

Join us as we celebrate only Jesus!



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, October 4, 2026

Vol. 19, Issue 53

Ministry Highlight

Worship and the Heart

As we pour over the Scriptures and become more familiar with them in our Christian walk, we see that the worship of God is a matter of the uttermost importance - something that should not be taken lightly. We are commanded to worship Him, but in what manner does He desire this? Our great God is glorious, eternal, all-powerful, all-wise, creator of things seen and unseen, upholder of the universe and does so by the word of His power. He is holy, holy, holy forever and ever and ever and ever. He is not a God to be trifled with. Gratefully, there are numerous warnings and examples in the Bible that show what happens to those who approach God in an unworthy manner - remember, we need to approach Him on *His* terms, not ours. For myself, I always find it helpful to review and remember the accounts of Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10:1-4), Uzzah (2 Samuel 6:5-7) and Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11) as to what happened to them when they approached our holy Lord in an unworthy manner. Each one of them died immediately. No second chance. No redo. How on earth can anyone draw near to such a holy God?! Thanks be to God that our Savior shed his own blood for our forgiveness, redemption and reconciliation with the Father. Even now, our glorious Redeemer, Jesus, lives to make intercession on our behalf (Hebrew 7:25)!

One of the greatest insights into what our God is looking for, in regards to how we worship Him, is found in Mark 7:6-7:

"And he (Jesus) said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites (the Pharisees and Scribes), as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their *heart* is far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Lord, help us to never offer up worship that is in vain!

So, we see it is the *heart* that Christ is concerned with as we offer up our worship unto him. God even charges and warns us what could happen to those who don't guard their heart, "Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn and serve other gods and worship them;" (Deuteronomy 10:16). Our hearts can be deceived! But

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Ministry Highlight cont.

who on earth would our hearts be deceiving? Ourselves and others. Wow, that is scary. God is not deceived. That is why we are told to guard our hearts (Proverbs 4:23).

Now that we have seen just how concerned the Lord is with our hearts, what type of condition should our hearts be in as we approach him? King David clears up this question for us in Psalm 51:

“For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.”

Psalm 51:16-17

The only people who are looking for a savior are people who have had their eyes of their heart opened and finally see their sin for what it truly is. Broken. Contrite. Humbled. That is where we need to be. This is what makes the glorious grace of our Lord's life-changing gospel so glorious.

Compare the negative examples earlier to some positive examples in Scripture and let their reactions to encountering the holy God be a diagnostic tool in measuring out our own posture as we ourselves come before the God of the universe: Job (Job 40:3-5, 42:1-6); Isaiah (Isa. 6:1-6); Peter (Luke 5:1-8); a forgiven woman (Luke 7:37-50); John (Rev. 1:12-18).

Check your heart. We need a daily diagnosis. Not from a cardiologist (though good!), but from the Word of God. Only when we are able to see our God, who He is and what He has done and to know that He has brought about eternal change to our hearts, will our lips then overflow in praise, thanksgiving and adoration of Jesus, our risen Savior.

Looking to Jesus,
pastor jeff



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Check out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

This Sunday's Worship Songs:

1. The Love of God
2. God of Creation, All-Powerful, All-Wise
3. Yet Not I but Though Christ In Me
4. Behold the Lamb

This Week's Schedule of Events

Wed	Immerse - 6:15 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study- 6:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study- 10:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study-Noon
Thurs	GriefShare- 6:30 pm
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study- 6:30 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study- 6:30 pm

Meal Teams

Oct. 4 Meal Team 8 - Tacos

Oct. 11 Meal Team 1 - Pizza

Contact Barbara Judkins if interested in being on a meal team or a helper.

Fellowship Tip for October

As we enter fall, the changing colors of the trees stand out as an obvious display of God's glory in creation leading us to worship.

In addition, what other ways can you be pointing out the glory and work of Jesus to others around you?

October Memory Verse

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is a gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

Pastoral Eldership Team

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Announcements

Building Project: Building siding replacement project is now underway! Please feel free to view the north side of the building and/or the samples in the prayer room for color and materials.

Our Young Adults Bible Study will be back in the regular routine starting Tuesday October 13th. This year we're diving into Exodus! Our group of young adults usually consists of ages from 12 to 25ish. If you are not a "young adult" anymore, would you prayerfully consider counting this study as one of your regular bible studies in order to invest in our young people and cultivate deeper relationships with them as we grow together in the Word. In addition, it has always been our pattern and joy to gather for this study in one another's homes. You will notice a "host sign-up" sheet in the foyer which contains the dates for this season's gathering. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30pm. Consider signing up today for one or more of the dates to host the study at your home.

Sunday Meal Team Lead Meeting: Today immediately following the service. Grab lunch and join us in the meeting room off the kitchen. Please send a representative from your team if you can't make it.

Meal Team Ministry

Are you looking for a way to use your talents or time to serve God?

Consider joining a Sunday

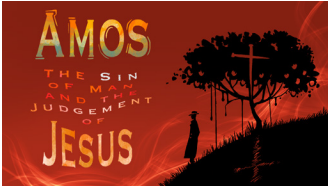
Meal Team. If interested, please,

Contact: Barbie Judkins (309) 269-0556,

Barb Manship (612) 804-9793 or

Rosie Swisher (763) 458-1261

Today's Passage



Pastor Tony will be teaching from
the book of Amos.
Our passage for today is Amos 9:1-6.

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Sunday service starts at 9:30 am • nlcc.dresser@gmail.com

Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com