



Pastor and First Lady Hackett

From Got Questions.org

**QUESTION: "WHY WOULD GOD ALLOW COVID-19?"**

**Answer:** "Why would God allow COVID-19?" The whole world seems to be asking this question, a fact that actually gives the biggest part of the answer. More on that shortly.

COVID-19, or coronavirus disease 2019, is a respiratory illness caused by a coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). The effect of the illness can range from mild to severe. First identified in Wuhan, China, in late 2019, the virus quickly spread to other countries. On March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization.

Only a liar or a true prophet can claim to know God's reasons for bringing about COVID-19 or any other specific calamity. That's partly because God's purpose extends to every individual involved, from the beginning of time to the end of the world. Understanding every possible factor goes far beyond human ability, but God has within His complete knowledge and control every facet of every situation (Romans 8:28-30). The Bible reveals some insights about God's use of deadly disasters in general, but we must apply relevant Scripture and the principles of faith in order to gain wisdom about any specific disaster.

As with any mystery, to solve it we must go from the known to the unknown in our search. So we'll put the question of why God would allow COVID-19 into the context of what we already know from the Bible and from personal experience: we know that life is a gift from the Creator (Isaiah 42:5; Acts 17:25). We know that God alone has the right and power to give life and take it away according to His own wisdom and plans (Job 2:10). We know that life is short and includes some degree of suffering, ending in death and judgment for how we lived our lives—

only one life with no "do-overs" (Hebrews 9:27). Short or long, our lifespan and date of death are set and controlled by God (Matthew 10:29). Even the longest human lives are "like a breath; their days are like a fleeting shadow" (Psalm 144:4).

Moses described God's sovereignty over life and death, and this could have been written about today's COVID-19 pandemic:

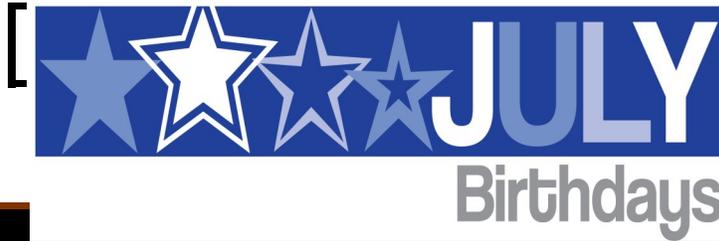
*"You turn people back to dust, saying, 'Return to dust, you mortals.' A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning: In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered" (Psalm 90:3-6).*

So what is God's purpose in allowing COVID-19? Without being too dogmatic, we know that, generally speaking, one of God's purposes in trials is to get the world's attention off themselves and onto Him, their Creator and Savior—which is the biggest part of the answer to the question at hand. "Why would God allow COVID-19?" Millions are suddenly asking that question right now, believers and non-believers alike, which means that God is on their minds. God desires for all people to earnestly seek Him and find Him, discovering that He is actually close to us (Jeremiah 29:13; Acts 17:26-28). God desires us to sense our own weakness and neediness so that we put our trust in Him (2 Corinthians 12:9). God desires people to fear Him with proper reverence and awe (Proverbs 9:10); to love Him more than their own lives (Matthew 10:37; John 12:25); and to show love and gratitude for the Savior by loving and helping fellow humans, especially the suffering (Romans 15:1; James 2:14-17). God desires to shift our focus and affection away from this temporary, troubled world to our eternal, heavenly home (Colossians 3:1-2; Hebrews 12:1-2).

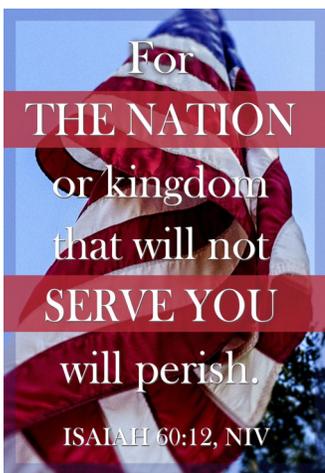
(Continued on page 3)

**PRAISE GOD TODAY!!!**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** PAGE 2 JULY BIRTHDAYS/HOW WILL WE USE OUR FREEDOM/SPECIAL DATES PAGE 3 JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS AT A GLANCE/CONCLUSION: WHY WOULD GOD ALLOW COVID-19 PAGE 4 HEALTH NOTES ON TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING FOR CORONA PAGE 5 FROM DENISE'S PEN: NOT NEW, NOR FORGOTTEN PAGE 6 & PAGE 7 HIGHLIGHTING OUR YOUTH/GRADUATES PAGE 8 GRADUATION PARADE CELEBRATION/GRADUATES ALL PAGE 9 WORSHIP, STUDY, PRAY SCHEDULE PAGE 9 PAGE 10 ACTIVITY PAGE PAGE 11 EVANGELISM: I MUST TELL YOU THIS PAGE 12 CHURCH INFORMATION/AUGUST 2020 GNL DEAD-LINE



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Canada Day</i> Sandra Adams Lee	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i> Donna Faye Smith
5	6 Dolores B. Johnson	7 Jada Johnson	8	9 Keith Hackett, II	10 Mildred Grant	11 Lester Crayton Charles Forbes Chimond Vaughn
12 Christina Beason	13 Ricardo Leacock, Jr. Roland Mitchell Rollin Mitchell	14	15	16	17 Eddie Dean Parmer	18 Whitley Roland
19 Veronica Daniel	20 Jamesha Mullins Robert Payne, Jr.	21	22 Alex Head	23	24 Kameron Dennison Kaylin Dennison	25 Mona Fleming
26 Reanna Lee	27	28 Theron Exum Gary Head	29	30 Helen Johnson Leroy Winston	31	



### How will we use our freedom?

In 2000, Cornealious Anderson was sentenced to 13 years for robbery. The 23-year-old was released on bail and told to await orders to show up to prison. But due to a clerical error, those orders never came. Some people might have taken advantage of such freedom and committed more crimes. But Anderson started a business, coached youth football and volunteered at church, earning respect in his community.

Thirteen years later, when Missouri officials discovered the error and put Anderson behind bars, an online petition called for his release. A judge agreed that Anderson was a changed man and, again, he was freed.

What would *you* do with such undeserved freedom? What *do* we do with the unmerited freedom God grants us despite our sin, and with the freedoms we celebrate on July 4? May we follow Anderson’s example and use our freedoms — social *and* spiritual — to serve others.

### SPECIAL DATES THIS MONTH

- ◇ **Canada Day, July 1**
- ◇ **U.S. Independence Day, July 4**

—adapted from *Homiletics*



(Continued from page 1)

Times of trouble are a prime motivation for us to store up treasures in heaven rather than cling to treasures on earth (Matthew 6:19–20; Colossians 3:1–3), and to be good stewards of those blessings God gives us in this life (Luke 16:11; Matthew 25:14–30). God wants us to trust Him absolutely, knowing that our times are in His hand (Psalm 31:15).

Ultimately, it is the poor and hurting who seek God, not the rich and comfortable. It is danger and calamity that turn men to their Savior, not health and wealth (see Mark 2:17). It is suffering that wakes us to our true need. C. S. Lewis put it this way: “God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world” (*The Problem of Pain*, HarperCollins, 1996, p. 91).

Life for all people means facing suffering, death, and their eternal destiny. Even if we develop immunity to COVID-19, we can’t escape the fact of trouble in the world. What’s best for us, in any situation, is to seek God: “Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart” (Psalm 119:2).



*A Graduation  
Thank-You*

**To The Greater Salem Church  
Family:**

**Blessed are the Givers And  
Grateful are the Receivers.**

**Thank you so much for our  
Graduation Love Gifts!!!**

**Taylor and Trey Garrison**



## Sunday School Lessons At-a-Glance

# Embodiment of Wisdom

## Unit 2 At A Glance

### Embodiment of Wisdom

Wisdom became incarnate in Jesus, discussed in unit 2. The Gospel writers emphasized that Jesus was an unexpected and even unwelcome source of wisdom. As a boy, Jesus’ understanding of Scripture flabbergasted the religious teachers of his day. His eccentric prophet, John the Baptist, preached in the badlands of Israel instead of from the comfort of the temple. The unprecedentedness of God’s wisdom taking human form was highlighted when Jesus was rejected upon returning to his hometown.

