



Food for thought from J

August 29, 2021

As a movie buff and an avid reader, I have watched and read all genres of books and movies over the years. In fact, if I tried to list my all-time top 25 movies or books, that list would include a bit of everything: romantic comedies, westerns, action/adventure, historical fiction, international intrigue, drama, sports – you name it!

Despite this diversity of taste, however, there is a common theme found within each of these genres that is conspicuous in the frequency of its recurrence across all entertainment media. This compelling theme is the exploration of humanity's struggle with its dark side – the confrontation with and management of the beast within, so to speak. Because this theme can emerge every time a character struggles with the decision of doing what they know they ought to do even when it is not what they want to do, it can be pervasive across all points of the entertainment spectrum from the most light-hearted fare to the ultra-serious and dramatic. Just consider the fundamentally similar moral dilemmas faced and addressed weekly by Andy Griffith, Barney, and Opie alongside those confronted in subsequent decades by Luke Skywalker in the epic Star movies, and Raymond Reddington of television's the Blacklist and you get the point. But why this fascination with human nature and particularly its often losing struggle in the quest for righteousness? Quite simply, it is because this is our story and our struggle as told in the Bible and contrasted against the perfect righteousness of God and the example of Christ.

Over the last several weeks in our Sunday worship, we have been exploring difficult teaching in scripture that seems to showcase our failure as humans to embrace the light, to live out our faith, and to engage in active love. What's more, these lessons are usually presented in the same chapters and verses in which we are presented with God's amazing grace, who loves us enough to have sent Jesus so that whoever believes in him might not perish but have eternal life. This stark contrast is more than just a literary device to catch our attention or to create engaging prose. It is a reminder that in all of our struggles, the way we act and think, the way we understand and interpret scripture, if we are going to serve the God of the Bible, we must begin from the premise that it is our job to conform to God rather than to believe we can force our awesome and perfect God to reconcile with our limited comprehension of the universe around us.

Still, how often do we struggle with questions like: How can God ask me to do this... or, how could an all loving God do that...?

And yet, when was the last time we considered how foolish it is that we, the creation, should presume to question and understand the workings of God who can create, from nothing, everything seen and unseen around us – every atom, molecule – even time, space and the laws of physics, chemistry, and biology that provide order to our perception of this universe in which we live? When was the last time we, with all our anger, hatred, grudges, and bitterness, considered how shallow is our understanding and practice of love in the face of God's perfect love?

One of the first contemporary Christian songs I remember singing came out in the late 80s and proclaims: Our God is an awesome God. It is natural to struggle with and question what we read and learn from the Bible, but we would do well to remember the fundamental awesomeness of our God. If we begin with this premise in our approach to studying and being changed by the difficult lessons from God's word, we might be surprised at how much easier they are to accept and incorporate into lives that begin to look ever more Christlike in our love of God and our neighbor.



GIFTS OF LOVE

In honor of **Betty Garrett** on her birthday by Monday Night Bible Study.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of **Rev. Jim Trice** by Jenny Horton; Bobbie & Don Vining

In memory of **Richard Geeslin** by Sue & Bill Pope

In memory of **Steve Smith** by Carolyn & Don McCollum; Bobbie & Don Vining; Patricia Pratt King & Bruce King; Neita & John Denny; Carole & Eric Sears; Pam & Steve Davis

The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of Edward Hallman and in celebration of our marriage, Aug. 28, 1976 by Nancy Hallman.

BASEMENT NEWS



August 29: Movie Night (in the Basement)
Sept. 5: No Youth (Labor Day)

BASEMENT

For information about the Wynnton Youth Group contact Rob Harbison, (706) 289-3082, r.harbison@mchsi.com

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

"There's a Better Day a Comin'!"

The uplifting lyrics, melody, and rhythm of Great Gettin' Up Mornin', remind us that better days are coming! The text is focused on Revelation, a time of all things made new; "better days a comin'!" This Sunday, Wynnton will be a service of unity as we combine with the Link in worship. With the end of Camp Meeting drawing near, it seems fitting that the Wynnton Choir ends our singing where we began, as we once again fill the Sanctuary with Great Gettin' Up Mornin'!

Great Gettin' Up Mornin', arranged and adapted by Roger Emerson

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

Preacher, lay aside your Bible, fare thee well, fare thee well.

Preacher, lay aside your Bible, fare thee well, fare thee well.

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

There's a better day a comin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

There's a better day a comin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

In that great gettin' up mornin', fare thee well, fare thee well.

Great gettin' up morning! Great gettin' up morning!
Great gettin' up, fare thee well!

Revelation 21:3-5

... "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making all things new!"...

God's Great peace to You!
Diana B.

