

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

WELCOME! - Songs for Today's Service

O Come All Ye Faithful Lamb of God
Sing We The Song of Emmanuel Glory in the Highest
Joy To The World

Each Sunday our church prays for a different Holston Baptist Association church. Today we are praying for North Johnson City.

COMING EVENTS:

- **TODAY** – Africans Reaching Africa event & lunch-Room 200 - 12:15
- **November 30** – Drop by Baby Showers – 5:30 pm
 - **Members/Attenders Mtg – 6:30- Budget Presentation**
- **December 3** – Ladies Cookie Exchange at the Tate's- 3 pm
- **December 4** – Budget Notification/ Brazil missions trip informational meeting after church
- **December 9** - Senior FOCUS Christmas Dinner – 5pm
- **December 11** – Children's Christmas Event
- **December 17** – Youth – "God With Us" & Progressive Dinner
- **December 18** – Budget vote
- **December 21** – Christmas Caroling (meal at 5) No service
- **December 24** – Christmas Eve Service – 5pm
- **December 25** – Christmas Day- 10:30 svc (no CG's)

AFRICANS REACHING AFRICA

Ken and Vanessa Figueroa, the U.S. representatives of Africans Reaching Africa are with us during our morning gathering. Ken and



Vanessa have served churches in Chicago for many years. He served as an Executive Pastor and she served as a Women's Ministry Director. They joined ARA earlier this year after visiting the ARA in Africa.

GIVING- You can give electronically to Heritage from your mobile device or PC thru **TITHELY**. Just hold your phone's camera over the QR code. You can also give by mail or in person while at church. If you have any questions, please contact Ginger at ginger.cox@hbcjc.org.



TRUTH QUEST IS ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:00 PM

Truth Quest is for preschool through 6th graders. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Joel.

No Truth Quest this week due to the Members/Attenders Meeting on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

Light and Salt Play Group

November 30 at 2 -Science experiment at the Waldrop house

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Waldrop at waldrop.stephanie@gmail.com.

Drop-By Baby Showers – THIS Wednesday, November 30th -5:30-6:30 pm



In the Preschool Worship Room

For new mom Alanis Hernandez Valasquez

(one of the Hopson's bonus kids)

Amazon registry for Alanis: click the QR code



Baby Shower

And a diaper shower for Joe and Stephanie Hopson's

bonus babies Hayley and Jackson (sizes 1 and 2T)

CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE – Saturday, Dec. 3RD – 3-5 PM

Ladies, join us for our annual cookie exchange this Saturday! Bring 4 dozen of your best homemade sweets. – 1 to taste and 3 dozen to exchange. This will be at the home on Meridith Tate, 116 Lands End Ct., Piney Flats. Prizes will be given out! Sign up in the foyer!

Missions Trip to Bolivia, June 10-18, 2023. This trip will be an opportunity to partner with local churches in the rural region surrounding the Martinez's retreat center. There will also be an opportunity for construction work/odd jobs that need to be completed around the retreat center and property. If you are interested, please attend an information session after the Sunday morning service next Sunday, December 4th to learn more.

INTRODUCING A NEW HBC CHURCH APP:

Heritage now has two APPS: The Church App and Church Center. You can check out the video on our website- hbcjc.org (click on YouTube) or in the November Connect newsletter.

HERITAGE TEXT ALERT PROGRAM

When there is a change to Heritage service times, or any alert that goes out, we use the text alert system. To participate in Heritage's text notification program, text HBCALERT to 844-959-4455.

Daily Devotion

Monday, November 28th - Read 1 Cor. 16:5 & Phil 2:5-8. Difficulties and Dangers. Imagine the difficulties and dangers Paul faced in his travels. Now, picture Jesus in a manger.... then on the cross. What difficulties did He face as an infant? (Think Herod & Egypt). What dangers did He face as an adult? From His own family? From His enemies? Now think about your life. Difficulties? Dangers? How has your Christianity cost you? If it has not cost you anything, think about whether or not you are practicing the Christianity of the Bible. As Billy Sunday said, *'If you never run into the devil it may be that you are going in the same direction.'* What difficulties/dangers are discouraging you today? Will you endure them for Jesus's sake? Will you ask a friend to pray for you? (Don't know any or trust any? We'll talk more about that on Wednesday) What temptations or sins face you? Use today and tomorrow to make a definite plan to overcome these. On Wednesday, we'll talk about the value of friendships to endure difficulties and dangers and overcome temptations/sins. But today and tomorrow, set your heart to love Jesus more than life itself and follow Him *"through many dangers, toils, and snares..."* As you do, you will find His grace to be amazing.

Wednesday, November 30th - Read 1 Cor. 16:10-19 & Ro 16:1-15. The Importance of Relationships. How many people does Paul name? That's a lot. How many people's lives are you actively engaged in for Jesus's sake? Name them. How many people are investing in your life? Name them. If you can name them, use this post-Thanksgiving week to thank them. If you can't name anyone: 1 – Get involved in someone's life to aid them. 2 – Ask someone to meet with you for fellowship, Bible study, to hang out, etc. You need mentors. You need friends. You need people you serve. You need a balance of these people in your life. On Friday, we'll talk about sanctification. Christian friendships are one of the primary ways God advances the Gospel in your life, i.e. sanctify you. It is hard. People (like you also, if you are honest) are untrustworthy. There is no question about it. But the reward is worth the risk. Paul thought so even though he endured false friendships (Read 2 Tim 4:9-18 right now). But Christianity is relationships: Jesus and you, you, and others, etc. Perhaps relationships are the difficulty or danger you must weather to be the Christian you want to be. Selah (stop and think about that). It may be that these strategic friendships will help you overcome temptation or sin. But don't let this slide. Grab your phone and start to create or maintain those relationships today!

Friday, December 2nd - Read 1 Corinthians 16:6-7 & 1 Thess. 4:3. Gospel Advance and Sanctification. Sanctification is a synonym for Gospel advance in your life. Let's use Paul's testimony before Agrippa (Acts 26) as your model for reflecting on how the Gospel is advancing in your life. In 60 seconds, what exact words define your pre-conversion life? *"Sinful?" "Nervous?" "Lost?" "Angry?" "Isolated?" "Enslaved?"* In 60 seconds, how did you become a Christian? *"In a personal crisis?" "At church?" "Alone?" "A friend led me to Christ?" "Over time?"* In 60 seconds, describe your life since Jesus. *"I am at rest." "I don't like to sin." "I enjoy the Bible." "I am more peaceful." "I don't feel guilty or ashamed all the time."* Do you have definite evidence that the gospel is advancing in your life? That's wonderful. But, where are the Normandy's (WWII analogy) the Holy Spirit is facing resistance from you? How are you sabotaging your own sanctification? Be honest. It's just you and God and He knows already. What are you actively doing, or what are you going to do, to remove the barriers, build hedges, and welcome God's advance in your life? Ahh, this takes us back to friendships. To enduring difficulty/danger for Jesus's sake. Whatever you do, do something! Use this weekend to create a plan and then work that plan. It may very well be that God, as in Paul's life, will step in and add to it in some miraculous ways.

Real People, Real Christianity, Real Life 1 Corinthians 16:5-12

First: Christianity has a Personal (Unavoidable) Cost 5

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

Hebrews 12:2-3

Second: God's Will is to Advance the Gospel In and Through You 6

Philippians 1:12 - I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,

Third: Christianity Requires People in Your Life 7-11

John 1:2 & 14- He was in the beginning with God....¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son

1 Cor. 4:17 - That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord,

Anonymity is the enemy of your Christianity

Genesis 3:8

Exodus 25:8

Psalms 90:1

John 1:14

Matthew 23:37

Revelation 21:3

Conclusion: And so, as Paul concludes his letter to the Corinthians, he opens the window to his own life and ministry so that we can learn some important principles from the master discipler.

First: Christianity has a personal, unavoidable cost.

Second: God's will is to advance the gospel in and through you.

Third: Christianity requires people in your life.