

Not Getting What You Want

Elders:

John Deffenbaugh
Wayne Douthitt
Glen Honeycutt
Rick Hyder
Bill Reiboldt

Deacons:

Pete Babb
Carl Cobb
Alan Cook
Barry Flint
Casey Flint
Josh King
Mike Kidwell
Tim Murray
Bryan Reiboldt
Jim Scott
Peter Wald

Local Evangelists:

Danny Boggs
Luke Yates

Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday
6 p.m. Sunday

Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday
7 p.m. Wednesday

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During the first century the apostle Paul was given a thorn in his flesh. II Corinthians 12:7 reads, “So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.” I am not going to claim to know what this specific thorn was, because the Scriptures do not tell us. Regardless, we know that whatever this malady was, it was something that Paul did not want to possess. The passage continues, “Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me” (v. 8). Paul longed for this hardship to be removed, yet God did not grant his request. II Corinthians 12:9-10 says, “But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

As we see in the life of Paul, as well in our own lives, we sometimes don’t get what we want. We don’t receive what we desperately long for and it makes us sad. At times, we even become unbearably sorrowful. We have a picture of how our future is going to go, but some factor messes up that picture. Some action becomes a dark smudge mark on our canvas of life, erasing what we thought we would obtain. It’s hard for us to repair that spot with new paint and new focus, because we cannot get away from what is under the smudges. We hold onto false hope. We beat ourselves up for essentially losing what we previously accepted as ours and it hurts deeply.

What does one do in this situation? That’s a question that isn’t easy to answer. Whenever I don’t get what I want or don’t obtain what I had hoped for, I try to think on some similar situation in the past. I think about times where I wanted to be with a certain person, move to a specific place, or do some amazing thing. But it didn’t happen. I think about how it initially stung; how I initially felt great sorrow. I think about how I thought I would never get through the pain. But then I think about the fact that I don’t think on those situations anymore. I think about how I am not saddened due to neglecting to get what I wanted, because I have moved on. The pain is no longer present and I say to myself, “If I could get through that difficult time, then I’m sure I will get through this current difficult time.” I try to examine how those previous moments made me a stronger person and then hope that I can become stronger on the other side of my current moment of heartache.

Paul realized that even though he would have to live with that thorn – an item he did not want – he could become stronger. He realized that in times of weakness, he could rely on God’s power (II Corinthians 12:9). He realized that he could get through or endure any struggle with God’s help (II Corinthians 12:10). And Paul had a great laundry list of hardships that can help us be motivated through our own (II Corinthians 11:22-29). As someone beautifully once said, “The darkest hour has only sixty minutes.” You might have to suffer and endure for a time, but if you are in Christ, that suffering will be worth it (Romans 8:18; II Corinthians 4:17). Hang in there, brothers and sisters!

Luke Yates



Pam Babb, Betty Ball, Jack Brodie, Fred Bukowich, Joyce Clarkson, Angela Collett, Charles Collinsworth Sr., Pete Conrow, Ed Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Louise Faules, Mary Jane Flint, Joe and Teresa Freund, Phyllis Goins, Faye Haught, Linda Haught, May Hill, Wilma Hill, Doris Jones, Guy Lewis, Chester Lyons, Max Naramore, Price Naramore, Ron Naramore, Pat Risley, Mark Strohl, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Bobbie Tuggle, Margaret Wald, Ruth Ann Wilson, Treva Wolgamott, Velda Wood, Neosho Christian School and Honduras mission work.

Barry Koch, the father of M'lle Cook, passed away on Thursday, October 5. Our hearts go out to M'lle and her family.

Thank you: Beloved Hillcrest family, Thank you so much for all the visits, cards, flowers, food and heart-felt prayers, during Don's illness and passing. The flowers are beautiful. Thank you so much.

Love,
Shirley Goeman



every ONE counts!

Thanks to everyone for giving an extra dollar on Sundays to help someone in need.

This week, we are helping a local couple who has lots of expensive medical bills lately.

Free Wednesday night dinner for college students and young adults at 6 p.m. in the new fellowship building! Come enjoy good food and company. Bring friends!



This Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. *We Pray*
(Danny Boggs)
P.M. *Hosea In The New Testament: Victory Over Death* (Luke Yates)

Parking lot repaving has begun! Please be cautious when pulling up into the parking lot.

The **Thursday morning ladies' Bible class** will not meet this week.

Ladies' Halloween Party! Join us at the home of Pam Tyler for her world famous Halloween Party for ladies only. It is TONIGHT at 6:30. Fellowship, food, fun, and Pictionary!

Congregational Singing Seminar with Brad Carter November 3-5. How can we offer God and each other our best when we worship in song? This is for all of us, whether you're a virtuoso or couldn't carry a tune in a bucket. Your kids will enjoy it, too. Brad is a faithful Christian and a lot of fun. He teaches music to kids every day in the school at Dadeville, Missouri.

Devo and Donuts! Children in 5th-12th grades are invited to devo and donuts every Tuesday at 7 am in the new fellowship building.

Medicalodge Devo: Join us this Sunday at 1:30 for a brief devotional, singing and time to encourage the residents at the Medicalodge assisted living center.

Our next fifth Sunday effort at giving extra to pay for our new building will be October 29. Thanks for what you've already done! Please make prayerful plans.



The Lads to Leaders group will meet in the new fellowship room this Sunday at 4:30. We will continue to work on Bible Bowl (1 Cor. 1-6) and speech for the younger ones not participating in Bible Bowl.

We have an opportunity to **help foster families** in the area. If you can help provide new or good-used clothing for children, please leave them at the Welcome Desk. They will be added to our clothing room for foster parents who may need them on short notice. Pajamas, underwear, and shoes would be really welcome. All sizes are needed.

PRAYER LEADERS

Sunday, October 15

- AM Opening: Mike Kidwell
- AM Closing: Bill Reiboldt
- PM Opening: Jim Friend
- PM Closing: Glen Honeycutt

Wednesday, October 18

- Opening: Tim Wald
- Closing: Danny Boggs

| RECORDS | 10-08-17 | 10-09-16 |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Bible Study | 127 | 139 |
| AM Worship | 191 | 204 |
| PM Worship | NA | 93 |
| Wednesday | 117 | 134 |
| Contribution | \$6,913.95 | \$7,191.19 |
| Budget | \$7,630.58 | \$7,075.67 |