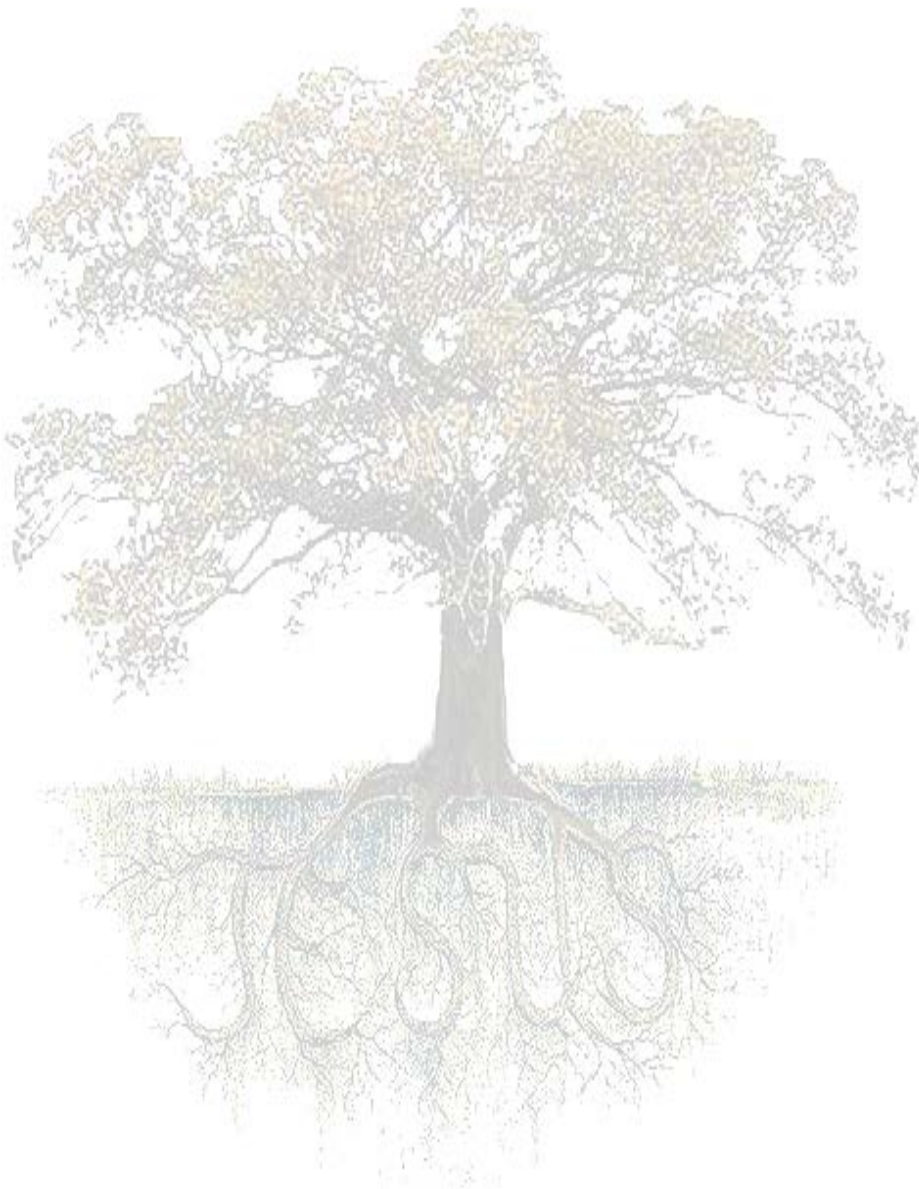


Today's Passage:  
Pastor Tony's message is from the Old Testament book,  
Joshua 18:11-19:51

Sermon Notes:



Welcome to the Celebration!



# New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, February 21, 2016

Vol. 9, Issue 20

Pastoral Pondering

### The Undoing of the Fall

In the beginning God created. Here's the description of God's creation of man and woman: *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them"* (Genesis 1:27-28a, ESV). After considering His creation, God looked at man and woman and said, *"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day"* (Genesis 1:31, ESV).

In the youth ministry here at New Life we are working through a teaching series exploring the identity that Christ gives us. Originally man and woman's identity was the uncompromised, uncorrupted, unstained image of God. This was their identity: God's image.

Then, this very good image was corrupted by sin.

