

UPCOMING

Prayer List

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments.

- Renee Cumberland (cancer)
- Ora Barrett
- Cindy Harper's granddaughter Olivia Harper

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Communion Preparation

2025 preparation list is in foyer

Birthday / Anniversary

Tristan Rowell - 6th
Chuck Rowell - 11th
John Reeves - 16th
Calista Murphy - 30th
Gene & Holly Hurst - 25th
Ryan & Kylie Joiner - 26th

07 / 13 / 2025

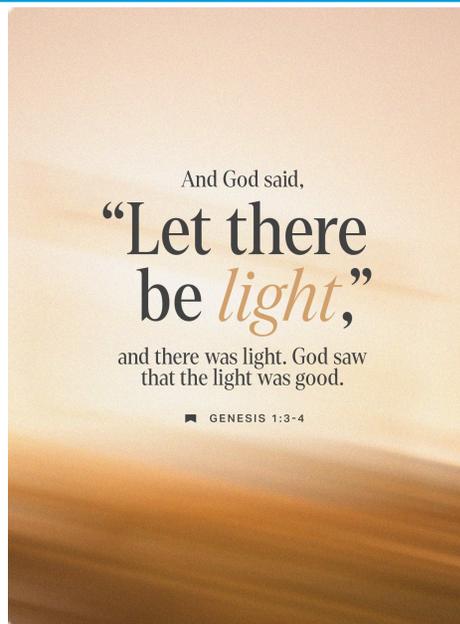
WELCOME

We are a body of believers whose soul intention is to glorify and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the head of His church. Our desire is to reflect that of our God--that all be saved. Anyone who is willing to humble himself before the mighty hand of God can be saved.

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

Men to Serve

Announcements - Tristan Rowell
Scripture Reading - 1 Peter 3:10 - 12
Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery
Assist on Lord's Table - David Cradic
Scripture Reading - Luke 23:32 - 43
Closing Prayer - James Johnson



SUNDAY

Bible Class //
9:30 am
Worship Service //
10:30 am

WEDNESDAY

2 Timothy Bible Class //
7:00 pm

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
4217 Highway 39 N // Meridian, MS 39301
PHONE: (601)483-2726 **WEB:** www.nscocmeridian.com
Join us via live stream for our worship service!
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SERMON NOTES

Life is Too Short to Waste

By Jeff Himmel

Suffering Job observed, "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble" (Job 14:1). Sadly, many of us waste those few days because we're too busy focusing on — and sometimes creating — the trouble! Life is too short to waste.

Life is too short to waste on petty grudges. "A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression" (Proverbs 19:11). "Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, for anger resides in the bosom of fools" (Ecclesiastes 7:9). Love "is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Corinthians 13:5).

Life is too short to waste on jealousy and envy. Envy is self-destructive. It is "rotteness to the bones" (Proverbs 14:30). "Love...does not envy" (1 Corinthians 13:4). Envy defiles us (Mark 7:20-23). "For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing" (James 3:16). "For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?" (1 Corinthians 3:3).

Life is too short to waste on selfishness. Love "does not seek its own" (1 Corinthians 13:5). "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3-4).

Life is too short to waste on living in the past. "Do not say, 'Why is it that the former days were better than these?' For it is not from wisdom that you ask about this" (Ecclesiastes 7:10).

Life is too short to waste on worry. "For this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing...And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life's span?" (Luke 11:22-25).

Life is too short to waste on sin. "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:10-11).

Cracked Pots

By Jeremy Paschall

A water bearer in India who had two large pots. They hung on each end of a pole that he carried across his neck, but one of the pots had a crack in it. While the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots of water to his master's house.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable

that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "Of what are you ashamed?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

In his compassion, the water bearer said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Everyone thinks of his or her flaws and questions his or her abilities from time to time. "Am I really accomplishing any good at my job?" or "Am I really making a positive contribution to this civic organization?" Sometimes that same mentality runs over into our spiritual lives. "Am I really able to do anything positive for the Lord?"

When we begin questioning our usefulness to the Lord (and who among us doesn't), we should think of what Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth. It seems that some were concerned about what abilities they did and did not have. Paul wrote, "If the whole body were any eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased" (1 Corinthians 12:17-18). In other words, if everyone had the same abilities, there would be jobs left undone. The Lord has determined that will not be the case.

There is a hymn, "Room in God's Kingdom." The chorus says, "There is room, there's a place in the kingdom of God for you; there is room, there's a place, there is work that we all can do."

The Lord has given us each different talents. We each determine whether we will use them or not. Paul admonished the Corinthians in this way:

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

May we all take this admonition to heart and determine to use the abilities with which we have been blessed in the service of our Lord!