BIBLE COOKIES KIES

Children's Programs

There is nothing sweeter than God's love! Cookies are small, often bite-sized treats. Jesus taught his followers using short and sweet stories called parables that can teach us a lot about how God wants us to live and how much he loves us.

The nursery is available from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. as well as Sunday School for grades K-12 from 9:45-10:50 a.m. The nursery for infants through 3-year olds is on the first floor of the Grimes building. Children's Sunday School for K-5th Grade is on the 2nd floor of the Grimes building, and youth Sunday school is in the basement under the sanctuary. Children's Church will be offered for children through 5th Grade in the Children's Center in the Grimes building during the worship hour.

NEW!

**Parents' Sunday School class
9:45am**

Have children still "in the nest"?

You're invited to a new Sunday School community that seeks to encourage, challenge, and grow with others in the child-raising stage of life.

Nursery and children's Sunday School is offered at the same time. Stick around for worship at 11am!



Wynnton DMC | 2412 Wynnton Road

WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING

Work Day
August 28th
8:30 a.m.
2716 10th St.

Please join us if you would like to help lay sod and plant bushes. We need you!

CONGRATULATIONS

To Cynthia & Jesse Kelley on the birth of a granddaughter, Collins Fitzgerald Kelley, on August 20, 2021. Parents are Will and Kathleen Kelley.



The youth are starting a new Sunday School series on Christian doctrine from the Book of Romans, beginning August 15th.

BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! - to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are still looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of October. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.

WANT TO HELP?

The children at Wynnton Arts Academy are in need of elementary age sized khaki pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, red polo shirts & underwear.

They are also in need of school supplies. Here are some suggestions: Crayons (small, box of 24 - fat, box of 8) Pencils (yellow #2), Large pink erasers (about 2 1/2x1x1/2) – not pencil toppers), Kleenex, Hand sanitizer (large), Band-Aids, Wide-ruled notebook paper, Fat primary pencils, Glue sticks, Ziploc bags (all sizes), Scissors (blunt tip), Colored markers (fat, 8 per box), Dry erase markers (black and assorted colors).

If you would like to help, please place the items in the bin in front of the library.

FLOWER DELIVERY

Betty Woodruff/Shirley Wright



Operation Christmas Child

Hope you have found several school supplies for your Samaritan's purse shoebox. If you have not gotten school supplies, there are still plenty available, and they are at good prices. NOW, you might want to add some other things to your box collection. I would suggest you get wash cloths and bars of soap. This is always a needed item. Another thing to look for is short sleeve tee shirts. These go on sale about this time of year. Just remember, plain tee shirts are best. Ball caps are a fun item for older children. WalMart has these plain caps. Any questions, please contact me. Thanks, Pam

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

August 29: John 8:1-20, 2 Chronicles 1:1-2:16, Zechariah 14

August 30: John 8:21-47, 2 Chronicles 2:17-5:1, Malachi 1:1-2:9

August 31: John 8:48-59, 2 Chronicles 5:2-14, Malachi 2:10-16

September 1: John 9:1-23, 2 Chronicles 6, Malachi 2:17-3:18

September 2: John 9:24-41, 2 Chronicles 7, Malachi 4

September 3: John 10:1-21, 2 Chronicles 8, Psalm 73

September 4: John 10:22-42, 2 Chronicles 9, Psalm 74

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 29 Danette Copeland, Scott McCranie, Cynthia McLemore, Louise Pinter
- 1 Cyle Mims
- 2 Beverly McDaniel

OUR STEWARDSHIP

8-22-21

General Fund.....	10,153.00
Endowment.....	405.00
Missions.....	54.00
Prayer Shawl.....	20.00
Other Contributions.....	39.00

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Prodigal Son
Luke 15:11-32
Rev. Greg Harrison

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Aug. 27-29
Rev. Greg Harrison 478-955-1577

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexie McRae
Glenn Killough	Kathy Draughon
Matthew Allen	Debi Meacham Wright
Anne Turner	Dorothy Robinson
Bobby Porch	Wanda Jones
Lillian Cox	Kerry Mess
Lynn Christenson	Jennefer Spell
Beverly Ragsdale	

Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Sandy Dryman & family
Nancy Hammond & family
Chris Alexander & family
Ernest Hale & family
Agnes Tew & family
Sharon White & family
Maria & Joe Bannon & family
Alice Smith & family
Family of Joanne Cole
Family of Rev. Jim Trice
Family of Richard Geeslin

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 29

9:45 a.m. Welcomers Meeting - Fellowship Hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children
11:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service - Sanctuary
Rev. J Grantham & Greg Harrison -
Streams Live on Facebook
11:00 a.m. Children's Church - Grimes Building
5:00-7:00 p.m. Basement - Youth

Wednesday, September 1

10:00 a.m. Women's Zoom Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir - Bell Choir Room
7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 2

6:30 a.m. Men's Zoom Bible Study