



BELL TOWER

First Baptist Church in Hope Valley
1059 Main Street, P.O. Box 326
Hope Valley, RI 02832
Tel: 401-539-7553
E-mail: fbhvsecretary@verizon.net
Web Site: FBHV.org
Pastor James Menzies:
menziespbca@aol.com

The Hope Valley First Baptist Church family makes followers of Christ and worships God through prayer, fellowship, service and the study of the Holy Bible, testifying to the glory of His Name.

Pastor's Note

“True Worship”

The importance of using the correct word, and understanding the meaning of that word, was humorously illustrated by the following:

“In 1675, Sir Christopher Wren laid the first stone on what was to be his masterpiece, St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. For 35 years he labored on the massive project, in 1710 he presented it for inspection to his sovereign, Queen Anne.

“England’s grand Monarch pronounced it ‘artificial,’ ‘amusing,’ and awful.”

“Sir Christopher was delighted.

“For in 1710, the word ‘artificial’ meant *artful*, ‘amusing’ meant *amazing*, and ‘awful’ meant *awe-inspiring*.”

Yes, definitions matter.

We have been reflecting on worship; corporate worship (what we do each week); and personal worship (what we do each day). It is a topic that seems simple but can be complex. Much of the difficulty in discussing it is that the definition of worship is often little more than what someone thinks it is. Similar to the cliché, “Live and let live,” we often think, “I worship my way and you worship your way.” But this approach can leave one thinking the Bible has nothing specific to say about worship.

Thus far in our study, we have spent our time looking at how the Old Testament presents worship and how the people of Israel worshipped God. I would now like to spend some time considering worship in the New Testament.

In some ways worship in the New Testament is portrayed differently from that in the Old. We no longer read about animal sacrifices or the importance of priests or the Temple. But in other ways, worship looks surprisingly similar to its Old Testament counterpart. This should come as no surprise since the two key components of worship—God and people—always remain. But after the death and resurrection of Christ we find seismic changes in how worship is understood and practiced.

For this issue of the *Bell Tower*, I want to introduce the two Greek words most often translated as *worship* in the New Testament. But as we move between the two testaments, I want to begin by showing how these words were used in the Greek Old Testament. Following this brief word study, I will bring the definitions together in a practical definition of worship.

Continued →

The two words I want to discuss are *proskyneo* and *latreuein*. Let's reflect a little on each word.

Proskynein is the most common Greek word translated as "worship" in the New Testament, appearing about 60 times. The *New American Standard Bible* translates it 32 times as "worship," 17 times as "worshipped," once as "worshippers" and once as "worships." The remaining times it's translated as "bow down" or "bend over." The idea is a recognition of a kingly or superior presence, be it another human being, an idol, or the presence of God. No matter the subject, there is a recognition of superiority. When it concerns God there is the added idea of adoration or praise.

This sense of humble reverence is evident when reading a Greek version of the Old Testament. Two examples show how worship and humble reverence are nearly synonymous.

When Abraham is visited by the Lord we read, "When Abraham's servant heard their words, he *bowed himself* [prosekynsen] to the ground before the Lord" (Genesis 24:52).

Later, in the book of Exodus, when the Lord passes before Moses it says, "Moses made haste to bow low toward the earth and *worship* [prosekynsen]" – Exodus 34:8.

So when thinking about worship you should understand humble reverence.

Our second word is *latreuein*. This word was also rendered "worship" when the Old Testament was being translated from Hebrew into Greek. Two examples from Exodus:

When God spoke to Moses from the burning bush we read, "And He said, 'Certainly I will be with you, and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall *worship* [latreuein] God at this mountain.'" (Exodus 3:12).

In the next chapter, God tells Moses, "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son, and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may *serve* [latreuin] me.'" (Exodus 4:22-23).

In both its Old and New Testament uses this word means simply "to serve." In fact, "serve" is how the word is most often translated in English.

So as we transition from the Old Testament to the New, how should this brief word study influence our approach to worship?

True worship is comprised of at least two overarching ideas. There is the idea of humble submission (*proskyneo*) and the idea of serving others (*latreuein*). And don't miss what is not emphasized. There is nothing about the style of music, the kind of Bible translation, whether there is a traditional or contemporary service. No mention is made of a style of service or liturgy. While these topics get all the attention and fuel all the debates, the Bible focuses on humble submission and other-oriented service.

And isn't this where Christ put his focus? In Matthew 22, when asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the great and foremost commandment." This is also humble submission.

He then completed his answer with the importance of our serving one another. "The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" This is other-oriented service.

Let us go and worship remembering "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

Pastor Jim



MISSIONS' FOOD DRIVE

We deliver non-perishable items after 2nd Tuesday of the month.



Most Needed Items

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Canned Fish & Meats | Rice & Pasta |
| Canned or Dried Beans & Lentils | Boxed Macaroni & Cheese |
| Canned Soup & Stews | Breakfast Cereals |
| Canned Fruit & Vegetables | Nut & Seed Butters |
| Canned Tomato Products | Spices & Condiments |

Check for expiration dates.

Please bring your non-perishable food items to the designated containers located at the front and side entrances to the church.

Happy Father's Day

June 16, 2024

Proverbs 20:7
A righteous person who walks in his integrity— how blessed are his sons after him.

JUNETEENTH
FREEDOM DAY
JUNE 19

What's New



Tuesday — June 4, 2024
6:00 PM — Trustees

Tuesday — June 11, 2024
6:00 PM — Deacons
6:30 PM — Christian Ed.

