



1-5-2020

**OUR MISSION:** "To share the love of Christ, to grow in relationship with Christ and one another, and to serve God by serving others."

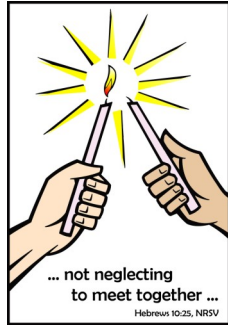
**Epiphany Sunday**

As the wise men journeyed to worship Jesus, so we have come today. Show each of us, God, what unique gift we might lay before him.



**TODAY'S Word:**  
"Neglect"

*Hebrews* warns weary pilgrims of the danger of neglecting....



**WEEK TWO** this morning (9:30) of the new DVD series by **Max Lucado** on God's grace.

**WEDNESDAY** evening (7:00) we will begin a new Bible study in the letter to the *Hebrews*. You can prepare for it by reading chapter one. **REMEMBER** the new sign-up list for first Wednesday meals in 2020 is now on the bulletin board (really!). Check it out and pick your preferred month.



Family Matters

**Lois Edwards** is experiencing less back pain now and has better mobility with her walker. **Peggy Shackelford** came home Thursday after her latest visit to *Kawah Delta* and she is receiving assistance from *Hospice*. **Larry Thompson** is awaiting an angiogram Tuesday in Visalia at *KDH*. **Linette Thompson** is making steady progress after her brush with a light stroke. **WE HOST** the next men's breakfast Saturday, January 18. **Rick Rossner** will be chef for the occasion. **Pepperdine University** announces their 77th Bible Lectures will be May 5-8, 2020. This year's theme will be, "*Called and Sent: The Vital Role of The Church.*" Registration opens January 23.

**What Are You Doing About What You Know?**

James says it is self-deception when we merely listen to God's Word and don't let it change us. We think that just gaining knowledge makes us spiritually mature, but the test of maturity is not knowledge. The test of maturity is character. A lot of people have great Bible knowledge, but they are spiritual midgets.

We need to put God's Word into practice. We need to continually apply it in our lives.

In fact, knowledge increases responsibility. The more we know, the more we're accountable for. Jesus said, "*Much is required from the person to whom much is given*" (Luke 12:48b GNT). What are you doing about what you know?

In Matthew 7, Jesus tells the story of the wise and the foolish builders. He says the foolish builder builds on sand. He is like the guy who hears the Word of God but doesn't do what it says. The wise man builds on a solid foundation because he hears God's Word and then goes out and makes an honest attempt to apply it in his life.



The Wise and Foolish Builders  
Matthew 7:24-27 | Luke 6:48-49

Jesus said in John 13:17, "*Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them*" (NIV). I think the simplest definition of maturity is to be a doer of the word. You do what the Bible says. We must not only read the Word; we must also heed the Word.

Every single one of us knows more spiritual truth than we're putting into practice right now. We don't need to know more; we already know enough. We just need to put into practice what we already know. Be a doer of the Word.

- Rick Warren

**Belonging**

"*Individualism is a particular pathology of the American church. The Desert Fathers had a saying, "One Christian is no Christian." When Jesus talks about salvation, he talks about the kingdom of God. Salvation is best understood as a kind of belonging. I can't work out my salvation alone. I do that with other people in an open and vulnerable community.*"



- Brian Zahnd