

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday\$9,443.62
 Budget Gifts to Date\$31,525.17
 Annie Armstrong to Date.....\$1,318.00

Birthdays

May 4 Joseph Johnson
 May 5 Jason McCullough
 May 6 Crawford Leonard
 May 7 Kay Nappier
 May 8 Mary Becton
 May 8 Kelly Newman
 May 9 David Thornton

Anniversaries

May 3 Mr. & Mrs. David Williford
 May 6 Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Reagan



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Back To Church

We continue to carefully watch the situation in our area and the state. We are also consulting with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board as they give advice and tools for churches about re-opening. Please continue to pray that all the churches will be wise in making decisions and moving forward. We will keep you up to date as we get our plan in place, we long to worship together once again, but we want to be cautious as well.

NEW ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday 11am and Wednesday 7pm

Join us at fbcgc.live

Past Services

*You can now go to the website (fbcgc.net) and watch previous services under the WORSHIP SERVICES tab

Online Giving

*You can now give online by going to the website (fbcgc.net) and click on the ONLINE GIVING tab

Office Hours during COVID-19

Monday – Thursday 10:00am to 2:00pm



35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408
 912-964-1448 or fbcgcc@yahoo.com
www.fbcgc.net

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm Monday - Thursday
 Closed on Fridays

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Tommy Duke—Interim Pastor
 Randall Frantz—Minister of Ed/Youth
 Debbie Traywick—Director of Music

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Choose Hope

As I've prepared for our ongoing Sunday message series on HOPE, I found this powerful quote from G.K. Chesterton, the English writer & philosopher:

“Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all...As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be strength.”

This is a great reminder that it is times like these (crisis and hardship) that truly gauge the amount and intensity of our hope. In other words, when everything is going smoothly, the economy is strong, our routines are steady, and we're all healthy, we can *all* claim to hold onto the hope we have in Christ. But the season we're in now –where hope is harder to come by and hopelessness is all around us – gives us an opportunity to assess our hope and ask the Lord to expand it.

There's a similar challenge in Psalm 42:5

“Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.”

This is something most of us can relate to but don't often discuss... the author's internal turmoil. He is in a season of despair – a time when Chesterton would say hope is strength.

Perhaps the most telling part of this verse is its authenticity. The author is in the midst of a *hope assessment* and doesn't like what he sees. He asks his own soul “why are you cast down?” and “why are you disquieted?” Like so many of the Psalms, this one is honest, even raw in representing human emotion. The

writer here is truly questioning his negativity and anxiety. Thankfully, though, he doesn't stop there. The final sentence of this verse shows the author giving *himself* the instructions to face his situation:

- 1) **Hope in God** – Not just a platitude or cliché about being hopeful, but a specific target and source of hope... God Himself. Not the government, the private sector or the medical professionals. *Hope in God.*
- 2) **Praise Him** – Hope is vital, but it may not seem like a concrete action. Praising God, on the other hand, is a clear, tangible step that each of us can take. Praise the One who saves us, provides for us, and sustains us for eternity!

So, here are my questions for you: Have you seen evidence of the hope of Jesus in your life these past weeks? As the trouble of this world increases, do you also see an increase in your hope?

If not, take to heart these same instructions. First, place your hope in God. Second, take time to praise Him no matter what. And join us on Sundays for:

- Sunday, May 3
Hope... When I Can't Find the Way
- Sunday, May 10
Hope... When I Don't Have Enough
- Sunday, May 17
Hope... When the System Seems Broken
- Sunday, May 24
Hope... When I Feel Disconnected

Hoping in Jesus,

Tommy

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Imagine if you will, a world in isolation. Families confined behind four walls. People in a world that they would have never imagined. Outside a world in chaos, inside a family sheltering in safety with their animals waiting for the crisis to be over. This is not some episode of the twilight zone and this isn't our story either. It's the story of Noah. It's like God hit me between the eyes last night as a reminder of who He is. There are some similarities if you think about it for a minute but the real hero of the story isn't about a family sheltering in safety but of a God and his provision. So many of the problems in our world are a result of sin. The world was cursed as a result of man's sin and the world has never been the same. Noah and his family left the ark to a brand new world and new opportunities. The first thing he did was to worship God. We too will have a great opportunity not only to worship God when all this is over but to also point others to a God who protects and provides.

Randall

SPECIAL SERVICES

As we continue to slowly move forward we will still have our special recognition services. We will still have a *Graduate Recognition Service* and *Baby Dedication*. Please let us know if you want to participate in either of these services. The sooner we hear from you the easier it will be to get things ready and set a date as things progress. Please contact the church office.