

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ricardo Alvillar

Assisting: Ben Grant
Cam Christian

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Julius Cook

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Ricardo Alvillar

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Navy Beans

Sermon Notes *The Church At Philadelphia*

I. *Jesus is the* _____

II. *Look for* _____ *Opportunities*

III. _____ *is the Victory*

February 16, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons are
archived on our
YouTube page!

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 48 Issue 7

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Accomplishing the Will of God

As individuals and as the church (body of Christ), we are daily made aware of the many choices that must be made in navigating life's twists and turns. We must choose our guide well. We want to be sure the way we are traveling will lead us ultimately to that eternal home with our loving Father and the redeemed of all the ages.

Jesus himself identified the two paths every one must choose between and where each of them leads. *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it”* (Matt. 7:13-14). It would seem to naturally follow that a person would desire to enter in at the strait and narrow way leading to life everlasting. If so, the question still remains, what will be our guide? Many choose their own ingenuity or intuition. Are we clever enough to guide our own footsteps? Before we answer, “Yes, I can do that.” Let us note that familiar Scripture spoken by the writer of Proverbs, *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death”* (Prov. 14:12).

The narrow way must be walked with much care and watchfulness because it is constricted by many difficulties and troubles of life. Therefore, if we have the tendency to go chart our own course, the narrow way will be missed. Remember Moses, the man chosen by God to lead His people out of bondage. As long as Moses followed God's instructions, all went well and according to plan. Then the day came when Moses substituted his own way in place of the way commanded by God. The Children of Israel were in Kadesh and there was no water for the congregation. The whole congregation gathered themselves together against Moses and Aaron. Moses and Aaron went to the door of the tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them. The Lord spake unto Moses, saying, *“Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and **speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his***

water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink” (Numbers 20:7,8). Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, “*Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also* (Numbers 20:10,11). Moses took credit for bringing forth water instead of giving honor to God and smote the rock rather than speaking to it as God had instructed. As a result of his disobedience, God rebuked Moses: “*And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them*” (Numbers 20:12).

It is plain to see that there is only one way and it is a narrow way, but it is God’s way. We cannot substitute our own way. No matter how good and practical our way may seem to us or others. When God gives us the way to go, any other way is excluded.

Another simple example is the command given to Noah. “*Make thee an ark of gopher wood, rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch*” (Gen. 6:14). Noah was chosen by God because he was found faithful. By faith, Noah went the way commanded by God. “*Thus did Noah; according to **all** that God commanded him, so did he*” (Gen. 6:22). As a faithful follower of God, Noah would not use any other wood in the place of gopher wood. He may have wanted to, but he loved God so much he would not question His command in any way. It makes you wonder why anyone would question God in any regard. Surely God who created the heavens and the earth knows what is best. When He tells us the way to go, will we be like Moses and assert our own will or Noah and humbly and lovingly follow God? There are many accounts given in the word of God concerning actions He ordained.

The final requirement was this: “*For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book*” (Rev. 22:18-19). If we love the Lord, then we will do as He has commanded us. We know that whatever He asks of us is for our benefit and will see us through this life so we can be with Him eternally in the next.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 2/9	B.C.: 24	Daily Bible Readers: 11
Chapters Read: 298	Worship: 50	Wednesday: 24

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is continuing her cancer treatments. **John McDougale, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke and hurricane damage to her home. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers. Fishers’ of Men class continues today! Class is going well and there are several Bible studies being conducted as a result. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students! Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez, and the Davis family.**

Bible Reading Plan

Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22
Le 3-4	Le 5-6	Le 7-8	Le 9-10	Le 11-12	Le 13-14	Le 15-16
Luke 8	Luke 9	Luke 10	Luke 11	Luke 12	Luke 13	Luke 14

Events

Silver Linings: February 21 @ 11am
New Education Quarter: begins March 2nd. Teachers take down visuals next week!