Jesus captured the Hebrew concept of wisdom as a road to be followed when he declared, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). Wisdom could no longer be viewed merely as a collection of principles with which to organize one’s life. In order to be wise, one must hear the words of Jesus, believe them, and then follow after him.

### Unit 2: Wisdom in the Gospels

**Lesson 5, July 5** - Vindicating Wisdom - Matthew 11:7–19

**Lesson 6, July 12** - The Boy Jesus - Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7b; Luke 2:39–52

**Lesson 7, July 19** - The Wisdom of Jesus - Mark 6:1–6

**Lesson 8, July 26** - Wisdom to Follow - John 14:1–14

*We believe that the Sunday School Ministry helps the church in reaching the lost, edifying the saved, and raising up spiritually healthy disciples for Jesus Christ . Pastor Hackett*

From the GSBC Nurses Ministry

# HEALTH NOTES FOR JULY 2020

## Coronavirus Testing and Contact Tracing

### Coronavirus Continues to be a Threat

Although numbers of cases are decreasing in Kentucky, it's still important to take steps to protect yourself and others from coronavirus.

Wear your mask when out in public. Masks are available at the door if you need one to attend Sunday Worship service.

As much as possible, keep at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others who don't live in your household.

You can get tested at any time if you think you have symptoms or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19.

### COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Testing Sites

Currently there are 11 testing sites available in Jefferson County. To find your closest testing site call the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-800-722-5725 or check online at <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19> or call the COVID-19.

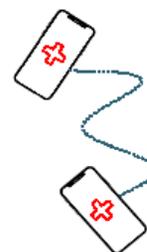
## What is Contact Tracing?

Contact Tracing is a tool public health workers use to stop the spread of a disease. Here's how it works:

**1**  
When someone tests positive for COVID-19, the health department is notified



**2**  
We call the person who tested positive for COVID-19 to see who else might have been exposed



**3**  
Once we know who else might have been exposed, we contact those people



**4**  
Public Health Workers will help them self-isolate and monitor their symptoms for at least 2 weeks to stop the spread of COVID-19



If you get a call from your Local Health Department about COVID-19, take it seriously.

What we ask for:

- ✓ Where you've been for the last few days
- ✓ The names and contact information of people you've had close contact with so we can call them
- ✓ We will NOT tell them who potentially exposed them

What we **DON'T** ask for:

- ✗ Social Security number
- ✗ Banking information
- ✗ Immigration status

## NOT NEW, NOR FORGOTTEN

By: Denise L. B. Zellars

In **Ecclesiastes 1:9**, King Solomon tells us “History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new.”

With everything going on at this time, it can be difficult to imagine that everything has happened before; especially when we hear many older folks speak of life during simpler times. When we learn various stories in the bible, we began to see this revelation from King Solomon for ourselves.

The race relations, politics, economic crisis', viruses, etc., even social distancing can be found in the Holy Bible. In **Leviticus chapter 13 & Matthew Chapter 8**, The skin disease discussed here was leprosy and most often it was fatal. Individuals with this skin disease had to be quarantined on multiple occasions before going in public. Sounds familiar to our lives during this Corona virus pandemic, right? We all can certainly relate to being quarantined and socially distant for the past few months.

Next, there was this woman with the issue of blood, of whom we recently discussed in our women's bible study class. We learned that this woman had suffered from losing blood for twelve years with no resolve after going to the doctor for help time after time and spending all of the money she had; again, to no avail.

We envisioned what it must have been like to live with losing blood everyday for twelve long years. We all know that blood is essential to life and without it, one will die. So we see this woman is suffering and dying slowly, but God Is aware and she is not forgotten.

One can imagine the weakness that would accompany this loss of blood. Every woman can empathize with the agony, the embarrassment, the pain and shame she must have felt every day, year after year.

Under the Judaic Law, she was ceremonially unclean and if she touched someone, they too, were considered unclean. Like the Lepers above, she should be isolated and definitely “socially distant” from the

public. For those of you who do not know this story, please read **Mark chapter 5**, with the exception of Christ Jesus being our ultimate sacrifice and Savior, this is perhaps one of the most powerful and memorable lessons of love, faith and hope in the bible.