*"But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths"* (Genesis 3:4-7, ESV).

The image of God in man was stained. Shame overcame Adam and Eve and they were no longer comfortable with their identity. They covered themselves. Following this, they ran and hid from God. They realized their image was no longer worthy to be before the God who created them.

You see Adam and Eve longed for another image. Something that was apart from God. It looked good and juicy; it looked delicious; it looked better than the image God had imputed into His creation. What was it? The image was knowledge apart from God. Adam and Eve thought a better image, or we could say a better identity, was in wisdom apart from God. Worldly wisdom. Summary: Adam and Eve desired a different image apart from God and looked for it in worldly wisdom. This new image corrupted the good, godly image. It brought shame and forced a wedge between God and man. Man's identity was lost.

From this moment on we, man and woman, have been searching for our lost identity. We seek it in money. We seek it in pleasure. We look for it in material. We look for it in world religions that say, "You can make a difference. You can earn something." We look for it in family and friends. We look for it in our chosen lifestyle. We try to discover identity in our love life. We look for it in blending in with the culture and then we look for it in being counter-cultural.

*continued on next page ...*

## Visitor Card

We'd like to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out this card then drop it in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

- First-Time Visitor
- Returning Visitor

Name:

Date:

Email:

Phone:

### How to access the sermon archives:

If you would like a copy of an audio (CD) or video (DVD) of a sermon from our archives (\$2 per copy), please complete the following and drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room. Your order will be available for pick-up at the video booth the following week.

Name:

Sermon Date:

Scripture Passage:

To download sermons for free, go to [newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

## Prayer Card

If you are in need of prayer or would like to share a praise report, please share it below then drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

Please check a box below:

- This may be added to our congregation prayer wall
- Share this only with the pastor and elders

Optional:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

If you would like someone to pray with you today, you may come to the front of the church immediately following the service.

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
<a href="mailto:galatiansii20@yahoo.com">galatiansii20@yahoo.com</a>	
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<a href="mailto:pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com">pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com</a>	
Cory Mattson - Secretary:	715.417.0945
Zachary Fugate	715.379.2918
Paul Gilbertson	715.755.3517
Dale Mattson	715.566.2302
Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.483.0185

### Check out New Life Online

[newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

Find Links to:

- Events
- Sermons Online
- Set Lists
- The Table
- & More

Be sure to tune into our pastors' podcast at the beginning of each week. You can access the podcast through our website, the Table, or the podcast icon on your Wi-Fi enabled Apple device.

### This Week's Schedule of Events:

Feb 24	<b>Afternoon GriefShare Mtg.</b> 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Green Room at NLCC Building
Feb 24	<b>Immerse Family Grp. Studies</b> 6:30 p.m. at NLCC Building
Feb 25	<b>Men's Bible Study</b> Book of Acts 6:30 a.m. at NLCC Building
Feb 25	<b>Women's Bible Study</b> Book of Hebrews 9:30 a.m. at NLCC Building
Feb 25	<b>Evening GriefShare Mtg.</b> 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Green Room at NLCC Building

### February Memory Verse:

**2 Corinthians 2:14**

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere." (ESV)

### Pastoral Pondering

...continued

In the end, however, all of these identities leave us wanting more. Nothing satisfies. Everything in the world leaves us shamed. We're always covering our identity with fig leaves and then trying something different. It all leads us away from God. How can we be restored? How can our identity, our image, which was lost, be restored?

The Snake Crusher is the answer...

Read this passage with all that we have discussed in mind:

*"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory... put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator" (Colossians 3:1-4 & 10, ESV).*

Do you see the undoing of the fall here? God promised Adam and Eve and the snake that someone was coming to undo this corruption. Someone was going to crush the snake have victory over sin and death. Christ has come, and look what He has done.

After defeating sin and death by laying out His perfect life on the cross and then taking His life up again in the resurrection, He has given us our image in God back. In Christ our lost image is being renewed. How?

First, our image is being renewed as we die to the world and die to our own identity. The ones we've created. "You have died and your life is hidden with Christ."

Secondly, Christ is renewing our image as we look to Him instead of the world. "Seek things that are above, where Christ is."

