

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Ben Grant

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Sibio Farrington

Assisting: Tyler Christian
Kyle Pool

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Rob Sparks

Pantry Item

Canned Chicken

Sermon Notes

The Persons of God

I. God the _____

II. God the _____

III. God the _____

April 6, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
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 49 Issue 1

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

God Wants You!

God created man, giving him life, making him a spirit, placing him in the perfectness and sinlessness of the Garden of Eden. But man departed from the Lord by a violation of God's instructions concerning the fruit in the garden. By that transgression, sin came into the world (Rom. 5:12), and “all have sinned” (Rom. 3:23; 5:12). In sin, we are not the kind of person God wants us to be. But we can be what God wants us to be. Before that will be the case, we must have an earnest desire to be what God wants us to be. It begins with the heart of man wanting to please God and continues with man learning just what kind of person God wants us to be. This lesson is centered on some of the characteristics that God wants of us.

God wants a person to be a self-examiner, paying close attention to self, lest we go astray. The warning to the elders of Ephesus, “*Take heed unto yourselves...*” (Acts 20:28), is useful for us all. We are sometimes so busy watching the other fellow to note his mistakes that we are not mindful enough of our own lives. We hear a sermon and make application to somebody else rather than ourselves. It is like the story of the time a preacher began his lesson by saying, “Some member of this church has been heard cursing last week.” Then he preached against the sin of the tongue. He knew one man was guilty because he had heard him curse. But when the people were leaving, several members told him that they were guilty, except the one who he knew to be guilty, and that person said, “You sure did set them straight this morning, preacher.” He did not apply it to himself.

In eating the Lord's supper, Paul said, “*But let a man examine himself...*” (I Cor. 11:28). Self-examination is emphasized in Romans 2:1-3. “*But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance.*”

In restoring those who have fallen, Paul taught, “*Brethren, if*

any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted” (Gal. 6:1). Christ said, “And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye but considereth not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye, and behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye” (Matt. 7:3-5).

We may be guilty of only wanting to work when some prominence will come our way as a result. Prayer for the sick, family, church, or nation may never be heard from you by others, but God hears. Talking one-on-one to a neighbor about the soul may not bring you acclaim, but it may save a soul. Being faithful in worship, inviting others, visiting the needy, reading the Scriptures, may not bring you brotherhood notoriety, but what of that? You are busy doing what God wants done. Your day-to-day work, whether it be in the home, on the job, or wherever, may seem insignificant to those around you, but you will be doing what God wants done. You are being busy in what is right. Too many of us might be like the man who prayed for the Lord to use him, but only in an advisory capacity. Many are willing to work when it is noted. Many are willing to complain, criticize, or advise others. Too few are willing to be busy workers.

God wants a person who will cooperate. After all, the church is to be “fitly joined together” (Eph. 4:16), and this implies cooperation by brethren. Unity, harmony, being “fitly joined together” is a mark of Christianity.

Nobody even likes that person who always has to have his own way or will not cooperate with others. Have you ever watched children at play and noticed what happens to the child that insists everything must be as he calls it? Soon the others will leave him alone. The same thing is true on the adult level. God is not pleased with the uncooperative person who is unwilling to sacrifice himself for the benefit and good of others.

God wants us to love His truth and to demonstrate that love. To love God means that we will love His truth enough to obey it. “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). We show our love for the truth by believing it, obeying it, living according to it, defending it against attack, teaching it to all who will hear. By doing this we are able to obey the two greatest commandments of Matthew 22:37-39, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”

God wants us to love one another. “For ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another” (I Thess. 4:9). The word most often used in the original language of the Bible to depict the love we are to have is the word “agape.” The real meaning of the word is a sacrificial love, a love that seeks the other person’s highest good.

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 3/30
Chapters Read: 330

B.C.: 28
Worship: 60

Daily Bible Readers: 11
Wednesday: 28

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is continuing her cancer treatments. **Sandra Hedgepeth** is now in Village Green Rehab. She will be there for several weeks. **Carolyn Grant** (Ben’s mother) is in Carolina Rehab. **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 and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers. Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez,** and the **Davis** family.

Bible Reading Plan

Apr 6	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11	Apr 12
Jos 4-5	Jos 6-7	Jos 8-9	Jos 10-11	Jos 12-13	Jos 14-15	Jos 16-17
Acts 12	Acts 13	Acts 14	Acts 15	Acts 16	Acts 17	Acts 18

Events

Silver Linings: Friday, April19
Teachers’ & VBS Meeting: Sunday April 27th. After morning worship.
Building Workday: Saturday, April 26. 9-noon.
VBS: August 9th - go ahead & put it on your calendar!

