

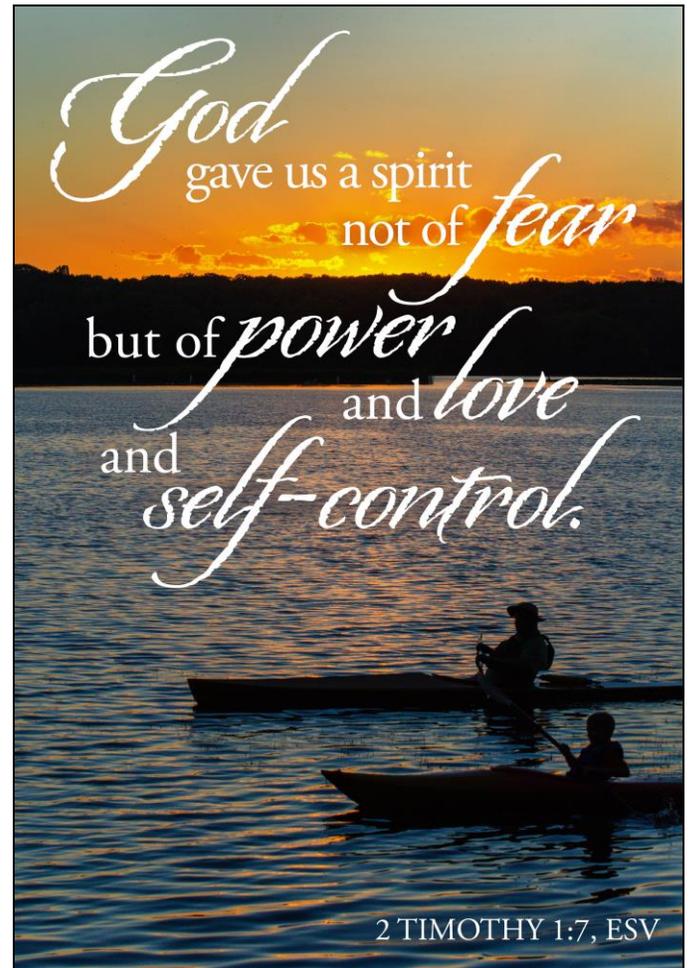
But for the Lord's Goodness (and Mercy)...

By Daniel Mark

The elliptical title of this article is obviously an intentional omission to give readers, God's people, some latitude and a challenge in thinking of all the ways God's goodness has had critical impacts in our lives. It's a subject I have lately come to give some serious thought, motivated by a hugely successful YouTube musical video done by various Christian artists such as Cece Winans and Bethel Church. Cece Winans, the mega Grammy Award winner and a well-known singer, sang about God's goodness with absolute flair and inspiration. Her rendition is probably the most viewed one at fifty-two million views!

What can we say about God's goodness? An enormous amount but also very little. God's goodness manifests itself in His other attributes of holiness, almightiness, love and mercy, among many others. The goodness of our God is such that it eclipses all others who might be described as god. In Matthew's Gospel, chapter 18, a rich young ruler approached Jesus with life's most important question concerning eternal life. Jesus flipped the question with a correction that only God is called good. Interestingly, the word good is applied to many in both the Old and New Testaments. The goodness of our Lord incomparably outshines goodness from all other beings, be they angels or humans.

A quick and snap inventory of our lives will turn up so much goodness and mercy from the Lord that we would bow in adoration and gratitude and be people given more to praise and thanksgiving and not to whining and murmuring. The Psalmist of 107:31 calls on



the entire human race to praise the Lord for His wonderful works and goodness. The things we often take for granted in this severely broken and sin-shaped world have been put into our lives by the creative power of the God of the universe. The marvels of science and technology: engineering, modern medicine, agriculture, among myriads of others, should give us pause every time and prompt an attitude of praise and thanksgiving. It's His goodness in granting these benefits to men that has made life this side of Heaven a little less onerous! Oh, if we would worship the Lord for His goodness in the spirit of His holiness!

By way of a personal testimony made possible only by the goodness of the Lord, after several decades of living in the United States and

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“But For the Lord’s...” continued...

coming out of Liberia, the Lord took charge of my immigration status with such grace that the problem got solved in the shortest of time periods! Naturally a situation of such duration would become more resistant to solution but, most blessedly, when dealing with the Almighty it’s now in the realm of the supernatural. Now I’m an American citizen complete with an American passport and all other possibilities the Lord will open for me. Hallelujah!

But the greatest demonstration of God’s goodness, of course, far transcends any temporal blessings. The salvation of the Lord for believers, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is our best and only hope of living in the new creation of the new heaven and the new earth. As Christ followers we have become inheritors of the unfathomable glories of paradise. And it’s perfectly and absolutely due to God’s goodness and mercy. Why did God save us and is building for us a fantastically glorious new creation? We may never know, and it could take us an eternity to know the reason. But we can and must give God honor and praise and thanksgiving. All God’s children have the best of reasons to worship the Lord and sing His praises literally every day for time and eternity.

