

Lines from Larry

Love One Another

Jesus made it very clear to His followers what we needed to do for people to know we are His disciples. In John 13:34-35, Jesus said, "A new commandment I give you: **Love one another**. As I have loved you, so you must **love one another**. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you **love one another**."

Three times in these two verses Jesus reiterated His new commandment to **love one another**. I'll be the first one to say this is not the only command Jesus wants us to follow, but it is one that I want to discuss with you this month. John uses this word for love at least 37 times in his gospel. It is the word used for love that means unconditional love. Sometimes love is conditional, demanding, or mutual, but Jesus used the word in these two verses that would be equivalent to saying, "unconditionally **love one another**." We do not **love one another** based on bargains, reciprocations, or because we trade favors with one another.

Jesus' commandment is to teach His disciples to act a certain way in life and that way is to **love one another**. Historically, most people have not acted in a very loving way to one another. Throughout history we read about people hating one another and warring with each other. The mindset of "might makes right" has divided people ever since Cain and Able. The Greeks believed "unconditional love" meant you were weak or what we would call today a "sissy."

Jesus comes to the end of His ministry and gives us a commandment to **love one another** unconditionally. Judas has left to betray Jesus. The other disciples pledge their loyalty to Jesus. Peter claims if all others forsake Jesus he alone would remain faithful. And Jesus tells Peter before the rooster crows, he would deny Him three times. Judas betrays Jesus. Peter denies Him. The other disciples leave Him. And it is Jesus who hung upon a cross to represent unconditional love for one another. Jesus bore all our sins unconditionally as He died on the cross. And all Jesus asked from us is that we would **love one another**.

Every religion in the world demands conditional love. Christianity is the only one that provides unconditional love. And this new commandment is simple enough for even a small child to understand. **Love one another** will cause an end to political, cultural, marital, and racial divides. Christianity offers peace toward one another because it demands a simple practice to **love one another**.

It should not seem abnormal to see the country divided because of elections. But when it infiltrates the body of Christ we must find Biblical teachings to respond in a ways that magnifies Jesus as Lord.

Do you want to see an end to world wars, political wars, cultural wars, marital wars, and racial wars? Then as a church reflecting the teachings of Jesus Christ – we must **love one another**.

Those serving in September

| | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Children's Church | Judy/Brenda | Judy/Brenda | Joni/Peggy | None |
| Communion Med & Prayer | Jancye | Larry | Marc | Andy |
| Com. To Shut-ins | Roger S. | Larry | Nate | Andy |
| Communion Prep | Ruby Lovejoy | Ruby Lovejoy | Ruby Lovejoy | Ruby Lovejoy |
| Front Door Greeter | Jancye | Diane H. | Sue L | Ron L |
| Greeters | Ben & Peggy | Randy & Barb | Joyce T. & Joan H. | Sue & Jimmy |
| Musician | Cheryl | Marcia | Cheryl | Cheryl |
| Nursery | Alice C. | Alice C. | Angie | Angie |
| Offering Prayer | Larry | Marc | Mark T. | Scott |
| Opening Prayer | Mark T. | Rodney | Blaine | Marc |
| Screen | Marcus | Heaven | Marcus | Mart T. |
| Scripture Reading | Peggy | Angie | Larry | Randy |
| Sound | Nate | Mark T. | Nate | Rodney |
| Vocals | Jancye, Hannah & Joni | Jancye, Hannah & Shawna | Jancye, Hannah & Shawna | Jancye, Hannah & Joni |

Announcements

We are considering having a noon day lunch once a month and playing games afterwards. If interested in attending there is a signup sheet at the Welcome Center.

September 3: Birthday Sunday and Collecting for St. Joseph's Food Pantry.

September 7: Board meeting @ 7 PM.

September 8 - 9: Bond Camp is partnering with the Men's Ministry from Wood River FCC to host a Men's Retreat. Cost is \$25 and includes all the fun, fellowship, teaching and 3 meals plus snacks. If interested you can call Jim Quick; Bond Camp Director at 618-326-7114.

September 9: Men's Prayer Breakfast at 8 AM. Study is taken from the movie Courageous. Will have 4 lessons, one a month. Signup sheet is at the Welcome Center.