This woman learned of Jesus and all His miracles and now Jesus was coming to her town at the Synagogue's leader request to help his young daughter who was dying, too. Naturally, such a blood loss would emit a foul odor, she knew the laws, she knew that because of the massive crowd that she would not be able to get too close to Jesus, she knew that she was risking being crushed by so many people, but this was dire and she was desperate! Her desperation along with her belief and faith, far outweighed her counterparts' thoughts of her and all of the Judaic Laws.

The bible tells us that the woman pressed her way through the crowd as she could barely reach out and touch the hem of Jesus' garment. This woman had tremendous faith that Jesus had the power to help her. She believed what Jesus was preaching, the Son of God, she had faith that He was so powerful and holy that just to touch His clothing would make her whole. She was absolutely right!

Her prayers were answered as Jesus felt His power move to this woman, He said “daughter be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.” She was healed at that moment and her years of suffering and isolation were now over.

In a recent Sunday school class, our Minister, like our women's bible study teacher, asked the class to place themselves in one of the stories in the bible. I call these “Spiritual exercises.” This is what Jesus commands us to do when He says to “love our neighbors as we do ourselves.” This commandment is equally important to loving God with our whole heart, mind and soul. We can do this through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit.

There are many forms of exercise; mathematical, physical, mental, but they all pale in comparison to spiritual exercises. A spiritual exercise along with prayer and meditation on God's Word enables one to commune with God, our Creator and Savior on a deeper level. He reveals His pow-

er, strengthens us and gives us understanding and the right attitude; notice that we don't get exhausted with spiritual exercise, but we do with all other exercises? Spiritual exercise can and should be done without end (**1Thessalonians 5:16-19**).

When we do spiritual exercises, we are placing ourselves in another persons shoes, we are demonstrating compassion and love for all others by sharing not only in their successes, but in their concerns, their weaknesses, heartaches and pains.

Onward, the recent death of black individuals at the hands of corrupt police officers is heart breaking and it has sparked a whole new “me too” movement in our world. Since then, there have been much chaos, and endless marching for change and justice, but some have been dangerous and disruptive. Various groups that I have never heard of are using acronyms from A to Z for their titled organizations, and many of the groups are newly formed.

One should be cognizant by researching affiliations when interested in supporting any group or organization, though. Many do not have the right agenda and God is far from their hearts. Therefore, they won't last (**2Timothy 3:1-9**). Keeping social distance is not such a bad idea, right?

Lastly, young folks going off to college, be extra cautious on who you “pledge” your allegiance to, also.

“You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way” (**Matthew 7:13**). Seek God in all affiliations (**Hebrews 13:15 & Proverbs 3:6**).

Although many events happening today are new to a great number of us; we should remember that there is nothing new under the sun. We can be encouraged that God has not forgotten us and He Is able to heal all ailments: virus', economic crisis', racism, mental/emotional, etc. He is a healer! So whether we are socially distant, under quarantine, or not, we can live in obedience, and have trust and faith in God's Word.

Blessings,

-Denise



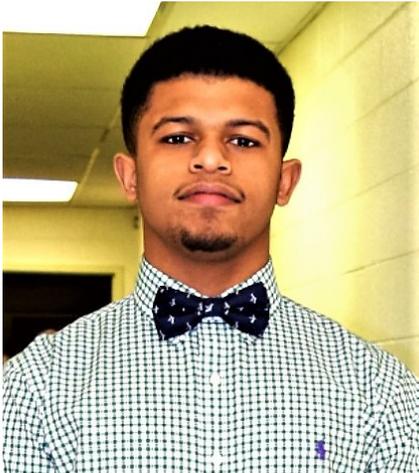
## Highlighting our Youth and Graduation News

On Saturday, June 27 starting at 3 PM - The 2020 GSBC High School and College Graduation Celebration Parade for graduating members took place on the Church Parking Lot.