Financial Update

(Through April 30, 2023)

“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want...”

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$51,311	\$73,000
Expense	\$68,702	\$73,038

Windsor Chapel has sent \$8,167 to our missionary partners this year. That is 16% of your giving!



Happy Birthday!

Blessings to all who celebrate a birthday this month. May you feel the love, joy and presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your special day with prayers and warmest wishes.

Kate Taylor	June 4
Bob Seiboth	June 5
Dan Fasanella	June 6
Charles MacQueen	June 6
Darrell Bernheisel	June 22



Best wishes to Daniel Mark on his new apartment in Hamilton! Tom Taylor and Pastor Andy recently helped him move into his own place. If anyone has a full bed with mattress, desk, table and chairs, or chest of drawers that they would like to rehome please let Pastor Andy know.

5-Day Club Begins Next Month!



We are eagerly looking forward to hosting our annual Kids 5-Day Club in partnership with CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) this summer for children ages 5 – 12. It will be held July 17 – 21, from 7:00– 8:30 pm, and include dynamic Bible stories, exciting games, music, snacks, inspiring missionary stories, outdoor play and more!

There are many enjoyable ways for adults to serve during this important outreach. Help is especially needed in providing snacks for the children. You may volunteer to provide the snacks for just one night or for multiple nights if you wish. To learn more, please speak with Ed MacQueen on Sunday, or contact him by email at e.macqueen1@comcast.net or by phone at 609-751-6584.

Please begin to pray for the kids who will come and the families who will be impacted by the message of the Gospel. Feel free to share this exciting news with your family, friends and neighbors. All children are welcome!



People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."
Luke 18:15-17



We thank God and pray for our wonderful fathers and grandfathers and for all who have acted in the role of a father. Father's Day seems perfect for celebrating your life and telling you how special you are and how much you will always mean to us. We are truly grateful for your love and care, and for sharing your unwavering, strong faith with us. May God bless you with wisdom, guide you and fill you with His amazing joy. We thank God for you and the blessing you are in our lives.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"
*"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."
Matthew 7:21-24*

Elders' Corner

By Pastor Andy Straubel

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my
fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."*

*For he will deliver you from the snare of the
fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.
He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
His faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
Psalm 91:1-4*

This passage has become the inspiration of the next sermon series planned at Windsor Chapel. It speaks of God's ability to protect and deliver from the evil forces found in the world. The "pinions" mentioned in verse 4 refer to wings of an eagle covering and protecting their young. I love that analogy. It could also speak of the wings of the cherubs that covers above the ark of the covenant. Either way, the pinions metaphor alludes to God's love and care.

As we enter the spring and then the summer of 2023, let us consider God's great love and care for us amid the spiritual battles we face. The "fowler" is real. The snares are real. The pestilence is real; but God's love, care, and faithfulness is also real.

Please continue to pray for the leadership of Windsor Chapel. We need it. Pray for us to have wisdom. Pray for us to have strength. Pray for us to have courage to face the future.

Also pray for our upcoming 5-Day Club, July 17-21, from 7:00-8:30 pm. Pray for the CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) team as they

come and minister. Pray for good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ to go forth in power and clarity.

Pray for Olga Hynes and her team and for all the finer details of the work. And, most of all, pray for God to be glorified!

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.
Galatians 6:7-10*

"To be alive to the wonder of the commonplace, I thought, that is the very gift of a wildly generous Creator, who ever invites his creatures to contemplate the exuberance of his excellent handiwork. There is a deep and abiding joy at work in this world-realm, and we who toil through our lives do often forget this, or overlook it. But look: it is all around! Ceaseless, unrelenting, certain as sunrise, and constant as the rhythm of a heartbeat."

Stephen Lawhead



Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

The Days of Summer....

June.... Summer!

The concept of summer evokes a wide range of thoughts and emotions. For most children and older students, summer means a break from school and homework and more time for fun. But for adults in general and parents in particular, summer often means more challenges: shifts in the workforce, travel plans that go awry, and the need to keep children safe and constructively occupied if/as work schedules make that difficult. And almost everyone of all ages and lifestyles needs to deal with the expectations that summer brings.

To be sure, summer brings wonderful opportunities and great plans. But if we become too attached to those opportunities and plans, it becomes very easy to evaluate the days, weeks, and the season according to how they rate on our scale of expectations. And then if our expectations are not met, it is easy to become disappointed and frustrated. We can miss the joy of unanticipated opportunities to bless and be blessed.