Wednesday — June 12, 2024
10:00 AM — Nichols Board

Thursday — June 20, 2024
10:00 AM — LBS Women's Group

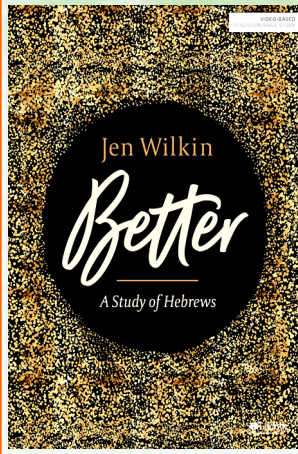
Friday — June 21, 2024
10:00 AM — Missions



- 2 – Jeremy Browning
- 3 – Robert Goff
- 4 – June Sheldon
- 4 – Louis Doyle
- 5 – Lynn Cahoon
- 7 – Bruce Wilcox, Jr.
- 15 – John Mulligan
- 15 – Logan Vachon
- 16 – June Kipp
- 17 – Rebecca Williams
- 22 – Nancy Mandeville
- 22 – Donita Naylor
- 27 – Susan McLaughlin
- 29 – Margery Hill



Women's Bible Study
Monday Nights - 7 PM in the Parlor.



MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

June, July, and August, we'll plan to use a book and video study by Jen Wilkin called **Better**.

It's a study of the book of Hebrews and is a perfect New Testament follow-up to Genesis. You'll find that having just studied Genesis, Hebrews will be much easier to understand. I've purchased the video series which we'll watch together at church and then discuss each week. You'll need the book so you can prepare for the questions each week.

Books can be purchased at [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) or [Christianbook.com](https://www.christianbook.com) or I'm sure the Christian book store can order them. They are \$15.99 although at Amazon, you can get a cheaper one if you buy used. I've attached a picture of the cover.

Lori Roeleveld







Thank you, Karin, for your hospitality!



Articles for the Bell Tower are due on the third Friday of each month. Please email your articles to Maria Gill at fbhusecretary@verizon.net.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

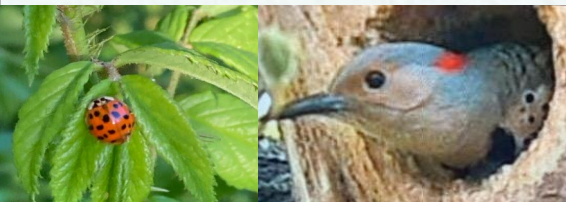
JULY 8 - AUGUST 16, 2024

JULY 8 TO AUGUST 16. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR OFFICE WORK ON MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, AND FRIDAYS WHILE MARIA GILL IS ON VACATION. OFFICE TASKS INCLUDE FOLDING BULLETINS, ANSWERING PHONES, AND MORE. SEE MARIA GILL FOR DETAILS. A SIGN-UP SHEET IS AVAILABLE.



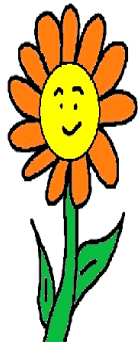
Thanks to Loren and Sue Andrews for providing the purple petunias in the side entrance!

Thanks to Judy Noel, Mickey, Pastor Jim, and Dallas for beautifying our church grounds!

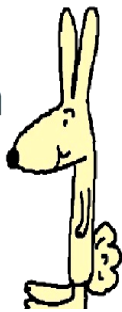




Children's Corner



Spring Lesson



GOD MADE
SPRING
AND THE
ANIMALS!



(Genesis 1:14) And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

God made the season Spring. In the book of Genesis God talked about how he made the seasons and how he made the animals after his own kind. God is so amazing. He made the pretty butterflies with their neat little colors all over them. He made the fuzzy little bunny rabbits that hop so cute. And he made the tall sweet smelling flowers. He is such a wonderful God that created all these things. He made each one perfect in it's own little way. He made the dirt on the ground that gives the little flowers it's food from nutrients. Can you make dirt? The answer is no. God made it from nothing. He just created it. Next time your outside look at all the things and tell God how amazing he is for all the cool stuff you see. From: www.churchhousecollection.com

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE OUT OF: GOD MADE SPRING

ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE

R	H	W	T	N	I	C	C	N	I	H	G	U	A	F
G	O	A	T	T	X	E	E	Y	E	K	N	O	D	J
Q	K	D	F	S	V	V	O	Y	G	H	B	A	R	P
W	E	R	H	O	A	M	A	R	V	U	C	Z	L	G
C	B	L	D	R	B	D	R	V	H	L	U	F	W	E
R	O	Z	A	T	R	M	V	E	K	A	N	S	S	R
I	G	U	E	H	G	B	A	P	G	G	F	R	M	K
L	E	M	A	C	W	O	U	L	T	D	O	E	T	H
H	J	F	A	E	V	U	D	U	R	H	E	N	I	H
E	L	H	L	U	S	K	Z	W	F	F	I	S	H	D
E	N	I	W	S	H	Z	J	L	Q	G	Q	P	P	J
P	F	L	Y	U	E	Z	F	O	D	N	C	N	R	U
Q	T	Y	L	Q	E	K	R	S	X	R	Q	E	V	A
D	A	R	S	S	P	U	Y	E	P	F	O	X	A	J
M	K	U	E	V	I	L	L	U	F	K	R	O	U	P

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| CAMEL | DOG | DONKEY | DOVE |
| FISH | GOAT | HORSE | LAMB |
| OXEN | RAM | RAVEN | SHEEP |
| SNAKE | SWINE | WHALE | |

