

Our Defense

Scripture

- 13 Who then will harm you if you are devoted to what is good?
- 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. Do not fear them or be intimidated,
- 15 but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.
- 16 Yet do this with gentleness and reverence, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame.
- 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.
- 18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,
- 19 in which he also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison
- 20 who in the past were disobedient, when God patiently waited in the days of Noah while the ark was being prepared. In it a few—that is, eight people—were saved through water.
- 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you (not as the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
- 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

1 Peter 3:13-22 CSB



Additional Resources

Explore the Bible: 1, 2 Peter & Jude; Spring 2025; Biblegateway.com; preceptaustin.org; Biblehub.com/commentaries; The New American Commentary, 1 & 2 Peter, Jude, Thomas R. Schreiner; The New American Commentary, Mark, James A. Brooks

Connect Church Notes

Date	Speaker	Key Verses
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		Key Points
		Questions/Reflections



God's Word - Devoted to Him

"He went about doing good." Acts 10:38

This, in just a few words, is an exquisite summary of the Lord Jesus Christ's life. There are not many touches, but each one is the stroke of a master's pencil. Of the Savior and only of the Savior is it true in the fullest, broadest, and most unqualified sense: "He went about doing good."

From this description it is evident that Jesus did good personally. The Gospel writers constantly tell us that He touched lepers with His own finger and that He anointed the eyes of the blind. And even in cases where He was asked to speak a healing word at a distance, Jesus usually did even better, by going to the person's sickbed and personally working a cure. Here is a lesson to us: if we want to do good, we should do it ourselves. Distribute charity with your own hand; a kind look or word will enhance the value of the gift. Speak to a friend about his soul; your loving appeal will have more influence than a whole library of gospel literature. Our Lord's way of doing good shows His incessant activity. He not only did the good close at hand, but he "went about" on His errands of mercy. Throughout the whole land of Judea there was scarcely a village or town that was not brightened by the sight of Him. How this example condemns the hesitant, lazy manner in which many professing Christians serve the Lord. Let us prepare our minds for action, and not be weary in good works.

Doesn't this text imply that Jesus Christ went out of His way to do good? "He went about doing good": He was never deterred by danger or difficulty. He sought out the objects of His gracious intentions. So must we. If our old ways are not effective, we must try new ones, for fresh efforts sometimes achieve more than regular methods.

Finally, Christ's perseverance and the unity of His purpose are also hinted at, and the practical application of this subject may be summed up in these words: "He is your example, and you must follow in his steps" 1 Peter 2:21.

From: Morning and Evening / Charles Spurgeon



Our words shouldn't be "salty," but seasoned with salt—tasteful and appropriate, useful for helping others and building them up.



Our Faith

Main Passage for April 13 – 1 Peter 4:1-11 CSB

Monday - 1 Peter 4:1-2

Wednesday - 1 Peter 4:5-6

Friday - 1 Peter 4:8-9

Tuesday – 1 Peter 4:3-4

Thursday - 1 Peter 4:7

Saturday - 1 Peter 4:10-11

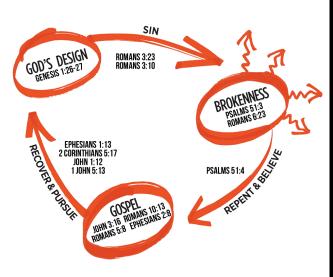
Memory Verse: 1 Peter 4:10

Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

Mission Statement

Glorifying God by connecting people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ







Attendance & Offering

On Campus & Online

671

Offering

\$ 24,479.56

Get Out of Debt

We purchased a 1973 station wagon with 130,000 miles for a very simple reason. It was the only vehicle I could find for which we could pay cash. We bought it for \$750.

Just prior to that purchase, we had been driving a one-year old, fully loaded Oldsmobile. It was a big nice car with a big fat payment—\$370 per month, to be exact. By the way of comparison, our house payment at that time was \$320 per month. (Keep in mind, these were early 1980 dollars). It didn't take long for the Lord to show us how absurd this was from a stewardship standpoint. In fact, it was ridiculous!

God had told us to sell it and work toward getting out of debt, so we did. We then bought that old wagon for \$750. We prayed over it. We anointed it with oil (about a quart a week). And we loved it because, though it wasn't much to look at, we knew we were in the center of God's will.

It took us one year to get completely out of debt. I know you may be thinking that it would take you much longer, but let me tell you what we did to make it a reality.

