



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

March 14, 2021

A Word from Our Pastor

Today we concluded our three-week Mini Series from Paul's admonition to "Walk in the Light" from Ephesians 5:8-14. Previously we looked at the apostle's INSTRUCTION for "walking in the Light" in vv.8-10, by letting "the fruit of the light" shine forth in our daily lives through our goodness, righteousness, and truth. The prophet Micah said, "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8 ESV) The apostle Paul wrote, "So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him." (2 Corinthians 5:9 ESV) Last time we looked at our RESPONSIBILITY as believer's to "Walk in the Light" vv.11-13. In v.11, we see a COMMAND which expresses the understanding that we are not to get involved with the works of evildoers, but expose them, "have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them." If God's Spirit is calling us to stand up against wrong, it is up to us to be faithful.

We close with his WAKE-UP CALL and WARNING. In 14, we find a WAKE UP CALL... "Awake, O sleeper, rise from the dead," We don't know who Paul is quoting here . . . maybe it is was a line from an apostolic baptismal hymn. Whatever the origin, Paul's application is clear. Some people who are "light in the Lord" are sleeping and need to "wake up"! It's an obvious fact that Christians who are asleep do not know it. It's possible to be slumbering *light* and even to be well-regarded by others in the church. It's possible to be *asleep* and appear *awake*. It's possible to pray while *asleep*, even sing worship songs without being *awake* to the words. It's possible to walk while *asleep* and end up in harm's way. Paul says "Awake, O sleeper, rise from the dead" He closes this important section of the letter to these 1st century believers with a rewarding statement, "and Christ will shine in you." Jesus said, "I am the light of the world"; "I am the glory returned, the Eternal Light". Can you see the association with Christ for He refers to us as "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14).

Let me close with a couple thoughts...first, have you come into His wonderful light? Here's an invitation to those who are not yet "children of light". The apostle Peter wrote, "The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment," (2 Peter 2:9 ESV) If you already are a believer, what kind of *light* are you? Frequently, we need to remind ourselves of our RESPONSIBILITY, to be "children of light." John 1:4-5 ESV says, "In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14 ESV) Folks, we've got to allow the full *light* of Jesus to shine upon and through the prisms of our lives, so that we will radiate the effects of the light in glowing character to our world. Jesus said, "You are the light of the world". May we be that *light* indeed!

Noah's Nugget

Just when you potty-train one boy—BOOM! You're back to diapers with a newborn. At this point in my family life, I feel like I'm running on repeat. The things that were once new for Jack are becoming new for Ben, and the things that were once new for Ben are becoming new for Danny. But this is what is crazy...it seriously feels like only yesterday that Jack entered this world, but it has actually been almost four years, and my once newborn is having full-blown conversations with me with the vocabulary of a much older child (and a non-stop conversation at that—I suppose that is what happens when a chatty Radtke raises a chatty Radtke). And now...I hold this tiny little thing in my arms who barely opens his eyes, and I marvel at God's wondrous work in creating Daniel Todd Radtke. Who am I? Why do I deserve these three little blessings? Do I even deserve them? God is so good.

I love Psalm 127... "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward (v.3)." A heritage. A reward. Do you believe that? During my paternity, Tim Challies (a wonderful Canadian Christian public speaker and author) wrote a blog as a letter to his recently deceased son. Nick was a current student at Southern Seminary, preparing for pastoral ministry, when he died unexpectedly; though it looked like his body just stopped, we who believe in God's sovereign working (even in our death) know that by God's will, it was his time to go home...but it still doesn't take away the pain. In fact, while I read Tim's letter to his son, I cried for his family with a pain I hope to never endure in my life—outliving my children. Let's just say I loved up my boys after reading that letter.

My time is short with my boys. I have blinked, and Jack is nearly entering Preschool—I don't want to blink anymore. I want to savor and cherish every waking moment I have with my heritage; these little image-bearers who I am blessed to point back to the Image of the One they reflect. The first verse of Psalm 127 is rather telling: "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." Everything I do with and for my wife and children is a waste if it is not foundationally centered on Jesus Christ and His Word. I heard a chilling statistic today that said only about 10% of families who claim to be Christian discuss God and His Word outside of church throughout the week with their children. Our children are a gift, and we are stewards of that gift. Don't waste it, church family. We here at MBC are here to support you in any way we can.



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Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension and for our elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- All those who have lost loved ones
- Debby Russ, diagnosed with breast cancer, waiting for treatment plan
- Neal & Barb Collin’s son, Doug, recovering from heart attack
- Tonya Paschall, recovering from a blood clot that caused a stroke, at home
- Tiffany, Noah’s cousin, prayer for upcoming plans for cancer treatments
- Church leadership as they make decisions moving forward
- Please be in prayer for Gary Cox, friend of Keuhn and Hasselbring families, surgery was successful but continue prayer for upcoming treatments
- Gerri Beehler’s sisters, Nancy and Belva, both dealing with health concerns
- Lee Hayward, dealing with severe health issues
- Pete Belford, dealing with severe back issues
- Emma Jane Hall, recovering from COVID
- Jamie Scott, tumor growing on her pituitary gland. Going through tests to see which type, could lose her eye sight.
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenchuk, Stralnic, Van Orman, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian), Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions), & Alice Ackerman (daughters home)

Weekly Goal: \$8,562

Giving This Week: \$6,706

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 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
March 14	Deuteronomy 23-25	Mark 14:1-26
March 15	Deuteronomy 26-27	Mark 14:27-53
March 16	Deuteronomy 28-29	Mark 14:54-72
March 17	Deuteronomy 30-31	Mark 15:1-25
March 18	Deuteronomy 32-34	Mark 15:26-47
March 19	Joshua 1-3	Mark 16
March 20	Joshua 4-6	Luke 1:1-20
March 21	Joshua 7-9	Luke 1:21-38

Birthdays	Anniversaries
March 14 – Sheldon Slaughter & Maria Dietrich	
March 17 – Erica Radtke & Duane Michaels	
March 19 – Jack Radtke	

Meals

We are blessed to have so many people willing and able to help one another in our church family. One way we have provided help is by providing meals to individuals or families in need. In the event where meals are needed (due to surgery, birth, illness, etc) we would like to have a list of people to contact as we schedule those meals. If you would like to be on our “list to contact” please contact Carol Armstrong.

We are fortunate to have Carol organize these meals, and she would appreciate any interest!

Carol Armstrong
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734-915-0942 (cell)