

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Brynn Hatcher

Assisting: Kyle Pool
Dale Wiles

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Pantry Item

N/A

Sermon Notes

What Will You Do With Jesus?

I. _____ *Him*

II. _____ *Him*

January 30, 2022

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304
Phone:
(910) 425-1108
Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Deacon
John Williams

Volume 36 Issue 5

The Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

Just Believe!

According to a quick search that I did, 7% of the world's population are atheists. Most of us have probably know some who question God's existence. These might fall into one of two category of individuals with respect to their belief in God, agnostic or skeptic. As the 7% number suggests, very few actually have no belief in at least a “higher power.” Many are not convinced He exists, but neither are they sure He does not. The vast majority of people I have talked with, here in the US and abroad, during my lifetime have said they “believe in God”. That is a good start because Jesus told some that doubted Him “...if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins” (John 8:24).

The issue really is not believing IN God, but simply believing God. In the end believing in God will not be enough. James penned these words, “Even the demons believe—and tremble” (James 2:19). Only the most staunch universalist would even come close to saying that the demons of James 2 would be saved in the end. This illustrates the fact that there is a huge difference between believing in God and believing God. The apostle Paul both believed in and believed the God to whom he belonged and whom he served (Acts 27:23). Paul reiterated this faith when he wrote to Timothy, “for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2 Timothy 1:12).

Paul knew the definition of faith. “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). Biblical faith requires substance and is based on

evidence. Believing God is demonstrated in obedience to His will. No one would obey a god they did not believe. To do so would be insanity. One must come to an understanding that God does exist and He gave His will for all to obey. One comes to the conclusion that God exists based on the evidence. Paul wrote about this evidence, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romand 1:20). The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is now in L2 orbit and will start gathering images of deep space later this year. Scientists hope to “go back in time” to the “big bang.” Here is what they will find IF they are honest: a gargantuan, complex, yet fine tuned Universe that operates within specified laws that is as beautiful as it is inhospitable singing the glorious praises of its Creator. That is a big “IF.” Some, such as A. W. Dicus, gazed up to the stars and declared, “There is a God, He is alive!” Others look to those same stars and reject the notion altogether.

Thomas B. Warren, noted Biblical scholar and apologist, engaged in a debate with the world’s foremost atheist in his day, Antony Flew, in 1976. Warren summarily crushed Flew in every argument over a four day period. As a result of this utter defeat, Flew began to change his mind concerning the *existence* of God. Whereas some would consider this a “win,” I would not. It is not enough just to come to some idea that God exists. There is more to life than just acknowledging His existence. The Hebrew writer penned, “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6). There are two parts of belief in this passage. Both must be understood to ultimately please God. The first, and easiest is to believe that God does indeed exist. But even the demons believe that. The next part is to believe what God can do for man. That is a very different level of faith altogether. The assumption the writer makes here is that the reader knows he is guilty of sin and needs salvation. Genuine faith goes further than merely believing in God, is believes that God is able, through the death, burial, and resurrection, save man from his sins. Many an atheist might ultimately come to the conclusion that God exists, but in the end will still be lost because they do not believe God can save them from their sins.

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 1/23/22

Bible Class: 17

A.M. Worship: 31

Wed. B. C.: 20

Family News and Notes

Sibio Farrington, in the passing of **Claudia Farrington**. **Rick Caldwell** is doing some better. **Robin Caldwell** will have surgery next month. They are planning to move toward Myrtle Beach in the near future. **Sandra Hedgepeth** is ill. Linda Williams’ mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Jack** and **Sondra Wain**, Kim Perkins’ parents, are dealing with serious health issues. Her sister-in-law **Rhonda Wain** needs prayers as well. **Jamie Phillips** is caring for his mother and going through a hard time. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. Let’s remember one another in prayer.

Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment’s notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen & Sarah Jennen, John and Linda Williams**, the **Pollard** family, the **Davis** family, **Claudia Farrington, Rick and Robin Caldwell, Barry and Melany Hatcher**, and **Thelma Adams**. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Jan 30	Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5
Luk 23-24	Joh 1-2	Joh 3-4	Joh 5-6	Joh 7-8	Joh 9-10	Joh 11-12
Ps 30	Ps 31	Ps 32	Ps 33	Ps 34	Ps 35	Ps 36

Events

Teachers’ Meeting: This morning, after worship service.

Ladies’ Day: Cary Church of Christ, March 5th. Celine Sparks speaking.

Mens’ Fellowship: March 12th at Gold Hill Road congregation 9-3

