



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony will be speaking to us today from
Joshua 3:14-17

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, June 21, 2015

Vol. 8, Issue 37

Pastoral Ponderings

Keeping God's Word Before Us

Each time I sit down to write in this space it makes me reflect on what God is telling me (and usually how I am wrestling with God). Currently the biggest issues that have been in the forefront of my mind are, 1) Making good decisions efficiently, and 2) Searching out God's Word from a true heart of desire to know His will rather than studying by rote obedience.

Over the last couple of months it has abruptly come to my attention that I have difficulty making decisions. I always knew that I was a little slow on coming up with answers. I often would consider over and over what the pros and cons of a choice would be. It is so bad that my children have gotten to the point that they begin to ask days in advance if they want to go somewhere or watch some movie. I have to say that I have always known it but never really considered it a problem. A while back, I was amazed when a faithful friend I know was able to pick through movies for his family easily with no second guessing. That was where I began to consider if this might actually be a problem. Maybe not everyone spent an hour or two searching "Plugged in Online" or "Christian Spotlight" and debating the "God given" merits of each movie before settling in to watch. (Often after one of the children had fallen asleep due to sheer exhaustion) So maybe I had a small issue. I spent two years making a decision that a friend of mine did in a week. Ok maybe it is a big problem. Then God began to put me in places to help make big decisions. This was a recipe for disaster. More and more I began to ask how it is that we can know the right way in these decisions. I would hear *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."* Proverbs 3:5-6 Or, *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."* Romans 12:1-2 These are Words that I have internalized many years ago and yet they have not cured me of my inability to choose the right way to do things.

As I thought on all this, I really wasn't sure that I had anything helpful to say about how to better make decisions. I was stuck. So, as I thought about what to write, someone suggested that perhaps I could just ponder our monthly New Life memory verse and write about that. Seemed like the easy way out and besides this is a really busy week, who could blame me. I decided that I would do that.

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'" John 14:6-7

When I read a verse, I always want to get the context, so it is a good thing to look at the verses around it like, *"Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?'" John 14:5* I guess you could say doubting Thomas had a problem with making

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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

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
galatiansii20@yahoo.com	
Pastor Chandler Wiley	815.575.6122
pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com	
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
Andy Peterson	715.417.2253
Mike Schwab	651.329.7528
Phil Stratmoen	715.483.9847

This Week's Calendar:

Jun 23	New Life Softball 7:00 p.m. at Alliance
Jun 24	GriefShare Meeting 12:30-2:00 p.m. at NLCC building
Jun 25	Men's Bible Study The Book of Acts 6:30 a.m. at NLCC building
Jun 25	Young Men's Bible Study Moral Revolution (for 13-18 YRS) 6:00 p.m. at NLCC building

Sunday Nursery: (Infants - Preschool)
 Jun 21 Sara G, Brita G, Jenna V, Elise V
 Jun 28 TBD



Please join us for a meal today following the service.

Checkout New Life Online
newlifechristiancommunity.org

Our website is full of information about who we are, what we believe, and up-to-date information about what's going on at New Life.

Find Links to:

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

June Memory Verse: John 14:6-7

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'" (ESV)

Pastoral Ponderings

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decisions and *"knowing the way he should go"*. Jesus made it clear that He was the way to get to the Father. Wait, could God really be saying to me that Jesus *is* the way to make decisions? But this is just about my relationship with God right? This couldn't be about day to day things could it? I am not going to quote the next few verses here (let's just say it would be embarrassing how I have missed it) but the following verses make it clear that knowing Jesus is knowing God and if we love Him we will keep (watch, discern, guard) the Word and will do what He commands. We will ask for things that Glorify God and the Spirit will come to comfort and guide us in all things and our minds will have peace before God. Sounds like a perfect recipe for making decisions.

So then, the key to making all decisions is keeping the Word of God before us always and knowing He will guide us in all decisions. Our passion to decide wisely should drive our passion to know His word.

Indeed, without His word, I have nothing to say.

Rene Milner

Announcements:



Are you looking for a place to serve in the church? The nursery needs more volunteers like you!! Please see Sara Fugate if you are interested or have any questions.



Vacation Bible School is gearing up! Please help us as we start collecting materials. We need the following items: Brown Bed Sheets (flat), Star Stamps (rubber), White Rope Lights. Contact Cara Gilbertson or Leah Germain if you're able to help or have questions.



Sing praise to the Lord! Brittany and Jesse Scheel had a baby boy this week. Let's give Justin Charles Edward Scheel a warm welcome into the New Life family. As is our tradition for new parents, let's shower them with diapers right away!



Busy Bags
 Available by the doors

Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry
 contact Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: lynjimmnelson@gmail.com

Children's Church Ministry
 contact Cara Gilbertson:
 715.755.3517 her email:
cara.gilbertson@gmail.com

Children's Nursery Ministry
 contact Sara Fugate: 715.379.8799
 her email: fugate.sara@gmail.com

Community Outreach contact Phil and Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779
 email: philstratmoen@gmail.com

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

GriefShare Ministry - Connie Bayle: 715.557.1431 her email: conjoh1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry contact Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 her email: stratmoenp@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry contact Julie Minell: 715.417.1981 her email: mrs.minell@yahoo.com

Missions Outreach contact is Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: lrnilner@gmail.com

Newsletter Administration
 contact Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453
 her email: djholm@lakeland.ws

Transportation Services contact Eve Bjork: 715.497.6418 her email: sofiesydney@yahoo.com or Art Behr: 715.220.6882 his email: behrden1@charter.net

Video Ministry contact Jenna Peterson: 715.417.1357 her email: jennapeterson54@gmail.com

Youth Group Ministry contact Pastor Chandler Wiley: 815.575.6122 his email: pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

Events to take Note of:



BEACH FELLOWSHIP
 Wednesday evenings at Sand Lake. Everyone is invited. Come any time after 5:30 p.m. and park in Roger and Sandy's driveway (1131 190th Street (County Road Y) - Dresser).



Options for Women-Tri-County is a non-profit pregnancy center located in Osceola, WI, providing free services to anyone facing a crisis pregnancy. You can help by participating in our Baby Bottle Program.

We are asking that bottles be returned to New Life by June 23rd (this week.) A basket full of baby bottles has been placed on a table as you enter the building. Once you have filled your bottle it can be returned to that same basket. Donations are tax deductible and we appreciate and thank you for your generosity. As always, embracing this cause through individual prayer is invaluable. If there are any questions, please contact Sandy Erickson.



Get Your Tickets!

Pastor Tony will be racing in this year's Faster Pastor race at Cedar Lake Speedway, Saturday evening, July 4th in New Richmond. You can get your tickets from Julie Minell at church the next few Sundays. Children 5 & under = free. Students 6-16 = \$6. Adults = \$12. Cash only, please. *New Life gets to keep half of the proceeds from the tickets we sell.*



New Life is celebrating 10!

Who? New Life Family
 What? New Life Ten Year Anniversary Party!
 When? July 12th
 Where? Pete & Barb Manship Home
 Why? To celebrate what God has and is doing among us!

July 12th is a No-Meal Sunday, and The Manship's have graciously offered to host the Fellowship Meal at their home. It will be setup as rain-or-shine event. Please bring a chair and an attitude to celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ among us.

Pete and Barb will be serving brats and dogs with chips, water, and the condiments.