

for those who are a part of the kingdom of God.

Sometimes, for me, obedience is easier if I focus on why I am obeying. To forgive one who has horribly injured us, not based on their being entitled to forgiveness, but because of our debt toward God has helped me obey at times.

Ephesians 4:31-32 has been helpful to me. "Get rid of your bitterness, hot tempers, anger, loud quarreling, cursing, and hatred. Be kind to each other, sympathetic, forgiving each other as God has forgiven you through Christ."

In the verse the goal of transformation appears to be clear. We are moving from a self-focused and self-absorbed life to a life of surrender, doing the hard thing for the better thing. I want to be like Jesus, it is what God called me to. I want to live a life that moves beyond the basics. I am called to something beyond seeing that I eat, sleep and am clothed.

Jesus demonstrated to us an elevated way of living. One of the most telling lines in Scripture is his statement, "Nevertheless, your will, not mine be done." Surrender, to an event that his entire being sought to escape.

So in the worst of times, the most desperate of times, surrender and move forward. Be all God calls you to be.

*Grace and peace,
Carl*

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other

*St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
P. O. Box 241
St John, KS 67576*



Flying to the Rock

St John Church of Christ

September 17, 2017

A friend recently spoke with me about their efforts to be a disciple. "I agree that Christianity is the best way to live life. Thinking of the needs of others, being kind and compassionate, and many other sacrificial choices. What I struggle with is forgiving others. I have a hard time moving past the bitterness that crops up in me over injuries that are very painful."

I appreciate and admire the candor. Christianity is not a life that can be lived piecemeal, obeying where you agree and disobeying where you struggle. The problem with a partial obedience is that it exposes our refusal to submit to the will of God. God's sovereignty, being ruler of all of our life, is a basic principle

SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Carl's)
ELDERS: Richard Brensing, Teddy Gingrich, Terry Sallee,
George Shelton, Tom Turner
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril
TREASURER: Richard Brensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 1:6-9 (Jayce Feril)
SONGS: No. 514—Redeemed
No. 517—Heaven Came Down
No. 123—The Steadfast Love of the Lord
No. 147—I Stand Amazed
No. 779—I Love You, Lord
PRAYER: Gary Hornbaker
SONG: No. 324—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?
(vs 1, 2, 4)
COMMUNION: Richard Brensing
Orrin Feril
Fred Johnson
Ned Marks
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 613—Hold to God's Unchanging Hand
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)
PRAYER: Stan Aldrich

AV System: Orrin Feril

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship and hope that you will come again!

Happy Belated Birthday!

Matt Gunter—Sep 14

Happy Birthday!

Stan Aldrich—Sep 17

Marla Lyons—Sept 18

EVENTS FOR THE LADIES

The fall Ladies Retreat at Silver Maple Camp will be September 22-23, 2017. There is still time to register!

The Garden City Church of Christ is hosting a Christian Women's Conference on Saturday, October 7, 2017. This is a free event, but you are asked to register by Oct 2nd. See flyer posted.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS

Beginning Wednesday, October 4th, there will be a new young couple's/parent's class at Carl & Janet's home at 7:00 pm. Childcare will be provided here at the church building. Parents can drop their kids off at church at 7:00 pm and the class at the Feril's will end at 7:45 pm, in time to pick up kids and get them home before it gets too late.

COOKOUT!

You and your family are invited to a cookout at Chet & Marla's on Saturday, September 30th, at noon. Bring a side dish and a lawn chair. We look forward to seeing you! (In case of rain, there will be tables & chairs set up inside the shop.)

65th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

You are invited to help John & Sandy Brock celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Friday, October 6th, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the following address: 2704 Derenda Drive, Hutchinson, KS. John was one of the elders at the Stafford Church of Christ for many years, before retiring and moving to Hutchinson.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Landon Neidig (Teddy & Carol's great-grandson) - recent heart surgery
Jonathan Stiggins (nephew of Gayle Byers' friend, Karla) he is 29 yrs old, has cystic fibrosis
Dena Mansel
Baylee Sizemore's cousin, Ty
Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) brain cancer
Larry Carter (Gary's friend in Missouri)
Micaela Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) cancer
Rod & Cris Seidel in Pratt (friends of Richard/Shelly) - cancer
Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee)
Annie Kent (Lupe Hudson's niece) - cancer
Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rukan's sister) - cancer
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – Stafford Leisure Home
June Cornwell—Kenwood Plaza
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - Stafford Leisure Homestead

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Jonathan Batten, who passed away on September 12th; his funeral was on Friday in Garden City.

We also are saddened to learn of the recent death of Millie Whitlow, of Clearwater, KS.

AREA WIDE WORSHIP

We are invited to an area wide worship on Sunday, October 22, from 5:00—6:30 pm at the Valley Center High School Auditorium. Childcare will be provided. Guest speaker will be Mitch Wilburn, Worship leader will be James Simmons, both from the Park Plaza Church of Christ. Non-perishable food donations will also be collected that evening for Carpenter Place.