



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.

September 2020... the Contact ... Vol. XLII Issue 9

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Matthew 5:7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”

The Beatitudes consist of eight descriptions of the character of a person who truly belongs to the Kingdom of God. The first four Beatitudes deal with a believer's relationship with God. True believers confess their spiritual poverty before Holy God, thus, acknowledge that salvation is available only by God's grace. True believers mourn over the destructive impact of sin. True believers refuse to rely upon their own resources and abilities, rather, in humility, continue to trust the Lord in all things. In addition, true believers experience a consistent hunger and thirst for righteousness, which can only be satisfied by God himself.

Starting in Matthew 5:7, the last four beatitudes deal with a believer's relationship with people. Our salvation has a definite impact on how we interact with, relate, and treat others. This is not surprising because our love for God is demonstrated by an active love for others. When Jesus was asked about the greatest commandment, He responded, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength” (Mk. 12:30). But he does not stop there. He continues, “Second, ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these” (Mk. 12:31). Our faith in Jesus does not allow us to use or abuse people for our own selfish benefit and enjoyment. Truly loving God is evident by loving people.

In the fifth Beatitude, loving your neighbor involves showing mercy. For believers, the basis for showing mercy is in how God has been so merciful to us. One of the earliest revelations of God's nature in how He interacts with His people relates to his mercy. After the Lord had delivered Israel from Egypt and while Moses is on Mount Sinai receiving God's Word for the new nation, the people create and worship a golden calf. It is such an appalling sin. It is like a newlywed had an affair on the honeymoon. Yet, as Moses intercedes on behalf of Israel, the Lord reveals himself as, “The Lord, the Lord God, is merciful and gracious, patience, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin” (Ex. 34:6). Time and time again, God is merciful towards us when we deserve his judgment. Of course, the greatest expression of God's mercy is in how God's Son laid down his life to become the sacrificial lamb for our sins.

As believers, if we have experienced such mercy from God, how else should we respond but by showing mercy to others? Thus, Jesus instructs, “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (Lk. 6:36). Most people prefer to separate themselves from the pains and problems of others to avoid additional inconveniences and burdens. When mistreated and offended, most people retaliate, finding revenge as more satisfying. But just as God has been so generous to meet our needs, we should be sensitive to those in need around us, being ready to help. Just as we have received forgiveness from God, we need to quickly offer forgiveness to those who sin against us. This is how the Christian lives.

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

1st and 3rd Saturday 10:00 a.m.
H₄F

Schedule for September

Yard Sale

Please note that our

Operation Christmas Child

yard sale has been re-scheduled for Saturday, September 12th from 8 AM to 12 noon. If you can volunteer to help Mackenzie prepare the items and be there on that day, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Deacons on Call

Sept 6
Jim Hartis

Sept 13
Jeff Smith

Sept 20
Gerald Freeman

Sept 27
Don Jordan

Birthdays for September

9/5 Laney Emanuel

9/6 Erick Foster

9/14 Teresa Dixon
2260 S. Ferdon Blvd
#189
Crestview, FL 32536

9/27 Jim Hartis

Please call the church office with your contact totals for August. Results in October!

Just Go Quietly On

A very wise lady shared - We live in a very noisy world, so busy, the storm rages, thunder and lightning, all kinds of trouble, tribulation and we don't know what to do. But when we belong to the Lord, He holds our hand and He goes with us and we are not alone. So, whatever is going on - dynamite blasting, storms, we just go quietly on because He holds our hand. We don't have to be scared of anything. There is wonderful peace that comes when the Lord Jesus lives in our heart - and people try to find peace in this world but you just can't find it, no matter what you do - where you look or how fast you run there will never be peace and quietness. He's the only one who gives peace. It is written in the scripture "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in You." Isaiah 26:3

So, whatever is going on in the world, when you belong to Him, there is quietness because in His presence there is quiet. No matter what is going on in the world, and it's just a matter of time before He returns - and we are waiting for His return. We are resting in the Lord - it's not just a physical rest. In scripture it says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. Not just a physical rest but a spiritual rest-emotional rest. Come to me. Because one of these days He is coming back and we are waiting for His return. Rest and wait. "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint." Yes, those that wait on the Lord. So, we are waiting in expectation of His return. Another way of describing that waiting and expectation is that we are on tip toes expecting and waiting for Him to come. He is coming back but we can have that peace and quietness now. And whatever is going on in the world with the wars and all - we just go quietly on. He is the creator, the Lord God Almighty - He made everything and He can handle anything. "It's okay honey, I've got this - just go quietly on. Peace I give to you. I can handle this. Just go quietly on and experience My peace". I love you, says the Lord!