GSBC Members, Family Members and Friends lined up behind the Coleridge-Taylor parking lot and came through the Greater Salem Parking area (loud and Clear) to honor, greet and offer gifts and congratulations to the members of the Class of 2019-2020 !!! This well-supported event was sponsored by the GSBC Scholarship Ministry. It was made possible by your continued support of the Scholarship Fund. The 2 articles below submitted by former Scholarship recipients illustrate how important it is to keep blessing our young people who are seeking to live a meaningfully successful life in Christ

**Thank You Greater Salem!!!**

### *William Harper is a 2020 graduate of the University of Kentucky*



Will Harper in 2016 (Above) and at last Saturday's Celebration (Below)



Greetings to my Greater Salem Church family! For those of you who don't know me, my name is William Harper. Back in 2015 I joined the Greater Salem family and gave my life to Christ shortly after. It was the greatest decision I've made in my life. I began college at the University of Kentucky in 2016. I was a broke college student with not much motivation to continue. Every time I felt like giving up, I would remember all of the people back home in my corner who supported me. I always remembered the power of prayer from Greater Salem; which gave me strength when I was down.

The great energy and love from my church family gave me motivation to get my life on track, set goals and to be an overall better person. Not only did I receive great cheers of joy from my church family; I also received a scholarship. I come from a family that isn't the most fortunate, so money would be a problem sometimes. The financial support of the Greater Salem scholarship helped me to cover random college expenses that I wasn't ready for. I am more than honored to say that I am now a college graduate with an amazing church family to support me in time of need.

With a degree in Strategic Communications and minor in Health Promotions, I plan to pursue a career in Creative Marketing.

I would like to end my letter with words of encouragement to the rising youth approaching college. In this day and age; knowledge is power. That is something that no one can take away from you.

Take advantage

of your educational opportunities and gain a close relationship with God along the way.

Thank you, with much love and blessings to my church family for all of your care and support.

Best,  
William

Will with Family and Friends who came to celebrate with him!!!



### **Alysha Thomas Lesshafft is a University Of Louisville Graduate**

#### **Good Day Church Family,**

My name is Alysha Lesshafft (formerly Thomas). I am proud to say that I am a fifth generation member of Greater Salem: my great-great-grandmother was Thelma Taylor, my great-grandmother was Lucy Burns Moore, my "granny" is Regina Burns, and my mother is Renelda Burns Thomas; my great uncle, Kevin Burns, also served as a Deacon for the church for several years. The church, this church, Greater Salem, has always been important to my family and held a special place in our hearts. When thinking about Greater Salem I have a flood of memories from my childhood that come back, from going to choir rehearsal with my momma or granny or sliding down the ramp and ripping my tights, I still have that scar on my knee. The one memory that stands out to me and is special to me is when I was baptized. I was more nervous than anything else; church was packed that day and my entire family was there. I remember putting on that white gown and all of a sudden I had this moment of peace and comfort, it was then I knew that everything would be fine and I was right where God wanted me to be. I remember running back to sit with my family and how excited I was afterwards. I have used that same feeling (God) as a tool to navigate through life and it hasn't led me astray.

I recently graduated from UofL with my Bachelors in Psychology with a Natural Science Pathway with honors. I am also a member of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society of Psychology, and a Greater Salem Scholarship Recipient. To receive that scholarship from my church meant a lot to me because it broadened my view of who my support system is and who is rooting for me to succeed; I am beyond thankful for that. One of my favorite things about UofL was the lifelong friendships and bonds that I formed and taking diversity/social science courses that helped deepen my understanding of who we are as a society and who I am becoming in today's world.

I am currently taking a gap year to gain more experience in social services and mental health so I can put my best foot forward in grad school. This gap year is not only for gaining experience, but to also get established as a young adult and live life. Next year, I plan on attending a local university to get my Masters and licensure in Marriage and Family Therapy or Clinical Counseling. My ultimate goal is to become a therapist or counselor. Down the road I may decide to get my Doctorate in Psychology, but for now I will be able to have my dream career with my Masters.

Some advice or encouragement that I can give to anyone thinking about college is:

1. college may seem like a scary place, but it becomes a second home for most people
2. visit schools and ask questions
3. set goals for yourself
4. make sure the reason you are choosing to go to school is personal to you and who you want to become
5. pray about it.



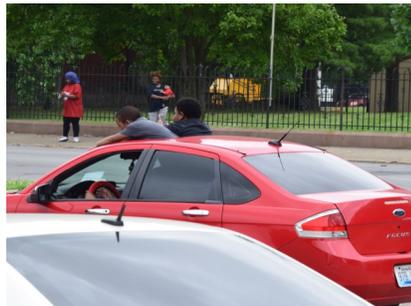
Alysha with her Grandmother, Regina Burns, at her December Graduation



Alysha and Family shared in the graduation celebration

Stay Blessed Family,  
Alysha Lesshafft

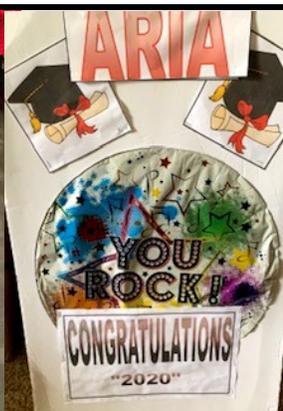
# Saturday, June 27, Graduation Celebration



Pastor Hackett and First Lady Tanisha Hackett with Below respectively,, the families of graduates Kaylin Dennison, Phillip Hardin, and Kameron Dennison,.



Graduates with Members of the Scholarship Committee



## Graduates All (L-R)

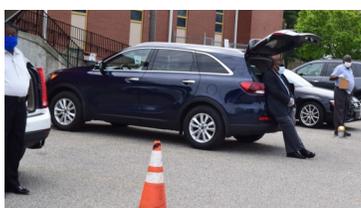
In addition to the graduates above Sis. Regina Burns grandson, **Rodjay Burns**, earned his Bachelors degree from U of L. Sis. Lynn Fleming's granddaughter, **Aria Smith-Turner** graduated from St. Lawrence Pre-school, and Sis. Mona Fleming's grandson, **Christian Fleming**, graduated from J'Town Pre-School. Congratulations!!!

## **Opportunities to Be in the Presence of God through the Study of His Word, Prayer, and with Regular Worship while maintaining Social Distance!!!**

*Pastor and First Lady Hackett and a small cadre of Ministers, Deacons, lay members, and Musicians have helped provide a continuation of regular worship services, Weekly Bible studies, Sunday School, and Prayer Services. How have they accomplished this???*



- ⇒ **Sunday Worship services are now streamed online on Facebook live at 11:15 A.M. and then made available for viewing later on the Greater Salem Website: [greatersalembaptist.org](http://greatersalembaptist.org) or the Greater Salem Facebook page.**
- ⇒ **The weekly Bible study continues on Facebook Live each Wednesday at 5:30 PM and can be viewed later on the Greater Salem website or Facebook Page.**
- ⇒ **Bro. LeRoy Winston & Sis. Rosa Battle will be leading the weekly Wednesday Prayer Service at 12 noon via conference call. The conference call information is as follows: Dial (978) 990-5000 and when prompted enter Access Code: 703263#**
- ⇒ **You can join in with Min. Kern Richardson, Sister Sara Toney and all classes for the weekly Sunday School lesson via conference call at 9:30 AM on Sundays. Just call 978-990-5000 and when prompted enter the access code 721799#**
- ⇒ **Sis. Tanisha Hackett is facilitating the Women's Ministry's Bible Study . They are holding classes via Conference Call. They are meeting on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 10:15 AM. For Audio only please call 978-990-5000, access code 703263# to be a part of the class. If you'd prefer audio and video go online at <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/tanishahackett> . All women, ages 18 and over, are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Sis. Tanisha Hackett at [tanishahackett@gmail.com](mailto:tanishahackett@gmail.com)**
- ⇒ **Pastor Hackett and Deacon George Johnson will facilitate Men's Bible Study by Conference call on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM. The dial-in number is (978) 990-5432—The access code is 3331448#**
- ⇒ **Rev. Hall and Sister Mary Stoddard will be leading the weekly Friday Bible Study via conference call at 11:30 am. The conference call information is as follows: Dial (978) 990-5000 and when prompted enter Access Code: 703263#**
- ⇒ **Tithes and offering can be delivered to the church on weekdays between 10 AM and 2:00 PM. They can be given to the Deacons on duty (587-8869) or placed in the mail slot (after hours). You can also send them to Greater Salem Baptist Church at 1009 W Chestnut Street, Louisville 40203. Call 587-8869 if you need someone to pick-up your tithes and offerings.**
- ⇒ **If you'd like to take the Lord's Supper, you can do so on every first Sunday of the month. It will be served by the Deacons on the parking lot. Please drive through to be served. (As always, remember to maintain a proper Social Distance)**
- ⇒ **You can get a paper copy of the GoodNewsLetter via mail by contacting the church at 587-8869 and leaving your name and address.**



**The Lord's Supper is being served on the First Sundays on the Parking Lot to those unable to attend services.**

July 2020!!!

# PUZZLE

## WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



Water changes to \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN 9



Calms a \_\_\_\_\_

MATTHEW 8:23-27



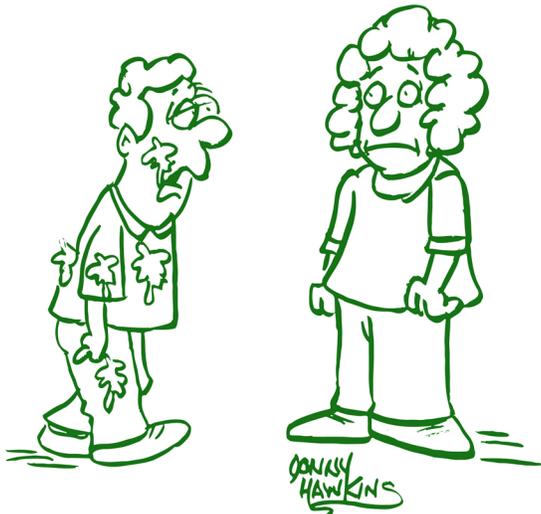
Catch of \_\_\_\_\_

LUKE 5:1-11



Walks on \_\_\_\_\_

MATTHEW 14:22-33

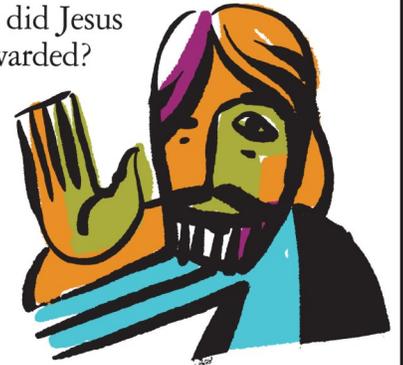


"It's hard to bear the fruit of the Spirit when they're hurling rotten tomatoes."

## Bible Quiz

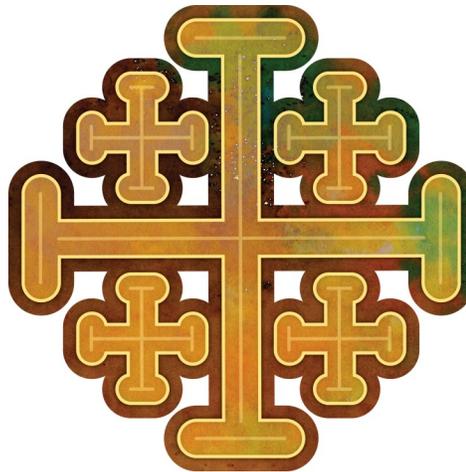
What seemingly small act did Jesus specifically say would be rewarded?

- A. Giving a child a toy
- B. Giving a lost traveler directions
- C. Giving someone a cup of cold water
- D. Giving a sad person a hug



Answer: (See Matthew 10:42.)

## Christian Symbols



## JERUSALEM CROSS

This complex cross, also called the Crusader's Cross or Fivefold Cross, has several interpretations.

The main cross is composed of four tau (T) crosses representing the Old Testament law. The four small Greek crosses symbolize the fulfillment of the law in the gospel.

The five crosses together represent the church's mission: to spread the gospel to the four corners of the earth. They're also said to symbolize Christ's five wounds (hands, feet and side).

## UNSEEN BUT active

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.

### What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card



### What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

FROM THE EVANGELISM MINISTRY—REMOVE & SHARE THIS PAGE

## I MUST TELL YOU THIS!!!

I know something so wonderful that I must tell you. It is so vital that it may change your entire future as it did mine. In fact, the decision you make about it will affect you both in life and death.

Let me emphasize that this message is absolutely true, because God said it. When God makes a promise, you can rest upon it, because His promises can never fail. God will not make you believe this message. That is your choice, but He will hold you responsible for having heard it. It is a very personal message, something you must decide. You may say either, "I will" or "I will not."

