



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

July 26, 2020

A Word from Our Pastor

If you've ever watched or ran a marathon, you know a lot of people start out but don't finish at the end. I think that's been an unfortunate parallel to the Christian life. Many people start out good in the Christian life, but somewhere along the line they get waylaid, side-tracked, they run out of energy. So, how can we maintain spiritual strength so we make it to the end of the race? The apostle Paul wrote, *"¹⁰...be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."* (Ephesians 6:10-11 ESV)

You know, life can be draining; it can wear you down. Satan's strategy is to sap your spiritual strength. I've come to understand that there are at least three things that sap your spiritual strength. The Old Testament gives us a great example in the life of Samson found in Judges 13-16. PHYSICALLY, Samson was the Rambo of the Bible. Unfortunately, SPIRITUALLY, he was a weakling. MORALLY, he was a spiritual wimp. He had everything going for him: good looks, talent, strength, ability, good home life and God's blessing on his life. He had some early successes, things that were real good for Samson early in his life. But somewhere along the line he got side-tracked and at the end of his life, became a broken man. Over the course of the next two weeks... I would like us to see at least three things that wrecked his life that we should avoid. If we learn to deal with these three things, we can make it to the end of the race and not be disqualified.

The *first* thing that wrecked his life was SELF-INDULGENCE (Judges 14:1-20). It's no secret, our culture encourages self-indulgence, and all you have to do is watch the commercials on television. Even good things can become harmful if they are not controlled. All things that are gifts of God can be misused, and if they're out of control they can damage our lives. Samson's weakness was women. In just these few chapters, Samson struggled with three different women. Here's the spiritual principle: *To maintain our spiritual strength we've got to discipline our desires.* 1 Peter 4:1-2 says, *"¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God."*

The *second* thing that wrecked his life was RESENTMENT (Judges 15:1-17). Samson lived a life in a constant state of anger. He seemed to react violently to everything. His primary motivation in life was to get even or to get revenge. We live in a very angry culture. Not only do we live in a self-indulgent culture that says, "If it feels good, do it;" we also live in an angry culture that says, "Get even whenever you get the chance." Violence is modeled for us every night on television. If you don't like them you blow them away. That's bound to

affect us eventually. Folks, we can't allow ourselves to get resentful against people who hurt us. It literally saps strength out of our life. It will drain you as quickly as self-indulgence. Proverbs says, *"A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back."* (Proverbs 29:11 ESV) Here's the Spiritual principle: *To maintain our spiritual strength we've got to control our anger.* Ephesians 4:26 ESV says, *"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger"*

Part 2 Next week 08/02/20

Ministries/Services

We will be suspending all services, ministries, & events that use the facilities at this time. Please read our [Reopening Letter](#).

"Worship Live", Sundays at 10:45. To view, you can go to facebook.com/milanbaptist and click videos to view. If you are watching it LIVE, the video will show up as soon as you pull the page up.

"Call 2 Prayer", Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Our church family can tune in to Pastor & Lisa as they lead us in a time of prayer. To view, you can go to facebook.com/milanbaptist and click videos to view.

Weekly Goal: \$8,135

Giving This Week: \$7,639

C4M Total to Date: \$611

Many have already asked how our church will continue to meet our financial obligations (utilities, insurance, payroll, and missionary support) during this challenging season. You may provide in your tithes and offerings by one of the following methods:

- If using the U.S. Postal system: Make checks out to **"Milan Baptist Church"** and mail to **P.O. Box 147 Milan, MI 48160.**
- Submit [online](#). Instructions and a link to the secure online system can be found at www.milanbaptist.org. Contact the church if you have any questions.

Christmas 4 Missions (C4M)

We are doing Christmas in July again this year! All donations will be divided up equally among our missionaries and sent out as a special Christmas gift. You can make note on your tithe envelopes or online if you want to designate any money toward C4M! Although we are focusing on this in July, you can still give up till November just like last year ☺



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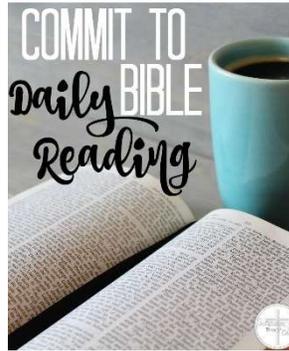
July 26, 2020

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension
- Prayer for our nation and elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- All those who have lost loved ones
- Church leadership, as they make decisions moving forward
- Families who are awaiting help or are in need
- Van Orman family following the home-going of Judy (retired missionaries from Camp Barakel)
- Kathleen Spencer, diagnosed with cancer
- Carol Stockwell (relation to Jamie Scott), home with hospice now
- Noah’s cousin, Tiffany, awaiting next steps
- Emma Jane Hall, doctors found a solid lump and she is awaiting testing (near thyroid gland)
- Cliff Kuhn, recovering from a stroke
- Earl Cox, at home dealing with health issues
- Juliana (Dan & Norlaine Stange's daughter) and husband, Kanna, as they are expecting the arrival of their baby girl around the end of August and that the pregnancy will go well and the baby will be healthy
- Jerry DuBois, rebuilding strength
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Pastor’s sister, Gail, battling Stage 4 lung cancer, awaiting surgery for enlarged gallbladder
 - Gail fell and will be undergoing hip surgery. Prayers needed as she does not have much immune support.
- Elli Robins, now in “maintenance” stage! She will receive treatments from home for the next year and a half
- Camp Barakel, following the cancelation of all summer/fall retreats and fire of barn.
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenchuk, Stralnic, Van Ormans, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian), Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions), & Alice Ackerman (daughters home)

HEBREWS 4:12

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”



“ONLY 1 IN 6 ADULTS READ THE BIBLE EVERY DAY.”

The Word of God is living and effective. It has the power to convict, shape, and inspire us—if we read it. But so often, obstacles like confusion and busyness keep

us from reading the Bible and experiencing the life-transforming power of God through it.

Through the Bible in a Year		
Daily Bible Reading Assignment		
Date	Old Testament	New Testament
July 26	Psalms 40-42	Acts 27:1-26
July 27	Psalms 43-45	Acts 27:27-44
July 28	Psalms 46-48	Acts 28
July 29	Psalms 49-50	Romans 1
July 30	Psalms 51-53	Romans 2
July 31	Psalms 54-56	Romans 3
August 1	Psalms 57-59	Romans 4
August 2	Psalms 60-62	Romans 5

Birthdays	Anniversaries
July 26 – Juliana Vladaj	August 2 – Jan & Jerry Austin and Mel & Alpha Ott
July 27 – Tammy Tessier	
July 31 – Gene Bushart	
August 1 – Kevin Chapman	
August 2 – Kristin Beck	

The church family is invited to the graduation open house of Emily Paschall on Sunday, August 2, 2020 from 1-6 p.m. The party will take place at The Old Mill in Dundee, MI. (242 Toledo St)

