

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday\$5,128.55
Budget Gifts to Date\$27,986.19

Birthdays

June 6 Aiden Valdez

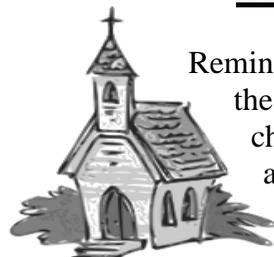
Anniversaries

June 2 Dr. & Mrs. David Bradley
June 5 Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Hearn
June 6 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Riley



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Sunday School Literature



Reminder: You can still get your literature for the coming quarter by stopping by the church office during office hours. Call us and we will have it ready to pick up.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday 11am and Wednesday 7pm

Join us at fbgcg.live

Past Services

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

Online Giving

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

Office Hours during COVID-19

Monday – Thursday 10:00am to 2:00pm

Congratulations

As a church family we would like to congratulate the Tovar family on the marriage of Logan Tovar to Madison (Salter) Tovar. The wedding celebration was held on May 24th at the home of the bride with both families attending. Congratulations and best wishes to Logan and Madison.



35 Nelson Avenue Garden City, GA 31408
912-964-1448 or fbgcg@jhaloo.com

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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THE REAL BATTLE

In the past few weeks, I have heard from several of you about the challenges and struggles that you've been facing. It got me thinking about the reality of spiritual warfare in the lives of believers and, unfortunately, our lack of preparedness.

Spiritual warfare is a fact of life for the Christ follower, as Ephesians 6:12 reminds us:

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places”

- **We are in a spiritual battle that always rages around us.**

Too often, we are led to believe that our adversaries are the family/friends with whom we disagree, other political parties, other religions, or simply people who are “other” than us in some way. It's tempting to think that “those” people are simply misguided or out to get us. The truth of this Ephesians passage is that our real enemies are not those people, but the evil spiritual forces that are working behind the scenes.

Our challenge is to maintain perspective. Remember that we can obey Jesus' commands to love our neighbors and enemies, knowing we are really fighting against the unseen forces of our enemy, the devil. Speaking of the devil, here is our second truth for today:

- **We face a real enemy in the person of Satan.**

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” – 1 Peter 5:8

In this verse, Peter reminds us to be alert. Be aware that the devil is our adversary and that he is roaming around looking to devour us. Just the fact that you are a follower of Jesus puts you squarely in the devil's sights.

It's not bad or unusual to run into Satan and his forces. In fact, one of my mentors likes to say:

If you haven't met the devil head-on in a while, you may be heading in the same direction.

That could be an overwhelming thought if it weren't for the third and final truth I want to share today:

- **In Christ, we are on the winning team in this spiritual battle.**

1 John 3:8 gives us insight into this truth:

“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

Jesus came not only to defeat the devil, but also to destroy his works. And in Christ we have access to His authority and power over the attacks of the devil.

As followers of Christ, we have everything we need to fight the spiritual battles that the Bible warns us we will face. My challenge to you this week is to prepare yourself and be on the lookout for the spiritual attacks that the enemy will throw at you. And in Christ, remember that you are an overcomer!

Preparing for battle with you,
Tommy

UPSIDE DOWN

Several years after WWII a new airplane was being tested, the F-86 Sabre. During the test flights it had several unexplained crashes. Chuck Yeager took the airplane out to test to see if the problem could be located. While flying near a friend's house he decided to do a low fly over. He put it into an inverted roll and part of the flaps locked up and he was in extreme danger. He kept calm, relied on his experience and was able to pull it out quickly. Most people would have headed home. He instead did it again to see if it would have the same results. It did. After pulling out of danger again he headed back with information to determine the problem. After close examination they found a bolt had been installed upside down. This is what caused it to lock up under these circumstances. They traced the instillation back to one mechanic. He knew what the plans called for but in all his years he had never installed the bolt that direction. He figured the plans were wrong and did it the way he felt was right. Little did he know his small action had caused the deaths of several test pilots.

This is a great illustration for us that no matter what our feelings are or no matter what our opinion might be, we need to follow God's Word instead. God knows what He is talking about and has our best interest in mind. Also we need follow His Word in how we treat others. We need to seek their best interest rather than our own. In a day when opinions are a dime a dozen, we treat them like they are the most profound thoughts ever thought and we will argue to the death to protect our opinion. We need to remember to be loving, patient and forgiving. If Christ can be patient and forgiving with us the least we can do is to be patient and forgiving with others.

Randall