Thirdly, our identity is being renewed with the proper knowledge of God. Remember Adam and Eve wanted knowledge that was apart from God. Now, in Christ, we are being given the knowledge that God always wanted us to have instead of the false and hopeless knowledge in the world. This is knowledge from the Creator, not the created. Jesus Christ has undone the curse of the fall. In Him we can see God once more because our image is being restored and has been restored.

We have been created in God's own image. This image was corrupted by sin and death. This corruption led to a tragic separation from God, but God has acted in Christ. Jesus, the Snake Crusher, has given us our very good image back. He has uncorrupted the corrupted. We must be identified not in ourselves, which is a distorted picture of God's creation. Instead, we must find our identity in Jesus Christ who reveals a perfect image of God.

Pastor Chandler

### Ministry Directory:

**Building & Grounds Ministry** - Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: [lynnjimnelson@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjimnelson@gmail.com)

**Children's Church Ministry** - Cara Gilbertson: 715.755.3517 her email: [cara.gilbertson@gmail.com](mailto:cara.gilbertson@gmail.com)

**Children's Nursery Ministry** - Sara Fugate: 715.379.8799 her email: [fugate.sara@gmail.com](mailto:fugate.sara@gmail.com)

**Community Outreach** - Phil and Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 email: [philstratmoen@gmail.com](mailto:philstratmoen@gmail.com)

**Finance Administration** - Cory Mattson (Finance Secretary): 715.417.0945 her email: [cory79mattson@hotmail.com](mailto:cory79mattson@hotmail.com) or Pete Manship (Treasurer): 715.755.3330 his email: [pete@pbmpkmanship.com](mailto:pete@pbmpkmanship.com)

**GriefShare Ministry** - Connie Bayle: 715.557.1431 her email: [conjoh1@gmail.com](mailto:conjoh1@gmail.com)

**Meal Relief Ministry** - Julie Minell: 715.417.1981 her email: [mrs.minell@yahoo.com](mailto:mrs.minell@yahoo.com)

**Missions Outreach** - Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: [lrnilner@gmail.com](mailto:lrnilner@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Administration** - Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453 her email: [djholm@lakeland.ws](mailto:djholm@lakeland.ws)

**Sunday Meal Services** - Barb Manship: 612.804.9793 or 715.755.3330 her email: [bmanship55@hotmail.com](mailto:bmanship55@hotmail.com)

**Transportation Services** - Eve Bjork: 715.497.6418 her email: [sofiesydney@yahoo.com](mailto:sofiesydney@yahoo.com) or Art Behr: 715.220.6882 his email: [behrden1@charter.net](mailto:behrden1@charter.net)

**Video Ministry** - Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172 his email: [jmabee@centurytel.net](mailto:jmabee@centurytel.net)

**Youth Group Ministry** - Pastor Chandler Wiley: 815.575.6122 his email: [pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com)

### Announcements and Upcoming Events:



We are looking for someone to be our Vacation Bible School coordinator for this summer. If you are interested in this position or want to learn more about it, please contact Cara Gilbertson or Pastor Chandler. Thanks!



**FMSC "Envelope" fund raiser.** New Life has been asked to make \$3000 in offerings, which have been broken down into several easy-to-manage increments written clearly on envelopes located in the entry way of the building. Please prayerfully consider taking one or more envelopes to contribute to this worthy event to help New Life meet this offering. Once you choose your envelope, PLEASE make your check out to **FMSC** and return it in the offering box, or to Pam Stratmoen. New Life has been also asked to donate 8 pans of bars or cookies for the actual event. There will be a sign-up sheet nearby the FMSC "Envelopes" if you wish to contribute in this way.

'**The Pack.**' New Life will be having its own registration for signing up several groups for 'The Pack' beginning on Friday February 22<sup>nd</sup> with sign-up sheets located in the entry way of the building. 'The Pack' will be held on Friday April 1<sup>st</sup> with the following time slots to be available: 5:00 pm-7:00 pm and again on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00 am-11:00 am, 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. This event promises to provide fun and fellowship while you donate your time.

"**Drawn in the Word.**" Hope Evangelical Free Church is hosting a "Drawn in the Word" on Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm, with all funds going to FMSC. They have asked New Life to donate 3 pans of bars for this event and Pam Stratmoen is looking for volunteers to commit to doing this since she will be in Dallas that weekend. Please contact Pam Stratmoen for details if interested in helping out FMSC in this way.



Fellowship follows our service every Sunday, along with a great meal.  
*Please stay and join us!*