Here is the message. It is an exact quotation from God's word, the Holy Bible. "For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Did you ever hear such wonderful words? Think for a moment what they say. They reveal three marvelous facts.

First, "God so loved the world!" Since you are in the world, He loved you. If that doesn't astonish you, remember, that when God loved you, He loved a sinner (Romans 3:23) If you are honest, you will agree.

Although God loves you, He still hates your sin. Since God is holy, He must punish sin. He had to make a holy way of saving sinners. Otherwise, the sinner must pay for his sins, and that would mean spending eternity in Hell. (Revelation 20:15)

The second great fact is "He gave His only begotten son!" God loved you so much, that He sent His Son to earth to become a man and die on the cross of Calvary, so that you could be saved.

You see, someone must pay the penalty of sin - either you or a sinless substitute. God gave His Son, Jesus Christ, to be your sinless substitute. He shed His blood so that your sins can be put away, so that you can have eternal life

And now the third tremendous fact is "whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" Think of it! God gives eternal life to those who believe in Jesus Christ. The Savior has "finished" the work. He has died. He has risen from the grave, and He has gone back into Heaven, but left His Holy Spirit in the heart of every believer in Him. Now your part is to believe in Him.

This simply means that you must agree that you are a Sinner, realize that Christ has paid the "full penalty" for your sins, and then receive Him as your Lord and Savior.

This is the message which I had to tell you. Now you must make a decision. Will you accept Him or reject Him? Think of it once again: "For God so love the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3 :16)

Your time in life is short, but your decision for Christ lasts for eternity. Will you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and be confident of everlasting life?

Submitted by Deacon Marshall Merrill for the Evangelism Ministry

**If you need to talk to someone about this you can contact the Church office at 502-587-8869 and speak with Deacon Merrill or a member of the Evangelism Team!!!**



The GoodNewsLetter is available online at [greatersalembaptist.org](http://greatersalembaptist.org)



**Opportunities to be in the presence of God through the study of His word and In the Center of Prayer**  
**(See Page 9 for updated temporary schedule of online audio or video Opportunities)**



**Freedom in Jesus**

Free from the love of money,  
from the lust of having things  
free to accept daily . . .  
the blessings Jesus brings.

Free from the love of pleasure,  
from the desire to have more  
free to open up my heart  
and let Jesus in the door.

Free from the love of leisure,  
from worldly delight  
free to follow Jesus  
the Truth, Way and Light.

Free from the love of luxury,  
from all earthly pleasure  
free to be storing in heaven  
all of my heart's treasure.

Free from the love of money,  
free to be satisfied  
content in knowing . . .  
Jesus is always at my side!

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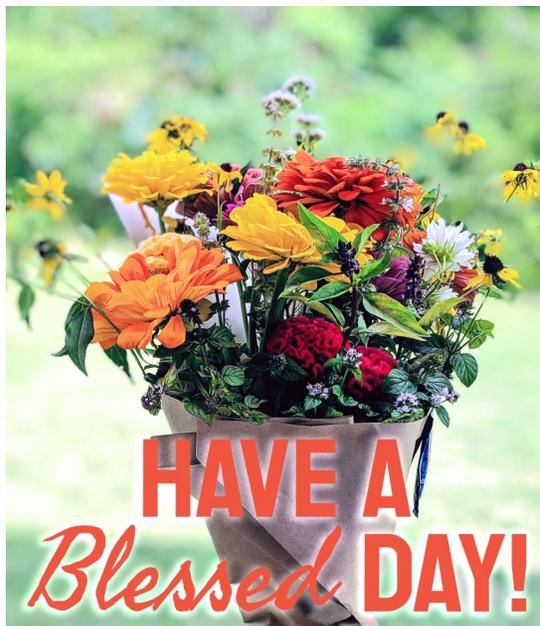
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Monday through Friday

09: 00 am to 02:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

See page 8 for online  
schedules



**MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST  
ONE HEART AT A TIME - ONE FAMILY AT A TIME**

From:

Greater Salem Baptist Church  
1009 West Chestnut Street  
Louisville, KY 40203

