



The Stidham Story

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November 2016

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MIKE

We are beginning to enter into the holiday season. I have spiritual disciples I employ specifically for Thanksgiving season. I take time to reflect upon who has influenced my life and make a point to thank them for how they have impacted me. I am amazed at all the people Christ brings into my life to assist me grow in my relationship with Him. I also use the time to think upon God's goodness and graciousness to me over the past year.

One portion that of scripture that I sometimes reflect upon is Psalm 117. This passage brings enriching hope and grace to our lives. It is appropriate all year long, but especially as we begin to head into the holiday season.

If you want to find this chapter all you have to do is open to the middle of the Bible. Because of its location it is very easy to find. You do not have to search through all the Bible to find it. This significance is that it helps us locate easily other Bible passages.

Another significant part of Psalm 117 is its length. It is the shortest chapter in the Bible. It is made up of two verses. The significance is not just a Bible trivia questions. Its shortness makes it easier to memorize. Like other portions of scripture we memorize, God will bring it to our minds when we need it.

The third significance is the actual content of the chapter. The truth found in these 2 verses becomes life-changing truth. When we put this into practice, our lives take a completely different meaning and purpose.

"Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord."

There are powerful words in this Psalm that will deepen and refresh our relationship with Christ.

- **Praise**—Praise God for being God
- **Extol/Worship**—Spending time daily with Christ.
- **Love**—Consider all the ways God's love comes to us
- **God's Faithfulness**—God has proven to be strong and powerful, even in difficult seasons of life.
- **Enduring**—God pursues us even when we fail and sin
- **Praise**—Thank God for all these things.

These words become especially significant when we meditate daily upon them. Allow God to minister to your soul through meditating on one word a day for the week. Take the suggestions as a starting point. It will surprise you how this short, simple exercise will grow your faith.

In Love of Jesus.

BLESSINGS!

Pastor Mike

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER 2016

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



1– Keith Butler

18– Larry Hand

2– Karen Wethington

23– Tiffany Miller

7– Paula Dillard

24– Barbara Lawson

2– Ron & Brenda Hardesty

12– Connie Worth

30– Grayson Slaven

A Little Child's Sunday School Class

The Sunday school teacher ask the class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. When they had finished she was puzzled by little Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent.

"The flight to Egypt," said Kyle.

"I see... And that must be Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus, the teacher said. "but who is the fourth person?"

"Oh, that's Pontius– the Pilot.



PLEASE HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER TO THE OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 23. THANK YOU

Thanksgiving

Psalm 100 is a psalm for giving thanks and it goes like this:

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures
forever, his faithfulness continues through



This psalm is five verses long and the psalmist didn't waste one word. Let's take a look at what he said. He admonishes me to worship with a happy heart. I know that God is in control, I am his and he cares, so much for me. I praise him for the gifts he has given me and I thank him each day. I ask myself, "What are these gifts God has given me?" Number one is a happy heart, looking forward to each day whatever it brings me. I am grateful for a comfortable home. I treasure the friends and family he has given me. I feel blessed with a church home I am a part of for sixty years. I enjoy sharing my life with those I come in contact with daily. I share my love of doing for others by preparing dinner on Tuesday night. I baked lots of cookies for the prison ministry, I feel I share a little love and caring for those that don't hear many 'I love you's'.

Many years I was a part of the education department. I taught children classes and then graduated to adult Sunday school here at Stidham. It brought me joy. The joy of sharing my love of God with others is a beautiful thing.

I enjoy coming to our sanctuary at any time of the week. It creates a closeness to God and becomes a special place to me. I am entering his house with thanksgiving and coming into his space with praise for his unfathomable love and protection. I have so much to be thankful for as we enter into what is termed, by many, the holiday season. I am asking each of you to do something for me. Will you grab a small notebook, mark each page with a day, November 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc. between now and Thanksgiving day. Write this phrase at the top of the page, 'Today I am thankful for _____' and list at least three opportunities

“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever,
his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

for being thankful to God that day.

May you have blessed autumn and a bountiful Thanksgiving!

