



# New Life Christian Community

"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

Sunday, May 19, 2019

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## PASTORAL PONDERING

### Godliness

It has always struck me as a follower of Christ that we as a body tend to throw around Words and not really know what they mean. When I was a child, I thought like a child, but this is also when I learned my primary language. In truth most people will tell you that the easiest time to learn a language is when you are a child. This is likely because children have a lot of God given capacity to learn. But, undoubtedly, they also are not distracted by many other facts that we as adults have to wrestle with. Things like, did I get the word *rite*? Is it in the *write* context? Do different *ages* (years old or people long ago?) *here* the word differently? You can see from just a few short words how crucial context and understanding are, not to mention spelling. So, this is what makes me such a pain to study the Word with. (Especially when I am alone with God) I can't help but ask:

1. What does the word mean?
2. What did it mean when it was first penned?
3. What does it mean today?
4. What does it mean to me now?

If I can answer those "simple" questions, I feel that my study has been fruitful. For me that is. Whenever I study Scripture with a heart to know Him better, it is fruitful from God's eyes, no matter the outcome to me.

One of my favorite words to study was Grace. Can you think of a word we as Christ followers use more? What does it mean? What did it mean to the followers of Jesus? What do we commonly use it for today? Working through this word a number of years ago I came up with a personal definition that I have found helps whenever I use this word. Remember that this is not the literal, God given definition, this is my understanding that helps me apply this word in my day to day living and conversation.

***Grace-The power of God in the heart of man to do the will of God in the hand of man.*** For me this personal reflection on the word helps. (There are likely times when it is off the mark enough that it can hurt, but that is another pondering) So, what does this have to do with Godliness? We talk about this all the time. People say, I want to be more Godly and we all nod. We talk about godliness as something we all agree we should seek after. So, what does it mean? I actually am not going to work through it for you. What I am going to do is ask enough questions to hopefully stimulate some thoughts in you to work through it yourself. (In full disclosure I have not gotten peace over my answers personally enough yet to share them usefully.)

*continued on next page ...*

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### Sunday Meal Services

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## PASTORAL PONDERING

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A quick view of Godly and Godliness in the Biblical uses will show that it is definitely a description of the people of God. There are some who are His "Godly ones". Godliness is also set up as something that is desirable. The word godliness in the NT means good/devout worshipper of God. Strangely it does not show up in the Old Testament. Godly, however does show up in the OT. There it is often used as an adjective describing the people of God.

Current Miriam/Webster's definition. *The quality or state of being spiritually pure or virtuous.*

Contrast this with Webster's 1848 dictionary-*Belief in God and reverence for His character and laws.*

You can see the change. We have moved from a condition of a person owned by God (a Godly one) to a personal condition of being spiritually pure or virtuous.

As I try to work through this on my own, I am left with this question that I would like to leave you with. And, when you answer it, I would love to hear (not here, but hear, anytime and anywhere) your Godly thoughts on the issue.

Is Godliness something we seek to achieve through our actions and behaviors, or could it be some sort of position or condition that we are found to be in. Simply put, can we become Godly or are we found to be Godly? It may seem like a subtle difference in answer, but I would contend that it may be as vast as the difference between Heaven and earth.

Blessings, Rene Milner

## BACKPACK PROGRAM

Thank you for the food



The school year is wrapping up quickly, let's see one more big push to bring in pouches of brownie mix and muffin mix for the food pantry to put in backpacks. The drop off location is the brown bin next to the resource center. Also, please do not drop in expired or close to expired food in that bin. The food shelf cannot hand out expired food. So, when you're cleaning out your pantry and thinking you'll donate it to the food shelf, please check the dates first! Thank you!

### *May Fellowship Tip:*

Take a moment this morning and greet someone you haven't met before.

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

### PICNIC IN THE PARK

**Today, Sunday, May 19th** is our first New Life Picnic in the Park for this summer. After service we will walk over to the Dresser Park on Main Street to grill out and fellowship. Brats and hamburgers will be served. Bring an outdoor game. There is a volleyball court and open grassy area for frisbee, kickball, or whatever else. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors!

### HALL OF MEN

Men! Today, **Sunday, May 19th, at 6:30 pm** return for a very unique men's gathering at the New Life building! We are inaugurating a new gathering called Hall of Men! Men (young and old), join other men to cavort (our cavorting will be more internal) and fellowship around our historical heritage of faith as we celebrate great men of faith from the history of the church. You really won't want to miss this!

### SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

Come and join the Building and Grounds team on **Saturday, May 25th** for our Spring clean-up day, 8AM - Noon. Building & Grounds Team (and anyone else who wants to pitch in). Please bring your own cleaning supplies, especially window cleaner, rags, & push brooms as well as work gloves.

### GRADUATING SENIORS RECOGNITION

On **Sunday, May 26th during service** we would like to recognize and pray for the graduating seniors in our fellowship. We will also be handing something out, so if you are graduating or if you are a parent with a graduating student, please email Pastor Bennett.

### WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHT

Our next worship and prayer night is scheduled for **May 28th at 6:30pm**. Come for a time of lifting our voices in song and together joining in praying for one another and any other burdens on our hearts. Feel free to bring an instrument and play along!

### BABY BOTTLE FUND RAISER

Please consider supporting Options for Women [TRI-COUNTY] in their Baby Bottle Fundraiser this year. Your support will help provide free pregnancy tests, counseling, ultrasound services, clothing, and baby supplies for the mothers who are most in need from our community. Simply take a bottle from the welcome table and during the next few weeks, fill it with loose change and bills. Then on Father's Day weekend (**Sunday, June 16**) bring your bottles back during service. Pray for these funds to effectively serve the needs of struggling mothers in our community so that both the mothers and their born and unborn children may know the love of Christ through this support.

### Upcoming Sunday Potluck/Meal Teams:

May 19 **PICNIC IN THE PARK**  
May 26 Meal Team #4

**Fellowship and a meal follow our service today...please stay and join us!**

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Dale Mattson	715.566.2302
Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.557.0185
Jim Nelson	651.283.2132

### Schedule of Events Week of May 19-25:

Sun	Picnic in Dresser Park Following today's service
Sun	Hall of Men 6:30 pm
Wed	Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study 6:30 am
Thurs	Women's Bible Study 9:30 am
Thurs	ALL GriefShare Folks 6:30 pm Adults and Youth meet separately
Sat	Spring Clean-up 8:00 am-Noon

### May Memory Verse:

**Colossians 3:16**

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." ESV*

HEBREWS

JESUS  
*According to Scripture*

Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the New Testament book,  
**Hebrews 6:3-8**

Sermon Notes:

Address: 201 State Road 35 N, Dresser, WI - Email: [info@newlifechristiancommunity.org](mailto:info@newlifechristiancommunity.org)  
Sunday service starts at 9:30 am / Check out New Life online at [newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)  
Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at [pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com)