

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Charles Perkins

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Brynn Hatcher
Tyler Christian

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Patrick Floyd

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Canned milk, boxed juice

Sermon Notes *The Salt Life*

I. A _____ To _____

II. A _____ To _____

III. A _____ To _____

August 21, 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

Volume 38 Issue 8

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Meditate on God's Word

The word “meditate”, means, “to contemplate, to ponder, to intend, to plan, to dwell in thought, to muse, or to reflect.” Meditation, Biblically speaking, is a lost art. It seems as though man is quickly losing the ability to think deeply. Schools say they are teaching “critical thinking.” If this is the case, and they are actually being successful, then why do so many believe in the false notion of the “Big Bang,” “Critical Race Theory,” “communism as a viable and desirable social construct,” and other such nonsense? Unfortunately, most children today are woefully underprepared to meet the challenges of life. No life skills are taught to any appreciable degree. One reason is that information can not be held in the brain for longer than a few seconds. Memorization is out the window, and instantaneous recollection by way of the internet is the preferred method of “learning.” Christians ought not fall prey to such dastardly indoctrination! I was speaking with a brother in Christ recently about spiritual and Biblical matters. As we were involved in the discussion, he said, “I think about what it was like to live in Bible times, and deal with the situations they faced every day.” That, my friends is meditation. Taking Biblical truths and situations and putting oneself squarely in the middle. To strive to feel what the Bible characters felt, to understand what they understood, to empathize with their choices, good or bad.

The Bible connects the best life with meditation. “*Blessed is the man.... [whose] delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night*” (Psalm 1:1,2). The reason that meditation and a blessed life are closely linked is that God made man a thinking being. The Preacher wrote,

“Keep thy heart will all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23). One becomes the architect of one’s life in thoughts first. This is where the blueprints of life are drawn up. No one will ever be better than their thoughts. “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (Proverbs 23:7).

Meditation sharpens our mental and spiritual perceptions and gives us a clearer perspective of life. This has been exemplified in the lives of many people experiencing a long-term illness. They were blessed in illness, and for no reason on earth except their illness gave them time to reflect on God’s word as they pondered the paths of their lives. A sick individual with a prosperous soul, has much to live for and offer to society, as long as that soul meditates on God’s unsearchable riches.

Meditation helps man keep his sense of value and balance. Since man cannot have everything, he must decide what to keep and what to pass on, or throw away. The closet has its limits! A decision for unidirectional living adds up to personal adjustment and internal peace. One does not necessarily have to live a Spartan lifestyle, but priorities must be made to live that balanced life. This life only comes as a result of deep meditation.

Through meditation one can begin to understand even the most difficult passages of Scripture. Do some passages of the Bible give you pause? Do they make less sense than you want them to? The best way to understand those passages is to meditate on the passages that are easy to know and understand. It might be that you are having a difficult time understanding how to put into practice a command of God. Meditation on that passage will help immensely.

Meditation helps the Christian to make better, more reasoned decisions. Solomon wrote, “Commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still” (Proverbs 4:4). Being still and listening to God is the greatest use of one’s time. In contemplating God’s wisdom, what He says will begin to resonate within the mind and right action will soon follow.

Perhaps the greatest things that meditation can give to us is acceptance. Life is not always easy, but through deep thought we can learn to accept ourselves as we are. We can learn to accept others as they are. We can even learn to accept whatever circumstances, good or bad, we might find ourselves in at the moment.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 8/14/22
Bible Class: 32 A.M. Worship: 60 Wed. B. C.: 22

Family News and Notes

Mark Mason, Melanie Callihan’s brother, passed away last week. **Tory Lawrence’** dad is still in the hospital but improving. **Kim Christian** is going through some physical ailments at this time. **Kim Perkins’** mother is in rehab and receiving special care. **Expectant mothers:** keep all our expectant mothers in your prayers: Destiney Foster, Elaine Turnage, Brianna Johnson, and Monica Ullom. Linda Williams’ mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. **Linda Hernandez** has been dealing with a heart issue and has not been able to be at worship. Let’s remember one another in prayer. Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all 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. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross,** and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27
1 Ki 14-17	1 Ki 18-20	1 Ki 21-22	2 Ki 1-4	2 Ki 5-8	2 Ki 9-12	2 Ki 13-16
Ps 51	Ps 52	Ps 53	Ps 54	Ps 55	Ps 56	Ps 57

Events

Kids’ Day: Sunday Aug 28 after morning worship. Please bring extra set of clothes! Sign up in foyer. Adults attending, please check with Byran today for more info.

New Quarter: Begins September 4th.

Gospel Meeting: September 11-14 @ Rockingham C of C. 7pm weeknights. Greg Weston speaking.

