Of Interest

Sick

Huntsville Hospital

Louise Merryman

HealthSouth Rehab

Donell Parker

Valley View Rehab

Nancy Harton (Janet Jenkins' mother)

Home: Libby Lewter and Robert Nance.

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Dot Crowson** in the death of her ex-husband, Dennis Crowson.

Sympathy also to **Michael Sims** in the death of his brother, Tim Sims.

Birth Announcements

Craig and Lauren Lawson are the proud parents of Thomas James Lawson born Wednesday, October 12. He weighed 7 lbs., 10 ozs. The proud grandparents are **Dennis and Janet Lawson**.

Congratulation

To **Courtney McGugin** and **Kevin Deck** who were married yesterday in Decatur, Alabama. May their years together be filled with love and happiness.

Membership

Welcome **Cody Gothart** to our Chase Park family!

He comes to us from the Meridianville congregation. Cody is a Program Analyst with LG Electronics. Be sure to meet Cody.

Larry and Pam Waller will be worshipping with the Madison congregation. Their decision to leave Chase Park was a difficult one, but they live near the Madison building and Pam also has many friends there from past years. We will miss them and wish them the best.

Library Book Donation

The book, *The Best Husband Ever; the Challenge of Loving Like Jesus*, has been placed in the library by **Mabel Albright and Family** in memory of **Clarence Albright**. It is a book written for husbands by four authors from different generations and backgrounds. The four authors are: Aubrey Johnson, Cecil May, Jr., Lonnie Jones, and Ben Hayes.

Balance Class

Tues., Oct. 18; Thurs., Oct. 20; 1:30 p.m.

Pantry Item

Dried beans (any kind) and self-rising meal.

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Gregg Crabtree**

Song leader: **Jeff Husband**

Hospital Visitation

Team #3 (**Jerry Johnston**), please pick up your assignments today following evening worship.

Little Lights

Duck Scavenger Hunt, Tuesday, October 18, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, October 19. No lunch.

Regency Retirement Village Singing

Thursday, October 20, 6:00 p.m.

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 22, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Need candy (all kinds), small prizes, and Little Debbie snack cakes.

Thank You

“Dear Chase Park Family and Friends,

I would like to convey my sincerest thanks and appreciation to all of you for all the many prayers that were said on my behalf as I went through my cancer treatments. I recently completed my 33 rounds of radiation and 4 rounds of chemo over the past few months and without the prayers of so many great Christian friends and family I would not have been so blessed. Thank you all so much for the cards, calls, emails, texts, love and concern that has been conveyed to me. You all hold a special place in my heart!

Again, I thank you ALL from the bottom of my heart and may God continue to bless you as you continue to bless others and spread God's word! In Christian love,”

Bennie Jacks



Weekly Bible Reading

Reading for October 16-22: Hebrews 5-9

The Hebrew letter does not only deal with the danger of backsliding into unfaithfulness. It also warns of the danger of not moving forward in our knowledge and faith. Within this warning there is the implication of a very basic yet important truth: With regard to our spiritual lives, it is impossible for us to be stationary. We will either move forward, growing closer to God as we increase in knowledge, strength, and faith; or we will move away from God. We, like the Hebrew Christians, must be determined to keep moving forward. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *What are some things that we can do to help us to grow in our spiritual lives?*
- *What obstacles do we face as we strive to grow?*

VERSES TO REMEMBER:

Hebrews 6:9-10

“But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Statistics

Sunday, October 9, 2016

AM Worship	351
Month Average	344
Bible Class	303
PM Worship	226
Wed., Oct. 12 Bible Classes	284
Regency Ret. Worship	36
Offering	\$16,981.07
Budget	\$18,300
Average '16	\$18,000
Under Budget for year	-\$12,286
Building Fund	\$86.00

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 Class6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>
(Lesson 1 Link)

The Bible—God’s Holy Word

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