



**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.

*October 2020... the Contact ... Vol. XLII Issue 10*

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***Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."***

The Beatitudes describe the character of true believers, those who will enter the Kingdom of God. These characteristics show us how the Gospel transforms the sinner. In the sixth beatitude, the Lord Jesus announces a divine blessing on those who are pure in heart. What does this mean?

Jesus is likely referring to Psalm 24 where King David declares that to worship the Lord and to stand confidently in his holy presence, the believer must have "clean hands and a pure heart." In addition, the believer must not lift his or her soul up to falsehood and deceit (Ps. 24:2). For our worship to have any value and significance, it must reflect a personal integrity. We cannot go through the motions when it comes to worshipping the Lord. We cannot live to satisfy our sinful urges and still expect God to be pleased with our songs of worship and statements of devotion. The Lord rejects all external forms of worship that does not arise from a deep love for him. In fact, in Isaiah 1:10-20, the Lord hates outward practices of worship that do not foster true piety among his people. To use a common expression, the Lord is not looking for believers who merely talk the talk, he requires believers to walk the walk.

In Jesus' ministry, his strongest and most direct rebukes are aimed at the religious leaders. Outwardly, they were involved in all sorts of religious activities, yet Jesus was fully aware that they were hypocrites. He claimed that unless your righteousness exceeded that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:20). This means that our standing before God can never be judged solely about the amount of religious works we have done. We must look for a righteousness that is beyond our own ability to obtain.

To be pure at heart means to live honestly before God and before people. It is the opposite of being a hypocrite. However, there is a major problem. No one is naturally pure in heart. We are naturally selfish. Left on our own, we reject God's authority. We are sinners. Jeremiah 17:9 describes the human heart as "deceitful above all things, desperately sick." But thankfully, there is hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In 1 Peter 1:22, Peter describes conversion as "having purified your soul by your obedience to the truth" and because of this, as Christians, we are able to "love one another earnestly from a pure heart."

What is the promise for the pure in heart? The Lord Jesus tells us, "They will see God." This is a beautiful promise. Those who have experienced the purifying power of the Gospel have the assurance that we will be able enter God's presence and behold Him in all His glory and power. With this in mind, we ought to make it a daily prayer, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

*Pastor Jason*

## 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 Face Book

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10:00 a.m.  
H<sub>4</sub>F

## Contacts from August

I wish that I could give you a number but I didn't get information from anyone. BUT that is not to say contacts were not made because I received some during the month. It is so special when someone makes that little special effort to check on you and for you to be able to talk to someone different than just family. Folks, I found with me it just gives you a warm fuzzy feeling that someone is thinking of you. If you make those calls, please don't stop. You are blessed and the person you call is blessed.

## Deacons on Call

Oct. 4  
Laney Emanuel

Oct. 11  
Jim Hartis

Oct. 18  
Jeff Smith

Oct. 25  
Gerald Freeman



## Kylie Colette Coppolo

Born: August 19, 2020

20 1/2 inches long and 9lbs. 12oz

Proud Parents: John and Kimberly (Davis) Coppolo

Loving brothers: Gabriel, Colton and Dax

Excited Grandparents: Richard and Karen Davis

Over-joyed Great grandmother: Annette McCarver

## Birthdays for October

10/4 Terry Lacy

10/5 Karen Davis  
Hannah Smith

10/7 Diane Yandle

10/12 Gerald Freeman  
Doug Sweetser

10/15 Christine Smith

I am thankful in the midst of all the craziness this year to have this new addition to our family. She also joins her cousin Avery born this year on April 21. That brings my grandchildren count to 5.