New Life Christian Community
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passsed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17
Join Us As We Celebrate
Only Jesus
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026
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Pastoral Pondering

Psalm 110 ~ Forgiveness

"He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities."
Psalm 103:10

Psalm 103:10 is an incredible and wonderful promise. To a person who is aware of his or her sins and desires to please God, it seems impossible. It is only possible because of the next two verses:

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
So far does he remove our transgression from us."
Psalm 103:11-12

This is a description of the true status of our forgiveness. He removes our sins in such a way that they are not accessible—as though they had never even happened! If this seems impossible to you, welcome to the incredible power and grace of God.

The full context of these verses is the entire Psalm which powerfully supports them. This is forgiveness on a scale beyond comprehension.

If our sins are not accessible, then they cannot have any impact on our past, present, or future. What does this mean? We will never be held accountable for our sins. Also, our past sins will not be able to lead us into future sinning because they are gone.

Let's shift our thinking a bit. This kind of thinking is human thinking and it makes perfect sense that we would read it that way. But this psalm is not only about the human thinking. It is also, or *especially*, about the thinking of God. This psalm can be read as our perspective of our sins, but it is more than that. This is also about God's perspective of our sins. When He forgives a sin, it is so gone that it is truly as if it had never happened. That's how He sees it.

This is more than mere forgiveness. Forgiveness is a declaration of God's willingness not to count our sin against us. God's perspective is that our sin—no matter how many times we have sinned or how offensive our sins are—no longer exists. It is as if it had never happened.

But how can this be? How can this be possible?

There is only one reason. Before we ever sinned—in fact before anyone ever sinned,

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Pastoral Pondering

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even before Creation—the wisdom and foresight of God provided for the inevitable reality of sin. He intended to send His Son to Earth to open the eyes of people to His reality and love for His creation. The Son would pay the death penalty so sinning people could be forgiven. This unfair death of the One who was absolutely perfect and innocent would be the full and final payment for all sin. This plan was fulfilled in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. We were identified with His death (Romans 6:2; Galatians 2:20) so His righteousness could be attributed to us. God saw Christ's death as the full and final payment for all sin so all people could be with Him without sin and its consequences. The means of entering the presence of God is for a person simply to believe in God's acceptance of the death of His Son.

A person's acceptance of God's provision releases such a perfect solution to the problem of sin. That person's acceptance of God's provision means that God sees no sin in that person. It just does not exist to be seen.

God's perspective is what truly matters.

Jay Swisher

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BOOK STORE

Have you visited our bookstore lately? Our shelves hold so many great books to help you grow in your knowledge of and love for God and to help guide you in your daily walk with Him. Perhaps you'll find a book to read with a friend or form a book group with! We also have many great resources that you may want to consider for your gift-giving needs for the young or old and all ages in-between. Come check us out after service today.

Greeting Card Ministry

Do you know someone that needs encouragement, support, or celebration? Please remember that New Life has a ministry just for that! Contact Lynn with your request via email: lynnjimnelson@gmail.com or you can call her cell at 651-373-1426.

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This Week's Scheduled 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

October Memory Verse:

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

"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."

October Fellowship Tip:

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?

Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

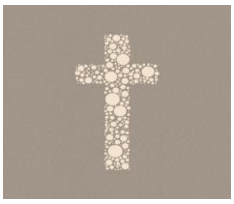
Oct 18 Meal Team 2 ~Chili
Oct 25 Meal Team 3 ~Italian

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

This Sunday's Worship Songs:

1. Our Great God
2 All Creatures of Our God and King
3. Ancient of Days 4. Our God Will Go Before Us 5. Beneath the Cross

- ***Hall Of Men:*** There will be no Hall Of Men next Sunday or the remainder of the year. We will be taking a break and plan to pick back up in January of 2027.
- ***New Thursday Women's Study:*** The Women's Thursday night Bible study will be starting a new 6-week study on **November 5th at 6:30pm** called *The Essentials of Effective Prayer* by Precept Ministries. Cost is $8 per book. Please contact Colleen Firkus with questions 612-889-7581. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- ***Coffee Ministry Needs You:*** Beginning in November, the Coffee ministry will be in need of extra volunteers. If you are interested, please let me know! Training will take place a little after **8am on November 8th & after service** if you'd like to learn how to serve in this ministry role!:



New Life Messaging

New Life Christian Community has a secure online community designed to engage the body of Christ in between Sundays. If you would like to be part of this online community, consider joining by downloading our app or through a link posted at the top on our website. Feel free to ask any of the Elders for help.

If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months, we are glad you are joining with us! If you would like to learn more about New Life, be sure to stop by the Resource Center in the front foyer to pick up a welcome bag we have for you. Please join us for fellowship and a meal after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the Old Testament book,

Amos 9:7-10

SERMON NOTES: