



Those
who
belong
to
Christ
Jesus
have

Crucified the Flesh

with
its
passions
and
desires.

The Herald

Galatians 5:24, NIV

From the Pastor's Desk

Wisdom on Forgetting Philippians 3:13

¹³ *“Brothers, ... one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead”* Philippians 3:13

I am pulling this verse out of context, so maybe you should grab your Bible and read the whole of chapter 3. The context is about the process of pressing to spiritual maturity and the fuller knowledge of Christ. In this context Paul says “forgetting what lies behind”.

I believe we all need to improve at our “forgetting” skills. In scripture forgetting doesn't mean a lack memory, it means a lack of effect. So, when several passages say some version of “God remembers our sins no more”. (Isa. 43:25, Jer.31:34, Heb. 8:12) it means though God knows all about my past sins they no longer have any impact or effect on my relationship to him. Hallelujah!!

I am sure Paul means for us to move on from our old life of self centeredness and sin to follow Christ. We will change our sinful patterns to make new life giving choices. It would also mean to move on from the immature levels of faith to trust Christ in more and more areas of life. I believe it would include forgetting our successes to move on to even more steps of faith and victory. Now we always learn from the good faith choices we make but we don't stay in those places we press on to greater joy. There is always new growth and fruitfulness to gain.

Many of us have another part of our past to forget. This would be the painful parts of our past we have always wanted to forget, but somehow they still have an effect on our life and journey with Christ. Some of these memories haunt us, hold us prisoner with regret or bitterness or fear. I believe we need to bring these past pieces of life to Jesus to find his healing power or his grace to forgive so we can live free from those memories and biblically “forget” them so they no longer effect our relationships. We can then truly press forward to new fruitfulness with Jesus. This aspect of forgetting can be challenging. Often this past has controlled us for years and we can't see how to forget it to the point where it truly has no effect on our life. This would be a time to ask a trusted spiritual friend or counselor to help work and pray through the process to become totally forgetful and free. A place of great joy!

Our journey with Jesus has great opportunities to be enjoyed but we probably need to “forget” some things to fully gain all he has for us.

For Forgetting,
Pastor Dennis

Missions Moment— Hosanna Institute

Hosanna Institute of the Sahel was established in 2001. Since then Hosanna has grown to include services of every kind that show love and serve the people of Niger. Hosanna continues to serve the people of Niger through medical, education, development, and many other services.



Our Vision

To accompany the Republic of Niger in economic and social development through education, professional training and healthcare to meet both physical and spiritual needs.

Our Stories

"I was abandoned and became an orphan, I came to Hosanna in need of food, housing and education. Hosanna helped me to become a nurse and now I am able to help my people in Niger and provide for my family by doing what I love."

Fadimata

"Today I thank Hosanna for helping me recover and saving my life, I was on drugs for several years and I am thankful to be part of the Hosanna recovery program." Abraham

Kollo Health Center

The Kollo Health center was started as a women's and children's clinic, but has grown to be so much more. The clinic is on a path to sustainability, and provides everything from pre natal care to full surgical services. The clinic is currently seeking partners to help financially as the clinic stoves to become self sustaining in the next 5 years.

Maradi School of Hope

The Maradi School of Hope was established in 2019 and provides education to children of handicap parents or who suffer from a handicap themselves.

Currently there are 200 students enrolled.

This school provides a future for children who are often forgotten.

Currently the school operates on \$2500/month and is in need of a parter to support this continued effort. Or sponsor a student for \$50/month

For more info or to help, go to: www.his-niger.org

Palm Sunday

It was over two thousand years ago when Jesus rode into Jerusalem. He was greeted by a cheering crowd and the waving of six-foot long palm branches. Christians today still celebrate this “Palm Sunday.”

Palm branches were like a national flag to the Jews. A palm branch had been engraved on the last coins made by Israel before they were forced to use only Roman coins.

These branches of the date palm tree stood for freedom. By waving palm branches, the people were saying that they wanted freedom from Roman rule.

The crowds greeted Jesus like a king. They shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David.” *Hosanna* means “Please save us!” “Son of David” was another name for the promised Savior.

God had promised David that one of his descendants would rule Israel forever. (2 Samuel 7:12-13)

**Sunday: Oh, Jerusalem!**

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19

“It’s him!” A man’s voice shouted above the noisy crowd on the dusty road. It’s Jesus of Nazareth! And he’s riding on a donkey!”

The crowds who were traveling to Jerusalem ran to meet Jesus. They had heard about Lazarus being raised from the dead. They knew about other miracles Jesus had performed. The people wanted to honor Jesus as their promised King and Messiah.

Even though people in those days usually owned only one coat, they willingly took off their coats and spread them on the road in front of the donkey. Some people broke off palm branches and waved them.

Others laid branches down with their coats to form a soft carpet on the road in front of the donkey Jesus was riding.

“Hosanna!” they shouted. “Please save us! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!” The excited crowd hoped that Jesus would free their country from Roman rule.

When Jesus was halfway down the Mount of Olives, he stopped his donkey. He looked across the valley to the beautiful city of Jerusalem. Tears filled his eyes.

He knew the cheering crowd would soon turn against him. He also knew the time was coming when the city would be attacked and ruined.

Suddenly he began weeping loudly. "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem!" he cried out. "In the coming days your enemies will surround you on every side."

Your enemies will smash your city to the ground," cried Jesus. "They will destroy you and all your people. They will not leave one stone on top of another."

Tears streamed down Jesus' cheeks. He sobbed out loud as he thought about what the Roman army would do to Jerusalem in the future.

Still crying, Jesus continued on toward the city. No one seemed to notice his tears. The crowds kept shouting praises to him. Their shouts grew louder and louder.

When they entered the city gates, the people of Jerusalem asked the excited crowd, "Who is this man?"

The crowds answered, "This is Jesus! He is the prophet from Nazareth."

Meanwhile the Pharisees fussed and fumed while they watched Jesus ride into Jerusalem. They told each other, "Things are getting worse! Look at how the whole world is following Jesus!"

What did the Jewish people want their Messiah to do?

Why did Jesus weep loudly when he saw the city of Jerusalem?

How do you honor Jesus as the King of your life today?

"LORD, save us. LORD, give us success. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD." (Psalm 118:25-26 NIRV)



The above narratives are from a junior book in the library, *Journey to the Cross* by Helen Haidle, that features all the events of the last week of Jesus' life and resurrection in chronological order.

For the next month or so, we will have Easter books on display for your reading pleasure. Come in and browse through the wonderful books and media in our library!

DVDs new to our library: Educated for Liberty; God's Outlaw;
Hiding in Plain Sight; The Gospel of Luke

March Librarians: Bonnie McCaskell and Georgie Neff

Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

GUILTY! (Are you?)

In our November, 2025, discussion on walking with God, we took a look at “*bearing false witness*”. Our goal was to recognize daily applications of this familiar commandment. Besides the obvious (spreading false rumors or *partial* truths), we learned that repeating something we’ve *heard* also disobeys this commandment — if we have not verified the accuracy of what we heard.

Recent events in my life have prompted me to return to this topic. As I stood, listening to a concern being shared by a friend, I felt a sudden conviction in my heart . . . as though I were doing something wrong and God had called me on it. When I got home, I went in search of answers. I needed some clarity.

The first stop in my quest was **Proverbs**, chapter 6. Verses 16-19 give us a list of seven things which are an abomination to the LORD. To my surprise, THREE items on that list refer directly to how we speak about other people: “*a lying tongue*”; “*a false witness that speaketh lies*”; or “*he that soweth discord among brethren*”.

In **Ephesians**, chapter 4, we find further instruction regarding how we speak to one another: “. . . *must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.*” **Hey!** Ben reminds us of this all the time — to **walk together**, because we are **all** part of the Body of Christ. Because **we** are His church.

But . . . this was just a conversation with a friend, sharing information we had heard! We’re not **really** hurting anyone, are we? Obviously, I needed more information from my Bible. My next stop made it a little clearer WHY we were wrong. **James 4:11-12** explained — in terms I could understand.

(KJV) “Speak not evil one of another. (NIV) Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it . . . who are you to judge your neighbor?”

So . . . talking **about** another member of the Body of Christ — making assumptions about him or her — is speaking **against** him? Okay, I get that. What can I **do**, when such a situation arises? **That** question led me back to **Proverbs**.

Chapter 1, verses 10-15 (NIV) told me, “*My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them . . . (v. 15) my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths.*” Then, I found an even more earnest guideline in chapter 4, verses 14-15 (KJV): “*Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn away from it, and (NIV) go on your way.*”

Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

So, I should walk away from such conversations? Or refuse to participate in them? Okay, I guess I understand that . . . but these passages speak of ‘evil’ and ‘wicked’ people. We were just talking amongst ourselves! Is that REALLY evil? Yet again, my Bible had answers to my question . . .

In **Psalm 101:7**, David vowed that, *“He that worketh deceit shall not dwell in my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my presence.”* He simply refused to keep company with such people.

In **Proverbs** -- a book teeming with moral guidelines -- I found evidence of **consequences** for lying . . . **Proverbs 19:9** (KJV) says, *“A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.”* (verse 5 says, *“he . . . shall not escape.”*)

Still wanting more, I went in search of something in Jesus’ own words. Something God had actually SAID. I found both. In **Matthew 12**, verses 36-37, Jesus told the Pharisees:

(KJV) *“But I say unto you That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”*

Wanting to be absolutely certain of what this meant, I consulted **Mr. Webster** on the word “idle”. (It is from a Middle English word, which was derived from an Ole English word meaning empty or vain.) *“1) having no value, use, or significance; 2) baseless, unfounded.”*

The final stop in my quest for clarity led me to the book of **Revelation**. Any doubts I still had -- about how serious it was to have that ‘simple, harmless’ conversation with my friend -- disappeared. In chapter 21, verse 8, I found out **exactly** how much God hated what we’d been doing . . . and what the consequences would be if we didn’t change our ways:

*“But the fearful {NIV: cowardly} and unbelieving, and the abominable {NIV: vile; CEV: dirty-minded}, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and **all liars** {emphasis added}, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”*

WHOA! Ben has **told** us that **ALL** sin looks the same to God. That the “*tiny, innocent*” infractions are as deadly as murder . . . but . . . WOW! That verse in Revelation really drove the point home!

Keeping the Family Strong

By: BJ Reese

My friends, the lesson here is crystal clear. **ANY** act or word that causes harm to **ANY** member of the Body of Christ **can** and **will** lead us to that “*second death*.” However “*innocent*” our curiosity; however “*harmless*” our personal reason may seem to **US**, it is a **MAJOR** mistake in God’s eyes.

“**Walk Together**” should be our guide --- always. **Never** should anything pass through our speech that attacks, accuses, alienates, or isolates one of God’s children from the Body of Christ. It is up to **US** to **protect** each other --- in **ALL** things.

I pray I can be much more diligent . . . and much **less** guilty . . . in my future discussions. May we **all** strive to be aware of this seemingly innocent --- but very dangerous --- behavior.

To His Glory . . . BJ



Gracious words
are a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul
and
healing
to the
bones.

Proverbs 16:24, NIV

Echoes of God's Glory in Creation

Roseanne Hilton

Reflections from Psalm 65:9-13

“You take care of the earth and water it, making it rich and fertile. The rivers of God will not run dry; they provide a bountiful harvest of grain, for You have ordered it so. You drench the plowed ground with rain, melting the clods and leveling the ridges. You soften the earth with showers and bless its abundant crops. You crown the year with a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.

The wilderness becomes a lush pasture, and the hillsides blossom with joy. The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep, and the valleys are carpeted with grain.

They all shout and sing for joy.” from 1997 New Living Translation

This beautiful passage demonstrates how God cares for His creation and shows how He is interested in providing for His people and blessing the growing of their crops.

Yes, the words are mostly about agriculture, but I know from reading ahead in the Psalms that God cares about all His creation, wild places, forests, deserts and wild animals. Psalm 104 talks about “the trees of the LORD are well cared for” and that “high in the mountains are pastures for the wild goats.”

These works of God are accomplished in abundance and joy: care, rich, fertile, bountiful, drench, soften, bless, crown, overflow, lush, blossom, joy, shout and sing. These words define God's labors in blessing the earth.

May we join God's other creatures in shouting and singing for joy.



Announcements

Connections Classes for anyone wanting to learn more about LWC.
March 8, 15, 22 at 10:15 am in the library.

Ministry to Women Upcoming Events:

March 7th - M2W serving at Cornerstone. We'd love to have women or couples join us to serve lunch! Contact Robin Martinez.

March 8th - M2W Side by Side Mentor training - for those already involved with the program, or those just looking for more information. Light lunch provided, begins at Noon.

March 15th - M2W Open House. Stop by the M2W table in Fellowship Hall for information and to get involved!

March 20th - Game Night for the Ladies at 6:30 pm! Ages 13+.

Child Supervision Class will be held Sunday, March 29th at 10:15 am in the Library. If you work with children (nursery, kids church, safety team, etc) or are a ministry leader, and haven't taken this course, please plan on attending!

Hymn Sing on March 29th right after 2nd service (around 11:45 am). Come and sing some of your favorite hymns and then bring a dish to share at the potluck following the hymn sing.

We are looking for a Nursery Coordinator. If you are interested or would like more information about the position, please reach out to Stephanie in the office.



Palm Sunday—March 29th—Services at 8:30 am & 10:15 am

Good Friday Communion Service— April 3rd at 6 pm

Easter Sunday—April 5th— Services at 8:30 am & 10:15 am

Brunch served from 9-10:15 am

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT EACH CAMP AT THEIR WEBSITES.

OUR CHURCH HAS A CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM TO HELP WITH FEES.
CHECK OUT THE CAMP DISPLAY IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR
MORE INFORMATION.

Faith & Hope COMMUNITY EVENT

Thursday, May 28 • 7:00pm



ANNE GRAHAM LOTZ
AnGeL Ministries

featuring Worship & Music with



FERNANDO ORTEGA
*Nationally Acclaimed
Contemporary Christian Artist*

Please Join Us for the Women's Brunch!

Thursday – May 28, 2026

Doors Open 9:30am • Program – 10:00am

The Monument – Rushmore Hall
444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road, Rapid City

Tickets On Sale for \$30.00

at Alternative Fuel Coffee House • 512 Main St., Suite 110, Rapid City
or Fischer Furniture • 1830 W. Main, Rapid City

Please Join Us for the Community Event!

Thursday – May 28, 2026

Doors Open 6:30pm • Program – 7:00pm

The Monument – Fine Arts Theatre
444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road, Rapid City

Tickets On Sale for \$20.00

at www.themonument.live/events

Timberline Lodge—Ascent Weeks

Where adults and families grow through adventure and Bible teaching

Ascent Weeks are Timberline's summer programming designed for adults and families of all ages and experience levels to spend time away together in the Colorado Rockies.

We offer multiple weeks each summer, all with the same goal of bringing guests outside to fellowship with their Creator and be refreshed through God's Word.



These week-long retreats are open for everyone: college students on summer break, career focused adults who need a week away, or those wanting to spend quality time with family in a beautiful and uplifting environment.

All ages are welcome, and you don't even need to love the outdoors to participate! We believe all who come will be blessed and impacted by this week spent in God's Word.

How much does Ascent Week cost?

Here's the basic breakdown for the full week. This includes lodging, towels, linens, all meals, and guided activities.

Adults (18+): \$625

Youth (11-17): \$400

Child (4-10): \$284

Infant/Toddler: \$0

There will be a \$149 non-refundable deposit after registration. Remaining balance will be due one month before your trip. If the week is already filled, your registration will be added to our waiting list.

Ascent Weeks will be held

July 19-24 ~ July 26-31 ~ August 2-7

For more information, go to: timberlinelodge.org/aw

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GIVEBACK ID: QKWRLH

Heavenly Humor

Lessons From A Little Voice

A woman invited several guests over for dinner. When everyone gathered around the table, she turned to her 6-year-old daughter and asked, “Would you like to say the blessing?”

“I don’t know what to say,” the little girl replied.

Her mother smiled. “Just say what you hear Mommy say.”

The child bowed her head and prayed sincerely, “Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?”

A Taste of Loving-Kindness

A Sunday school teacher once asked her class, “What do you think the Bible means when it speaks of loving-kindness?”

A young boy thought for a moment and replied, “Well, if I were hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread with butter on it, that would be kindness. But if they added a spoonful of jam, that would be loving-kindness.”



LOVE GOD • WALK TOGETHER • CHANGE LIVES

525 Main St. PO Box 385, Hill City, SD 57745 605-574-2426

www.thelittlewhitechurch.net ~ office@thelittlewhitechurch.net

Sunday Service Times at 8:30 am & 10:15 am—Fellowship In-Between