



Pastor David's Weekly Devotional

While going to church does not make you a Christian, it is a vital part of every Christian's spiritual growth. When believers (who are physically able) refuse to be committed to a church they are disobeying God's commands, hindering their own spiritual growth and weakening the health and life of that church. The apostle Paul proclaimed this truth when he told the believers in Corinth, "*Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it*" (1Cor.12:27). Similarly, he taught the believers in Rome: "*so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others*" (Rom 12:5).

All Christians belong to one another. Together every true believer is a part of the church – "the body of Christ." Therefore, no Christian should say "*I do not belong to the body*" (1Cor.12:15) or "*I do not need [the body]*" (1Cor.12:21). Rather, we all are called to serve God in and through the church. When a believer neglects the church, they are spiritually violating the commands of God, and practically serving only themselves.

One of the more wonderful by-products of being faithfully committed to a local church comes as we willfully surrender ourselves to one another – deferring our individual freedoms and rights for the sake of something greater. As we together commit ourselves to glorifying Christ in the church, we eagerly give up what we individually want in order to gain what we mutually need. It forces us to contend with our own self-interest and be committed to the interests of others (cf. Phil.2:4). Christ is honored and portrayed as we genuinely love and serve one another. Look at just a few of the many "one another" exhortations found in Scripture:

- ◆ "Love one another" (Jn.13:34)
- ◆ "Greet one another" (Rom.16:16)
- ◆ "agree with one another" (1Cor.1:10)
- ◆ "be patient...with one another in love" (Eph.4:2)
- ◆ "Be...compassionate to one another" (Eph.4:32)
- ◆ "Submit to one another" (Eph.5:21)
- ◆ "admonish one another" (Col.3:16)
- ◆ "Live in harmony with one another" (Rom.12:16)
- ◆ "encourage one another" (Heb.10:25)
- ◆ "live in harmony with one another" (1Pet.3:8)
- ◆ "Honor one another above yourselves" (Rom.12:10)
- ◆ "love one another deeply, from the heart" (1Pet.1:22)
- ◆ "stop passing judgment on one another" (Rom.14:13)
- ◆ "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love" (Rom.12:10)
- ◆ "spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (Heb.10:24)
- ◆ "clothe yourselves with humility toward one another" (1Pet.5:5)
- ◆ "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" (Eph.5:19)
- ◆ "Accept one another" (Rom.15:7)
- ◆ "instruct one another" (Rom.15:14)
- ◆ "serve one another in love" (Gal.5:13)
- ◆ "Be kind...to one another" (Eph.4:32)
- ◆ "[forgive] each other" (Eph.4:32)
- ◆ "Bear with each other" (Col.3:13)
- ◆ "encourage one another" (1Thes.5:11)
- ◆ "build each other up" (1Thes.5:11)
- ◆ "do not slander one another" (Jms.4:11)
- ◆ "Offer hospitality to one another" (1Pet.4:9)

The bottom-line is this: we are to treat one another as Christ has treated us. God has intentionally and creatively made us all different, and He has commanded us to be one in love, peace, and unity. God seeks to be glorified by bringing unity out of our diversity! In fact, it is only through Him that this unity can occur. We honor God when we come together as a church to celebrate our unity in and for Him.

Together in and for Christ,
Pastor David

Scripture Readings for the Week (Monday – Sunday ~ Week #3):

Genesis 8-11; Joshua 11-15; Psalm 6-8; Job 5-6; Isaiah 12-17; Matthew 5-7; Romans 5-6

Recommended Reading:

"The Church and the Surprising Offense of God's Love" by Jonathan Leeman

Please join us for prayer on Sunday mornings at 8:00am in Pastor David's office

Calendar of
Events:

January 21

Offices Closed -
MLK Jr. Day

February 9

Men's Breakfast

February 10, 12:30pm

New Year's

Celebration Potluck

Looking Ahead...

AWANA Grand Prix

February 20

For prayer requests,
email Amy Woodruff
at prayer@sbcnb.org
or call 541-404-0547

We're on the Web!

See us at:

sbcnb.org

Growth & Study.....

Men's Group Studies

Mondays ~

6:30pm "The Measure of a Man: Twenty Attributes of a Godly Man"
w/Jeff Etzel (541-260-8725)

Wednesdays ~

6:30-7:30am "The Pursuit of God"
w/Pastor David (541-756-3311)

Thursdays ~

6:30-7:30am "The King and His Kingdom-The Parables of Christ"
*Begins February 7
w/Pastor Tim (541-756-3311)

Fridays ~

6:30-7:30am "Joseph-A Man of Integrity and Forgiveness"
w/Pastor David (541-756-3311)

Adult Group Studies

Sundays ~

6:30-7:30pm "The Gospel According to God" *Begins February 10
At the Woodruff's Home (541-756-3311)

Young Adults

Thursdays ~

7:00-9:00pm At Skyline
w/Pastor Tim (541-756-3311)

Women's Group Studies

Mondays ~

6:30pm "Romans"
w/Renee Middleton (541-297-2500)

Tuesdays ~

6:30-7:30am "Taming the Tongue"
*Begins January 22
w/Loy Huntzinger (360-607-0022)

8:30am "Isaiah, the Lord Saves"
w/Beth Wallstrom (541-404-0112)

9:00am "Philippians: Knowing Jesus...Knowing Joy"
w/Lois-Elaine Rencehausen (541-751-3169)

1:00-2:15pm "Hebrews"

w/Barb Young (541-404-6242)

7:00-8:15pm "Hebrews"

w/Barb Young (541-404-6242)

Wednesdays ~

9:00-10:30am "Romans"
w/Amy Woodruff (541-404-0547)

10:00am "Seeking God's Great Riches, the Book of Hebrews"
w/Karla Fries (541-267-0139)

6:30-8:00pm "Romans"

w/Amy Woodruff (541-404-0547)

Church News & Events.....

Men's Breakfast ~ February 9, 8:30am

Men, join us at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast, devotion & fellowship.

New Year Celebration Potluck ~ February 10, 12:30pm

Please join us after 2nd service for a potluck lunch and fellowship in the Fireside Room for our New Year Celebration. We'll be serving soup, salad, dessert & beverages. Sign up in the foyer beginning next week.

Women's Breakfast ~ February 16, 8:30am

Ladies, please join us for a light breakfast, fellowship and devotions.