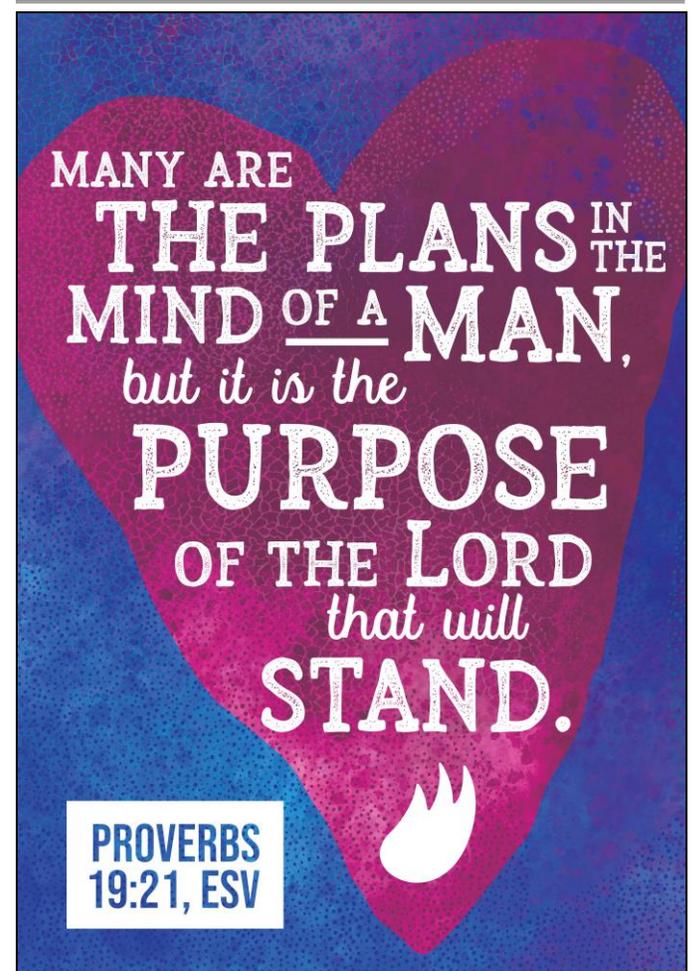
There is no doubt that planning is essential in order to fulfill our responsibilities and use our time well—even for fun! Planning is, however, most fruitful and rewarding if we view our plans not so much as a rubric for success but rather as an outline to be adjusted and filled in as the days, weeks, and months unfold. In the end, it becomes an attitude choice on our part: We can cling to our expectation-driven plans, or we can cultivate an eye of faith that allows us to find deep satisfaction in the Lord's sovereignty

that is more sure than our expectations and plans.

***Do not boast about tomorrow,
For you do not know what a day may bring
forth.*** Proverbs 27:1

***Come now, you who say, "Today or
tomorrow we will go to such and such a
city, and spend a year there and engage in
business and make a profit." Yet you do
not know what your life will be like
tomorrow.*** James 4:13-14a

Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557) or cynthialbills@gmail.com to continue the dialogue....



Close and Accessible

By Janet Berrill

Recently I was at work, and it was close to the time when I was about to head home. I was wrapping up a few things when I started to feel thirsty. Several years ago, being somewhat environmentally conscious, I bought a 24-ounce cup, translucent purple with flowers on it, to serve as my water cup during the day. I glanced over at my cup to see if I had any water in it and was disappointed at what I saw. What was I to do? I was thirsty and wanted water. Should I go fill up my cup? I'd have to get up and walk the 20 feet to the sink in order to do that – nah, too much effort. I could stick it out and just wait until I got home and then get something to drink. But I'm thirsty now. As these thoughts bounced around in my head, I finished what I was working on, and the choice to either get more water or just leave was decided by my inactivity. I packed up my stuff and walked out the door, still thirsty.

The next day I got to work and after settling in, I reached over to get my water cup so I could fill it up for the day. Imagine my surprise when I picked it up and found it was not empty, but rather half full! Clearly, yesterday when I looked at the cup to see if it had water in it, I misjudged the contents. I thought it was empty, but the truth was that it had plenty of water in it to quench my thirst. Yesterday I was thirsty and the solution to my problem was literally within arm's reach, so close I could touch it, and I did not take it.

Fortunately, in our society being thirsty is a minor problem to solve, but we do face many problems that are far more challenging to find a solution for. Money, health, family issues, addiction, etc., are just some of the more difficult problems we face. Where do we turn when we are faced with these kinds of

problems, the kind of problems where the solution does not immediately present itself?

I want to say that the solution is as close as my water cup on my desk, but too often we do not take it even though it is so easily accessible. Without sounding trite, our first response should be to pray about it and present the situation we are facing to God. Hebrews 4:16 says, *“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”* God desires to have a close, intimate, personal relationship with us; He loves us and wants us to come to Him with our burdens. When we do not pray, we seek to solve the problem on our own. We give up the wisdom, strength, guidance, patience, peace etc., that God offers to help us weather the storm we are facing.

We have an enemy who wants to keep us from growing in our faith and knowledge of God. He will lie and tell us to do all kinds of things instead of pray. He knows prayerful lives are powerful lives, and he wants to keep us away from that power (see Ephesians 1:18-20 and 6:12). Let us not give him the victory! Prayer is closer than the cup of water on my desk; it is accessible to us at any time and in any place. Do not let prayer sit unused on your desk when it is the gift God has given us to find what we truly seek.

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