During that season of time, we didn't buy anything that wasn't a true necessity. We didn't go out to eat. We didn't go to the movies. We didn't buy any new clothes. We didn't even buy a new microwave oven when ours broke midway through that year.

We bought nothing during that time because we had made a solemn commitment to get out of debt-no matter how long it took. We said to the Lord. We are serious about this, and we showed it.

I've had many people tell me they want to get out of debt, yet they never change their lifestyle. They still eat out all the time. They still spend freely on entertainment and vacations. They still buy new clothes. They even continue to make large purchases on credit, such as new homes and new cars.

I remember one couple in our church who were in serious financial trouble and came to us for counseling. In contrast to most, they actually did what we counseled them to do. (It's amazing to me how many people come to a pastor asking for his counsel and then proceed to ignore it after it's given. I don't know why they ask in the first place!)

The truth is that if you're going to live the lifestyle of a giver, you're going to have to make the lifestyle adjustments that allow you to have something to give. One of the first ways to do this is to get out of debt.

To be continued...
From The Blessed Life









CONNECTION GROUPS

SUNDAY

Parents of Young Children - 9:00 AM - Marlon Francis:

m4francis@gmail.com

Students - 9:00 AM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today

Families - 9:00 AM - Sam Jay: jays717@bellsouth.net

Young Adults - 9:00 AM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today

Adults - 10:30 AM - Clayton Hutcheson: claybmw@bellsouth.net

MONDAY

Men - 7:00 PM - Edgar Gregory: egregoryac@gmail.com

TUESDAY

Ladies - 9:30 AM - Tryna Groat: atgroat619@hotmail.com **Adults** - 6:30 PM - Richard Cooper: richruth142@yahoo.com **Men** - 7:00 PM - Chip Hausman: jwmhausman@gmail.com

CONNECTION GROUPS

WEDNESDAY

MOPS - 9:00 AM - Michele Williams: drbmw37@gmail.com

Adults - 10:15 AM - Greg Maffet:

gjmaffet@hotmail.com

Students - 6:30 PM - Tristan Nelson: tristan@cc.today

Adults - 7:00 PM - Dale Faircloth: dale@cc.today

Adults - 7:00 PM - Victor Manoharan:

woodhavenanimalclinic@gmail.com

Worship Team - 7:00 PM - Duval Madrigal:

duval.madrigal@cc.today

Ladies - 7:00 PM - J. Virginia Murray: jvirginiam@gmail.com

Adults - 7:00 PM - Sam Burton: skburton@bellsouth.net

Adults - 7:00 PM - Mike Eleveld: mike@cc.today

Ladies - 7:00 PM - Molly Maharaj: merrymolly@rocketmail.com

THURSDAY

Adults - 7:00 PM - Leslie Dakers: ladakes@hotmail.com

Retirees/Empty Nesters - 7:00 PM - Ed Samour:

ed@ecengineers.com





Join Us for Refreshments on the Patio Today!



Stay and Visit Following the Service!

CK - Leader Training

April 6th

Awana - Joyful Noise Night

April 9th

Awana - Grand Prix

April 12th

Awana - Solid Rock Night

April 16th

Senior Adult Fellowship

April 25th

Scan to Visit
Connect Church
Event Page



INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT CC?

WHAT'S MISSING FROM CONNECT CHURCH

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO VISIT WITH A PASTOR FOR MORE INFO



Connect Kids' Leader Training

April 6th — 11:45 AM
Preschool and Children's Department
Lunch and Childcare Provided

Registration: cc.today
For more info. — stacy.gatlin@cc.today

CONNEGT

Joyful Noise Night April 9th - 6:30 PM





Come to club with an object that makes noise.











Word of Life Camp

July 6th - July 11th Children - Ages 8 to 12



For more info. - stacy.gatlin@cc.today





JULY 14TH - 18TH | \$485

Registration: cc.today
Additional Info. - tristan.nelson@cc.today





Leadership Team



Dr. Dale R. Faircloth
Elder and Lead Pastor
dale@cc.today



Marlon Francis Elder



Clayton Hutcheson Elder



Rajiv Khatri Elder



Victor Manoharan Elder



Fred Rogers Elder



Duval Madrigal Assistant Pastor duval@cc.today



Mike Eleveld Assistant Pastor mike@cc.today



Tristan Nelson Student Pastor tristan@cc.today



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Misael Valera Worship Leader

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SBC