Love and prayers,



THINGS GOING ON IN THE CHURCH FOR NOVEMBER

Communion Sunday November 6– All Saints Sunday

Helping Hand Sunday November 6 (Please mark the pew envelope “Helping Hand”)

Charge Conference Sunday Nov. 6, 3:00pm Christ UMC 3610 S. 18th St. Lafayette

Stewardship Sundays will be November 6, 13 & 20.

Bible Study– Monday Mornings - November 7,14,21, 28 6:30pm

Bible Study-Tuesday Mornings– November 1, 8,15,22, 29 10:00am

R.O.C.K. Wednesday Night Ministry Program - November 2, 16, 6:00pm

Choir Practice Wednesday Nights- November 3,10,17, 7:00pm

Lighthouse Prayer Group– Thursday Mornings November 3,10,17, 10:00am

Trustee Meeting– Tuesday Night November 15, 7:00pm

Commitment Sunday– November 20 -Turn in Estimate of Giving Cards

Thanksgiving Dinner will be Sunday November 20 after Worship Service. (More info will be announced soon.)

Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas - will be Sunday November 20 after the Thanksgiving Meal. If questions please see Karen Wethington.

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR GROCERY CART EACH MONTH

JANUARY– CASH DONATIONS

FEBRUARY–CANNED MEAT OR TUNA

MARCH–SPAGHETTI SAUCE OR NOODLES
(NO GLASS JARS)

APRIL–PAPER PRODUCTS

MAY– CASH DONATIONS

JUNE–CANNED FRUIT

JULY– MACARONI AND CHEESE

AUGUST–PAPER PRODUCTS

SEPTEMBER–CASH DONATIONS

OCTOBER– PEANUT BUTTER

NOVEMBER–SOUP & CRACKERS

DECEMBER–OATMEAL OR CEREAL

FOOD PANTRY

On six days during 2016, members of Stidham UMC worked at the new Food Pantry at 14th Street and Tippecanoe Street in Lafayette. Each day, for two and a half hours, food was given to the needy in our community. The work was hard, but the need was great. THANK YOU to the following helpers who took time to make this a better and more caring community.

Ron and Kathy Denhart, Sue Davis, Larry and Jane Hand, Shirley Powell, Judy Wagner, Jim and Susan Walters, Dave and Susie Webb, Jim and Carol Withers and John Worth.

IT IS TIME AGAIN TO ORDER THOSE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIA'S

**A sign-up sheet will be put in Fellowship Hall next Sunday November 6.
The cost of each flower is \$9.50.**

**If writing a check, please make payable to Stidham UMC and put it in a
pew envelope with your name, date, check number and write "Poinsettia
and put in the offering plate.**

**Please complete all info on the sign-up sheet.
The last day to order will be Sunday November 27.
Thank you**



PRAYER LIST

Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask that you be with all that are on our prayer list, those who are going through health, issues, personal struggles, and other worries they may have. Let us show our faith and our love to one another each and every day. ~~ Amen

Victoria Wacek & Family, Marjorie McGlothlin, Bud Dillon, Deloris Findlay, Emma Lou Williams, Eric Columber, Sue & Mike Biery, Jean Biera, Don & Jan Plantenga, Jackie Dexter, Tom Sosbe. Pat Baugh, Mary Bulter, Bill Sullivan, Don Kelly, John Bryant Family, Rich Keller, Millie Vonstein, Al Cummins, Dick Watts, Matthew Smelcer, Lucy Keller, Patricia Tooley, George & Doris Carlton, Karen Fridlin, Frank Airhood, our military and our world leaders and those who are prayed for silently.



THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Today I will bring my worries to God in prayer.

God is patiently drawing me closer.

Christ like words and actions help children live faithfully.

God is a lamp unto our feet, a light for our path. (Psalm 119:105)

CARY HOME UPDATE

A note from Jane Hand:

Cary Home no longer needs toilet paper tubes or plastic lids.

They now have enough plastic for a bench.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this project.

An updated list is posted in Fellowship Hall.

SEE BLUE SHEET IN NEWSLETTER FOR FIGURES FROM
BAKED STEAK DINNER 2016