



# New Life Christian Community

Join Us As We  
Celebrate Only Jesus

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024  
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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

## Pastoral Pondering

### THIS JESUS

Lorraine and I have been spending wonderful time each day trying to ponder *as one*, a passage of scripture. Just in this short time it has been an extreme challenge and a wonderful blessing all at once. Each day we read a chapter and try to distill it into one or two sentences. That is challenging for any one mind. Try agreeing on it with two minds. I liken it to wallpapering which I consider to be the extreme test of marital union. As if the concept isn't challenging enough, we decided to walk through Hebrews. A "simple book"??

So far we have had a great time. We have learned that:

- God now speaks to us directly through His Son
- Who is higher than the angels but can sympathize with us because He suffered when tempted.
- He is worthy of more glory than Moses and so deserving of all our attention/obedience which can only lead to true Rest
- This *rest* is not the rest of defeating toil/enemies like Joshua did, but the rest found in drawing near the throne of grace and receiving mercy and grace in time of need.
- We do this by turning from the elemental things of faith and holding fast to our confession that "This Jesus" is the Everlasting, High Priest and King of Peace from an order that was and is before the Promise of the Law.
- His ministry is the real ministry, of which the ministry of all our ages is only a shadow, and His new covenant is before the Law was.
- This is His new covenant, which was before Abraham. (Hebrews 8:10)

*"I will put my laws into their minds,  
and write them on their hearts,  
and I will be their God,  
and they shall be my people."*

So far that is all we have. But it makes me want to stop and just think about it.

We picked a book at random, and just a couple days and a couple moments and yet, wow! Who is this Jesus? When you condense it like that it is mind blowing. Knowing this, our job is to rest in this. How can you rest in something this huge? Our salvation, our purpose, our very existence hangs on the concept of "This Jesus". Then we are to rest in that! The stakes seem so high. It is hard to rest in something when our ability to fathom it is so deficient and the cost for getting it wrong seems so dire.

But that is the point. Thanks be to God that our existence, purpose, and salvation don't hang on *our* ability to understand and apply anything. They hang on The cross, or more correctly on Him who hung on the cross.

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## Pastoral Pondering

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As I thought about who this Jesus that we worship is, I found an interesting “coincidence”. I thought I might share it.

I looked up the phrase “This Jesus” in the ESV, and where “this” is used as an adjective for Jesus, it gives just 8 distinct verses from two separate books that read in order tell a story so I thought I would share it. Here they are. (They are direct quotes so please forgive the syntactic irregularities.)

*“They said, ‘Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” (John 6:42)*

*“Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)*

*“This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.” (Acts 2:23)*

*“This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.” (Acts 2:32)*

*“Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” (Acts 2:36)*

*“This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.” (Acts 4:11)*

*“...for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” (Acts 6:14)*

*“Explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.” (Acts 17:3)*

Who is this Jesus, but the son of God. To Him alone be the glory.

Rene Milner

## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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### This Week's Scheduled Events:

Mon	Prayer Night/Westbury's– 6:30 pm
Tues	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Wed	Every Man's Battle– 6:00 am
Wed	Immerse– 6:15 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– 10:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– Noon
Thurs	Ladies Precept Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	GriefShare– 6:30 pm (Adults & Youth meet separately)

### January Memory Verse:

Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

### January Fellowship Tip:

Have you committed yourself to invest in the work of gospel ministry here at New Life and want to learn more about what it means to become a partner? Take a moment and talk to one of the elders or pastors and they would be glad to begin that process with you.

### Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

January 14 Meal Team 8 ~ Soup  
January 21 Meal Team 1 ~ Pizza

**Contact Barbara Judkins if interested in being on a meal team or a helper.**

Check out New Life Online  
[newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

- **Monday Evening Prayer:** Monday night prayer gathering at the Westbury's home this month: **6:30pm** at 30840 Belair Dr. Lindstrom, MN 55045. Please consider joining to worship and praise Jesus as we turn to Him in prayer and together to lift one another's needs and burdens up to Him who is able to perfectly and sufficiently provide for our every need.
- **Special Needs Ballet Classes:** Molly Schwendeman is soon opening another ballet program at the building for girls with special needs. This class will start on **Friday, January 19, from 2:30-3:30**. She will have a short Bible study, work on memorizing a portion of the Bible, and then learn classical ballet. If you- or anyone in the community- would like more information, please contact Molly at +1 (715) 410-8158.
- **Annual Partners Meeting:** Make sure to add to your calendars our Annual Partners Meeting **Sunday January 21st after service at 12:00pm**. Join us for a time of sharing and celebrating the work of our Lord Jesus Christ this past year and praying for His continual guidance for the year to come. Even if you are not a partner, you are welcomed to join.
- **Walk for Life:** Options for Women annual Walk for Life is **Sunday, January 21st at 3pm!** The walk starts and ends at St. Josephs in Osceola with snacks and drinks afterwards. This is a great local ministry caring for the unborn and providing many services to struggling mothers. Lets join in the walk with a big NL presence.

welcome

If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months, we are glad you are joining with us! If you would like to learn more about New Life, be sure to stop by the Resource Center in the front foyer to pick up a welcome bag we have for you. Please join us for fellowship and a meal after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

Busy Bags  
Available by the Door

nlcc  
resourcecenter

Are you looking for a good book to give as a gift or thinking of starting a bible study? Check out our resource center and ask the resource ministry team for some good suggestions. In addition to good books for both adults and children, there are also music CD's, DVD documentaries, bible concordance, systematic theology books, and much more. We've also highlighted several book choices in this newsletter, so be sure to take a look today after service.



# Jesus

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According to Samuel

**TODAY'S PASSAGE:**

Pastor Tony's message is from the  
Old Testament book,

**1 SAMUEL 17:31-39**

SERMON NOTES: