



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, November 8, 2020

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PASTORAL PONDERING

RULER OF KINGS

Had enough of the 2020 election, yet? It goes without saying that it has been quite a week in America as the election theatre hit its zenith. All year this drama has been amplified by the pandemic causing governments to lockdown populations and economies to suffer. Throw in the chaos from months of protests and destructive riots in the mix and we end up with what must be the craziest election cycle in our nation's history.

As I write this, key states are still counting. Lawsuits have been filed over claims of fraudulent ballots. By the time you read this, perhaps the outcome will be clear. Perhaps not. With all the drama leading up to the election, why should we expect the vote tallying process to suddenly be simple?

Even with all that, we are blessed to live in a country that gives its citizens a voice. It is, no doubt, an important honor, duty, and privilege for us as believers in Jesus to use that voice to support policies that honor Him. It is right for us to vote for goodness and truth, for freedom to worship and proclaim the Gospel, to defend life for the defenseless, and against immoral policies that produce evil and suffering.

Indeed, our lives are affected by the outcomes of the ballot box. It is cliché to say that elections have consequences, but it holds true, nonetheless. But whatever the results, it seems prudent to remind ourselves of a few enduring truths.

We are but sojourners here.

This fallen world is not our home. While our involvement in the political process remains important, we realize that our hope is ultimately not of this world. Psalm 146:3 exhorts us to *"Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation."* Even the best governments run by men and women will always disappoint. Our hope should be found in the only One that can eternally change a human soul, the One that is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hope in Christ.

God Almighty is our sovereign King.

"Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! ² For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. ⁸ God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne" (Psalm 47:1-2,8).

"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him" (Colossians 1:16).

God is seated on His Throne in glory. He rules over earthly princes, presidents, and

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prime ministers. Everything is within His sight. There are none outside His authority. There are none outside His sovereign hand. Whatever might be happening in the world, we can rest knowing that we serve a mighty and awesome King.

We must pray.

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior” (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

We are to be a people on our knees praying for those in authority over us. How different our country, our world might be if the saints were more earnest in prayer.

He will return.

“and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen” (Revelation 1:5-7).

In His perfect time, Jesus will return to Earth and set everything aright in righteousness. Our King will reign in the very presence of those that know Him.

Brian Gates

Ladies November Coffee Night

Hi ladies, I pray this finds you well! We are planning another night for a cup of coffee and chitter chatter. We will be meeting at New Life for our evening of coffee and conversation this month. We will have coffee and tea and possibly a treat to keep us company as we chat.

We're set as usual for the 2nd Friday which is **next Friday, November 13th from 7pm-9pm** Invite a friend, your sister or your mama and come fellowship with other women in our community! Mackenzie Zacholski

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This Week's Scheduled Events:

Tues Men's Bible Study-6:30 am
Wed Every Man's Battle-6:00 am
Wed Immerse Studies-6:15 pm
Thurs Men's Bible Study-6:30 am
Thurs Ladies Bible Study-12:00 pm
Thurs Ladies Study-Mattfhw-10 am
Thurs Ladies Study- 6:30 pm

November Memory Verse:

Ephesians 5:18-20

"...but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..." ESV

November 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 after service and they would be glad to begin that conversation with you.

Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

November 15 Meal Team #3

For the immediate future, meals will be served on the 1st and 3rd of each month. As the teams grow and volunteer base increases, we can move to sharing a meal every Sunday. Contact Barbara Judkins if interested.

➤ **Wednesday Night Immerse Classes** are in full swing. Take advantage of this opportunity to participate in these classes. **Classes meet from 6:15-7:30 pm.** For the week of Thanksgiving: Reminder that there will be no Immerse Classes on Wednesday the 25th, and all events on Thanksgiving (Thursday the 26th) will not be meeting.

➤ **Young Adult Bible Study:** Young adults of New Life, we will be starting an evening Bible study and fellowship time the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 6:30pm until 8pm. Each night we will be diving into God's Word, spending time in prayer, singing, and intentionally building relationships with one another through the conversations. If you're asking the question of whether or not you're considered a young adult or whether your son or daughter is, then you should probably just plan to come :) Our first gathering will be in the Minell home (2212 73rd Ave. Osceola). You won't want to miss it! Feel free to bring a snack to pass!

➤ **Partnership:** Are you interested in becoming a partner of New Life Christian Community? Some call it membership, but we call it partnership. You are not a member of a club here at NLCC. We bear the load together to glorify Jesus Christ. That is not to say you have to become a partner in order to do that. In God's family you become a partner when you come to know Jesus Christ as your Savior. However, if you want to invest in this local body; you want to be held accountable in this body; you want people to be able to council you; you want to be able to participate in a much deeper way here because we are committed to do God's work here together, then consider this next step. Being a partner also means you are an active participant in our annual partner meetings where congregants are voted on to fill certain offices/roles in the body, where the current year's budget is discussed and next year's budget is voted on, and also where the pastors and elders reflect on the past year and share visions leading into the next year. To become a partner, begin by initiating a conversation with any of the pastors or elders. Be sure to spend some time getting to know the leadership here and our statements of faith in our constitution. We also want to hear your testimony; how you have come to know and follow Jesus saying with full confidence He is Lord and Savior. When we can whole heartedly agree together with the statements of faith and understand commitments of partnership, then we will sign a covenant together.

Hosea

The Call to Return to the Savior

Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony's message is from the
Old Testament book,
HOSEA CHAPTER 12

Sermon Notes: