

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



September 8, 2024

I. A Call to Worship

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.”

Psalm 150:6

II. Worshipping God Through Our Offerings

Ministry Highlight: Discipleship

Prayer Points

1. For our Community Groups that launch this week - for new members to join
2. For our 8 habits class that starts this week - to get a firm foundation in God's truth
3. For our Rivers Retreat this Fall - For the Holy Spirit to release power & gifts



III. “New Thinking & New Living”

Ephesians 4:17-32
Pastor Gary Barber

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Ephesians 4:17-19 (NIV)

❖ Futile/Empty Thinking – Sensual/Fleshly dissatisfaction

But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:20-24 (NASB/NIV)

❖ Put off the old, live in the new

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Ephesians 4:25

“In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

Ephesians 4:26, 27 (NIV)

➤ Topos → “ground” → a foothold

Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

Ephesians 4:28 (NIV)

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

“He who speaks evil of an absent man or woman is not welcome at this table.”

Saint Augustine

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:31, 32 (NASB)

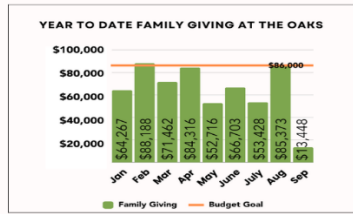
❖ Prayer/Reflection/Repentance

Community Group Discussion Questions

- How are you renewing your mind (Eph. 4:23)? What practices have you found effective in doing this?
- Read Ephesians 4:25-32 again. Which of these practices from the old life (falsehood, anger, theft, unwholesome talk, grieving the Spirit, unforgiveness, etc.) do you struggle with and need to put out of your life?
- Have you ever “let the sun go down on your anger”? What happened as a result of that?
- Have you ever sensed you grieved the Holy Spirit? What did you do to resolve that and be restored in your relationship/fellowship with the Spirit?

Attendance for Sunday, September 1: 295

TOCC FAMILY BUDGET UPDATE



Thank you for your generous giving to the ministry of The Oaks. Your prayers and giving are changing lives.

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your crops (income); then your barns will be abundantly filled and your vats will overflow with new wine. Proverbs 3:9, 10 (AMP)

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Text us to let us know that you are here today or with any prayer request that you have: 661-241-3408