



Our vision at New Hope Baptist Church is:
to be a multiethnic family of faith,
united by God's grace,
remaining faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ,
growing in obedience to God's Word,
and
sharing the Gospel with a distinctive witness in word and deed.

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**“Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”
Ephesians 5:1-2**

When reading the New Testament carefully, the divine glory of Jesus Christ is everywhere. His glory permeates the pages of the New Testament. This is true in Ephesians 5:1-2. Paul calls Christians to imitate God's nature and character in all conduct. The motivation for doing so proceeds from our relationship with God as his beloved children. This motivation makes all the difference in the Christian life. We are not called to imitate God's nature and character as employees trying to earn a wage or as prisoners forced to obey. If we look at the Christian life from these perspectives, imitating God becomes burdensome, stressful, and exhausting. But as beloved children, it is our joyful desire to please the Heavenly Father. He has been so good to us. We can know that we are his beloved children, through faith in Christ Jesus, because we have benefited from His continuous provision, guidance, and protection.

In v.1, we are beloved children of the Heavenly Father. If we are to imitate God that would mean that we, as Christians, are to love in response. If God is a loving God, then his people should be a loving people. So, it should not be surprising that Paul follows up his command to be imitators of God as His beloved children in v. 1 with a command to walk in love in v. 2. But notice, in v. 2, we are to walk in love as Christ loved us. Our relationship to God as His beloved children is directly connected to how Christ has loved us. Behold, the divine glory of God.

Speaking of the love of Christ in the past tense (as Christ loved us) does not mean that Christ has stopped loving us. No, rather, Paul points to the supreme act of the love of Christ, his death on the cross, when he gave his life for our sins as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. It is the love of Christ that made it possible for us to become the beloved children of God. The divine glory of Jesus Christ transforms our understanding of the Christian life. Certainly, God's Word calls us for to live holy lives, but that is only possible as a response to God's precious love in Christ Jesus, His Son.

As we approach Thanksgiving, take special time to reflect on the majesty of God and how you have been truly blessed by His love and grace. Later in Ephesians 5:20, Paul writes, “Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*In Him
Pastor Jason*



Deacons on Call

November 7

Don Jordan

November 14

Jim Hartis

November 21

Jeff Smith

November 28

Gerald Freeman

Calendar of Events

Standing Weekly Schedule Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Join us on Facebook

1st and 3rd Saturday 10:00 a.m.

H₄F

Birthdays for November

11/4

Bonnie Edwards

11/18

Loretta Dickens

11/25

Leah Jordan

11/30

Pastor Jason

Turn those clocks **BACK** one
hour on Saturday night
November 6th



Happy Thanksgiving

November 25th

Back in History

Can you remember back in November 1990? Remember when many of us loaded the 'Little ole Lady' and headed towards the airport. We were about to meet - for the very first time - a family that had a dream of coming to America from Rostov-on-Don, Russia and NHBC had agreed to sponsor the family. We had to obtain a home for them and everything that is needed to make that house a home. Imagine coming to a new country and you didn't know the language, had never met the people that were there to help you and expecting a little girl within a month. This was definitely faith in the Lord in action. The little one made her entrance on December 16, 1990. She was named Carolina for the state that she lived in. Today that little girl has graduated from college - has married and is a mother to a precious little girl. All of the children have worked hard and several have married and they have fantastic jobs. Remember how beautiful Mama (Svetlana) could sing? Remember how Papa (Nickolay) could play music and how beautiful the children could sing. There were some tough times and there were some very precious times. This was definitely a time that 8 people made a huge impact on NHBC and NHBC made a huge impact on one family. Mission in action!

See the family update →

Nickolay and Sveta

Live on Dulverton Drive

Olga - married

Lives in Greensboro

Liza - married

Has 2 girls 1 boy

Lives in South Carolina

Art

Lives on Dulverton Drive

Konsta - married

Has 2 boys 1 girl

Katy - married

Has 2 boys

Lives in Mint Hill

Carolina - married

Has a little girl

Lives in Charlotte