

The Good News

Newsletter - September 2019

A publication of University Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, MS

The purpose of University Baptist Church is, through guidance of Holy Spirit, to assemble and worship God, to love and encourage one another, to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to minister to all people, and to live in peace. In a world where difficult issues remain, UBC is committed to its core values of being inclusive, inquisitive, and community minded.

Fellowship

But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship, one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

Do you know what fellowship is? Have you ever experienced such a thing? Do you long for fellowship? Every week, I am very eager and excited to go outdoors and to share in a heart-felt bond with my brethren in Christ, who have a love for the word and the righteous ways of God.

According to the book of John, fellowship speaks of having a heart-bond that is built on truth and warmed by love. It begins with a good relationship with God and then flows out into good relationships with others (John 17:17-23, 1 Corinthians 1:9, 1 John 1:3). Fellowship within a church grows as each individual Christian learns to fellowship with the Lord. God's intentions for mankind was for us to be social beings, sharing in His light and in His love.

Have you ever watched a sporting event and seen one of the athletes hurt their knee, leg, or ankle and not be able to walk because of pain? Notice that the injured athlete has one teammate to carry them under one arm and another teammate carrying them under the other arm - and they guide the injured athlete to be tended to. God made mankind so that we would/should have intersecting lives helping one another, inspiring one another, encouraging one another, uplifting one another, teaching one another, and edifying one another in the beauty of the Lord (Acts 2:39-42, Acts 20: 18-21, Ephesians 4:11-16).

Because of God's love, we should be willing to lend a hand, to offer a shoulder for others to lean on, and to comfort others who've suffered a loss, who are in pain, or who feel the pressures of the world. No, fellowship is not about coming together to hold up a bank or go on a robbing spree :). Our fellowship with God and with one another should be a celebration of our joy and the rejoicing of God's goodness (Psalm 30, 33:1-5).

We serve a just and righteous God, and we should all walk in one accord, in line with His will. Although we are saved as individuals, God blesses us with an intimate fellowship with Him and others in the family of God. We should all be mindful of that everyday. God bless!

- Justin Underwood

Fellowship

The Christian best helps the world when his
kindness disquiets it and his goodness
helps lead it to repentance.

We have fellowship, one with another and
with God when we walk in the light
and forsake all darkness.

Fellowship with God discovers the excellence
of His character, and by beholding Him
the soul is transformed.

Fellowship with God is the condition of spiritual
growth that will shelter His people through the storms.

Those whom God calls are not the ones this
world would choose,
God gets all glory, honor, and praise for what
He does; men are just poor earthen
vessels He chooses to us.

Blessed is the man whom Thou choosest, and
causeth to approach unto Thee.
Behold how good and how pleasant it is for
brethren to dwell together in unity.

United as one body in the warmth of love and
obedience to His word,
our every day should be about togetherness and
devotion; a family atmosphere that is superb.

Those who really love the Word of God should
delight to meet in holy fellowship for
the study of its precious truths.
Like a tree planted by the rivers of *living*
water nourishing and nurturing our
spiritual roots.

Those who live close to Jesus hear the longings
of His heart for His friends,
And so, He has gone to prepare a place where
we can all sup together in His Father's
heavenly mansions.

A Man With a Godly Vision

In 1929 a man was born whose destiny was to change the United States. I am going to give a lot of his history:

- He was born in Atlanta Georgia.
- Finished High School at 15 yrs. Old
- Enrolled in Moorehouse College in 1944
- Graduates from Moorehouse and enters Crozer Theological Seminary
- Graduates from Crozer and enters Boston U. for graduate studies.
- 1953 Marries Coretta Scott
- 1955 Receives his Ph.D. From Boston U.
- 1955 lead the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- 1957 Forms the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (S.C.L.C.) civil rights organization
- Becomes co-pastor, with his father, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta
- 1963 writes his famous "Letter from the Birmingham Jail" after his arrest.
- 1963 leads the March on Washington for jobs and freedom, where he delivers "I have a Dream" speech.
- 1964 meets president LBJ to sign the civil rights act.
- 1964 wins Nobel Peace Prize and is named "Man of the Year" by Time magazine.
- Leads thousands in march for voting rights from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama
- 1968 While leading the entire city work force in Memphis, Tennessee, he was shot to death.

In the year 2000 Martin Luther King Jr. Day becomes a holiday celebrated in all 50 states.

In 2011 The Martin Luther King Jr. memorial opens in Washington D.C.

I am sixty two years old now, I remember all my life the social injustices done in America, I myself have experienced it. By that I mean in the job market, I had arrest in 1979 for a bad check. It stayed on my record, employment nearly impossible for a man who had the management skills to run an entire car dealership, I had to open my own and see peers pass me by, even family too.

Dr. King was on of the greatest men after God; he sought change God's way, he had vision, that's what scared people who were stuck in the past. I speak about a man in the 21st century who impacted millions of Americans. God calls all of us who are saved to , "create a vision." I ask you, do you have a vision? Seek God's wisdom.

-Timothy Evans

Dog Pen Church Prayer

O Lord,

Give ear to our words... give heed to our sighs and supplications. Attend to the sounds of our cries this day as we plead and watch before you.

Hear us, O God, and invigorate Your church to heed the teachings of love, stewardship, and joy in living the Gospel of the grace of God in Christ Jesus.

Show favor to Your humble servants and mercifully increase the gifts of Your grace, that made fervent in hope, faith, and charity, we may be ever watchful in keeping Your commands.

Thought the greatness of Your faithful love, let us enter Your house and bow down before You in awe and in reverence of You.

Help us to deepen our unity and intensify our joy that all who believe in You may work together in fellowship to be instruments of Your peace.

We thank You for this day, for lending us Your ear, and we ask You all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and our Savior.

Let the body of the Church say, "Amen!"