September 16: Women's Conference at First Baptist Church, see flyer on bulletin board for more details.

September 17: A Solo musical of "The Woman at the Well" will be performed during our message time by Myra Green. Penny Sunday.

Bow Shoot at Rodney & Brenda's.

September 23: Lighthouse Pregnancy & Health Services are putting on their 2nd annual Comedy Night. See flyer on bulletin board for more details.

Birthday's

| 9/2 | Marcus Hortenstine | 9/17 | Bryer Peters | |
|--------------------|--------------------|------|----------------|--|
| | Hillary Saunders | | Tena Saunders | |
| 9/3 | Tyler Pryor | 9/19 | Jeff Blackburn | |
| 9/5 | T. J. Pryor | | Brittany Pope | |
| 9/7 | Lillee Yokley | 9/21 | Paul Luster | |
| | Jasmine Howe | | Kaden Cox | |
| 9/8 | Pat Click | | Mike Pryor | |
| | Bo Hunt | 9/22 | Jeremy England | |
| 9/11 | Michelle Lay | 9/30 | Zach McFarland | |
| 9/14 Carson Thomas | | | | |





The Woman at the Well A Bible Alive Theater Solo Musical by Myra Green Ramsey Christian Church 206 S. Jefferson, Ramsey, IL 418-423-2121 Sunday September 17th 9:00am



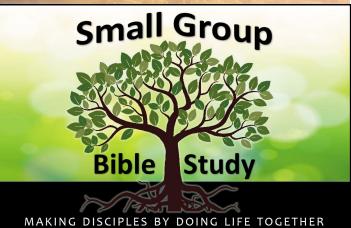


BibleAliveTheater.com

Ramsey Christian Church "Thank you so much for helping our staff have a great start this year. Everyone enjoyed the cut treat bags! It was very thoughtful of you.

We appreciate your continued support & look forward to working with you in the future."

Melissa Ritter, Ramsey Unified School District.



Small Groups will be starting in September. We would encourage you to take some time to be part of a small group. There are four suggestions for studying and we would ask that you choose one that you would like to study so we will know how many small groups we will need. Currently we are planning on having Small Groups meet on Sunday evening and Thursday afternoon. (The Tuesday ladies Bible study will continue according to their plans. The Men's prayer breakfast and Bible study will be held once a month) The four options for study are listed below.

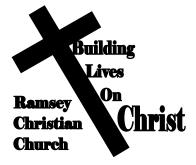
Option 1: Sweet Hour of Prayer by Don DeWelt Option 2: Real by Jamie Snyder Option 3: S.H.A.P.E. (Spiritual gifts, Heart, Abili-

Option 3: S.H.A.P.E. (Spiritual gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences) Finding & Fulfilling Your Purpose for Life by Erik Rees Option 4: The Challenge of Islam by Sam Shamoun

There is more information on each of these studies at the Welcome Center in the foyer of the church.

If you would like to send any cards to Marissa Carroll her address is: OCC Box 2714 1111 N. Main Street Joplin, MO 64801 P. O. Box 453 206 S. Jefferson St. Ramsey, IL 62080 (618) 423-2121 www.ramseychristianchurch.com

Senior Minister: Larry Daniel larrygdaniel@hotmail.com 479-372-0729



Attendance

| 7/30 | 92 |
|------|-----|
| 8/6 | 101 |
| 8/13 | 84 |
| 8/20 | 89 |
| 8/27 | 100 |

Offering

7/30 \$2665.00 8/6 \$4480.00 Birthday Sunday \$12.00 St. Joseph's \$141.00 8/13 \$1717.00 8/20 \$1492.00 Penny Sunday \$105.07 8/27 \$2751.00

RCC's Core Values

Rooted in the Word Centered on Christ Committed to Service

Ramsey Christian Church

Fellowship Time: 8:30 AM Worship Service: 9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Electives: 10:30-11:00 AM Tuesday: Ladies Bible Study: 8:30 AM Bond Christian Service Camp Inner City Mission of Springfield, IL Lighthouse Pregnancy Center Lincoln Christian University Northwest Haiti Christian Mission Pinehaven Children's Ranch-Montana St. Louis Christian College Tim Doggett-Africa Jeff Stone—Assembly of God World Missions

Non-Profit Organization ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTERD