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begin with you.

This is true of any habit that we determine to make a priority. Change is always met with resistance.

If, for example, you want to deepen your relationship with God, first you must create the time. Creating the time is only good if you use the time you create to pray, meditate, and read Scripture. Hearing God is accomplished, not by listening to Scripture, but by listening to the God revealed in that Scripture.

I don't just need to read about Noah and the Flood, I need to think about the extremes that God has gone to in an effort to offer grace to a world headed into darkness. God's saving Noah's family is directly related to God saving me.

The same is true with every Bible event. We need to see how God held David to a standard of righteousness, and how His love provided forgiveness on every hand. We aren't just thinking of David, it has implications for my forgiveness.

God's provision for Ruth, the Moabite, reminds us that we are never alone, always able to trust the provision of God, even when it is accomplished in ways we would never imagine.

The plaintiff prayers of Hannah remind me that my prayers never fall on deaf ears, but that I may not understand what God is doing at the time.

It is a new year in just a few days... I wonder what God has in store for us?

*Grace and Peace,  
Carl*

*Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.*

St John Church of Christ  
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St John, KS 67576  
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## The Day Is At Hand

St John Church of Christ

Dec 30, 2018

A new year budding with potential stands right before us, a great year or a tragic year is often the result of our choices. Obviously, health and unforeseen circumstances can alter that picture, but more often than not, it is dependent on what we choose.

Relationally, we are in the same position. A commitment to increase the depth of one's relationships will take place only if the time, energy and resources are committed to such an endeavor. These are not things that happen, rather they are thought out and planned.

To enjoy a deeper relationship with one's children, grandchildren, old friends or new friends happens because we set aside the time for it. But to bridge a gulf that might exist between one generation and the next is best accomplished by the initiator adapting to the interests of the one being pursued. Trying to get a young and active child to bond with you is probably most easily done if you demonstrate an interest in their 4H project rather than trying to interest them in your quilting club.

It will take time, focused time on the thing that they are involved in. It doesn't come on the first effort, but is done by attending many 4H meetings. Such frequent attendance means that you may have to give up some of the things that have historically taken your time. Change has to

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**SUNDAY:** Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am  
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am  
Worship Service—10:45 am  
**WEDNESDAY:** Varies by Time of Year (*refer to Bulletin News*)  
**ELDERS:** Richard Breising, Teddy Gingrich, Terry Sallee,  
George Shelton, Tom Turner  
**DEACONS:** Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril  
**TREASURER:** Richard Breising

### WORSHIP ORDER FOR DECEMBER 30, 2018

SONG LEADER: Richard Breising  
GATHERING SONG: No. 2—We Praise Thee, O God  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: James 4:7-10 (Jayce Feril)  
SONGS: No. 745—Humble Yourself  
No. 523—I Know the Lord Will Find a Way for Me  
No. 549—There is Sunshine in My Soul  
No. 797—Lord, We Come Before Thee Now  
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich  
SONG: No. 359—I Love the Lord  
COMMUNION: Fred Johnson  
Gary Hornbaker  
Joe Cornwell  
Clint Kinnamon  
SONG: No. 716—Sing to Me of Heaven  
LESSON: Orrin Feril, Chris Mansel, Tom Turner  
(*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Ned Marks

(CCLI #2440129)

### WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship; please come again!

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS—Break

The parenting class being offered at Carl's home each week is taking a break and will resume on Wednesday, January 9th.

### MEAL FOR CIRCLES MEETING

Our church is scheduled to make and serve the meal for the Circles meeting on Monday, January 7th. Please contact Pam if you might be able to help with food preparation or serving.

### BABY SHOWER

Please mark your calendar for a baby shower for **Jesse & Justeen Mayer** on Sunday, January 27th at 1:30 pm here at the church building. They are expecting a baby boy March 27th and have already picked his name: Jerimiah Allan They are registered at Walmart and also on Amazon.



Church website: [www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org](http://www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org)

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Kay Kinnamon**—had shoulder replacement surgery on Thursday, Dec 27th; now recuperating at home  
**Greg Lewis**—diagnosed with a brain tumor; Stage 4 cancer  
**Jill Morphew** (Janet's sister-in-law in Lubbock, TX)—after a consultation with a surgeon last Friday, she has decided to be admitted to hospice care due to the progression of her ovarian cancer  
**Caylee Welch**—prayers are requested for her to be successful going through drug rehabilitation  
**Jesse & Justeen Mayer**—high risk pregnancy; prayers are requested for their baby  
**Dena Mansel**—health concerns  
**Barbara Schuette** (Marla's sister) - improving  
**Marilyn Huffman** (Dylan's sister) - improving  
**Rick Toland** (Marla's cousin in Topeka) - cancer  
**Vince, Teddy's brother-in-law**—heart problems  
**Gayle Sears** (Marla's friend) breast cancer; chemo  
**Kim Staub**—Parkinson's  
**Diane Campbell**—MS  
**Katherine Suiter**—cancer  
**Crystal Easley** (Terry/Linda Welch's daughter) - cancer  
**David Ivy** (Marilyn's brother) - Emphysema  
**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])  
**June Cornwell**—Kenwood Plaza  
**Glennys Sallabedra** (Tom's mother) - in Leisure Homestead in Stafford