



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

September 27, 2020

A Word from Our Pastor

How's your relationship with God? You can have a thriving relationship with God, but only temporarily. Anyone can fake it in the short run, BUT to go the distance, you need a passionate devotional life and continual closeness to Jesus. Often, we tend to allow the busyness of our work life, family life, even church ministry replace a real, personal walk with Jesus. But God wants better for you.

I would like to share some suggestions on how to have a thriving relationship with God. To help us remember, here are three "T's" for a thriving walk with Jesus... 1) TIME. It takes time to get to know somebody. I know Jesus Christ a whole lot better than I did five years ago or ten years ago or twenty years ago. It just takes time. When you spend time with Jesus, it doesn't make you more religious. It makes you more natural. In fact, God doesn't want you to be religious...He wants you to be you. You can't develop an intimate relationship with anybody in a crowd. It's hard to get to know people in a large group setting, like our Sunday morning worship service. It's been said many times before, "You can't get to know people in a crowd." You can know about them, but you get to know people by spending time with them. The same is true with God. 2) TALK. Relationships require communication. That's something else my lovely wife has taught me! Marriages die when one partner stops talking. Folks it's true...you just can't have a relationship without communication. In the same way, you get to know God by talking to Him, by communicating. If you heard me talk to the Lord on a daily basis, it doesn't sound like a pastor talking. But, I talk to God all the time. Constantly I'm saying things in my mind to God all the time. It's not even real spiritual. I can be going through a Tim Horton's line ordering my plain bagel (double toasted of course), "God, I'm really thankful to get this food. I'm hungry!" If you want to lose your joy, just talk to God in solemn, somber tones all the time. John 16 talks about our communication with Jesus when it says "Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:24 ESV) You may have heard this before...but it is true: "Much prayer, much joy. Little prayer, little joy. No prayer, no joy." Here's what I've learned...the more continual our communication is with God, the deeper our intimacy with Him will be. 3) TRUST. Relationships are built on trust. Lisa and I have a good relationship because we trust each other implicitly. Remember this...relationships are built on trust. When we first got married, we had all these little rules – how you fold the towels, how you push the toothpaste from the bottom up, how to replace the toilet paper roll. Do you know how many rules we have in our home today? Hardly any...The greater the relationship, the fewer the rules you need. God wants you to learn to trust

Him. So He allows all kinds of problems in your life. Then He can demonstrate His reliability.

The apostle Paul wrote, "...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death," (Philippians 3:10 ESV) Paul says, "My number one ambition in life is ..." to start churches? No. to get rewards in heaven? No. to win people to Christ? No. He says "My number one purpose in life is to know Christ." He says this at the end of his life. Doesn't he know God? Of course. But he wants to know Him better. Paul never stopped hungering for God. Ladies and gentlemen...our hunger for God is going to come out in different ways depending on your personality. Practical people hunger for God in a practical way. Loud people hunger for God in a loud way. Emotional people hunger for God in an emotional way. I'm not talking about **how** here...you just do it. Just hunger for God. Always have as your number one ambition, "I want to know God more."

Ministries/Services

Please read our most recent [Reopening Letter](#). **We will be LIVE and in-person at 10 a.m.**

"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](https://www.facebook.com/milanbaptist)

Weekly Goal: \$8,135

Giving This Week: \$3,041

C4M Total to Date: \$4,543

Parents! Planning on bringing your kids to service with you? Grab a phone/tablet and some headphones and scan the QR code below for kids activities!





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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
- Jamie Scott, tumor growing on her pituitary gland, going through tests to see which type, could lose her eye sight
- Lee Hayward, dealing with physical needs
- Noah’s cousin, Tiffany, awaiting next steps
- Cliff Kuhn, recovering from a stroke
- Jan Cox, has to schedule hip replacement in the Fall
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer (PRAISE: Carolyn’s cancer in liver is gone)
- Starr Tiekling, recovering from heart attack in St. Joseph, MI
- Pastor’s sister, Gail, Stage 4 lung cancer, now on hospice care
- Elli Robins, in “maintenance” stage
- Camp Barakel, as they make plans for the winter
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenchuk, Stralnics, Van Ormans, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian), Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions), & Alice Ackerman (daughters home)

Christmas 4 Missions (C4M)

You can still donate! 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.

Giving

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.

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
October 4	Isaiah 20-22	Ephesians 6
October 5	Isaiah 23-25	Philippians 1
October 6	Isaiah 26-27	Philippians 2
October 7	Isaiah 28-29	Philippians 3
October 8	Isaiah 30-31	Philippians 4
October 9	Isaiah 32-33	Colossians 1
October 10	Isaiah 34-36	Colossians 2
October 11	Isaiah 37-38	Colossians 3

Birthdays	Anniversaries
October 4 – Adah Bushart	
October 8 – Arlene Russ	
October 9 – Jan Cox	
October 11 – Brent Paschall	

Ministry Start Ups

Some of our ministries will be starting up! Please check with your ministry leaders for details and keep an eye on the church calendar. All ministries will be meeting in the MAC. Some of our ministries starting up include:

- **Men’s Bible Study on Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.**
- **SeniorLife (Bible Study Only) on October 7 at 11:00 a.m.**
 - **October 7 will be our Singspiration!**
- **Special Prayer Gatherings on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**
 - **Chapel side of MAC**
 - **Special prayer every Sunday until the election**