



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

March 28, 2021

A Word from Our Pastor 03/28/21

In our last message from our verse-by-verse series in Paul's first letter to the new believers in Thessalonica (03/21/21), we were discussing some spiritual principles for interpersonal relationships within the church. Specifically the relationships between pastor's and church leadership and the people and the people with the pastor's and the church leadership. In chapter 5, Paul gave his readers another IMPERATIVE...for the church in regards to the church leadership to "live in peace with one another" v.13b. I have found that if you submit to the spiritual leadership your pastor's and church leaders in a God-honoring way, it would virtually eliminate conflict, strife, and discord and promote PEACE, harmony and effective ministry within the church. I only advocate submission to pastor's and church leaders that are biblical examples of the "blameless" character, the apostle Paul noted 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

At the close, I shared some suggestions for living peacefully with God and with others ...I'd like to take the remaining space in this article to review and share a few more suggestions...

1. **Peace and holiness must vigorously be pursued.**
Hebrews 12:14 ESV
2. **Watch what we say with our mouths.**
Titus 3:2 ESV
3. **Let the "Fruit of the Spirit" grow in your life.**
Galatians 5:22-23 ESV
4. **Do not give in to worldly passions.**
2 Timothy 2:22 ESV
5. **Exercise Godly wisdom.**
James 3:17-18 ESV (Proverbs 2)
6. **Think peace constantly.**
Colossians 3:15 ESV
7. **Hold tightly to peace.**
Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV
8. **Mind your own business.**
1 Thessalonians 4:11 ESV
9. **Let go of offenses.**
Matthew 5:23-25 ESV
10. **Be a faithful ambassador of Christ.**
2 Corinthians 5:18-20 ESV
11. **As Christ-followers, we are to maintain our allegiance with Him at all costs so we don't lose our saltiness.**
Mark 9:50 ESV; 2 Timothy 2:4
12. **Do not be fearful.**
John 14:27 ESV; 2 Timothy 1:7 ESV
13. **Seek no revenge.**
Romans 12:14-19 ESV (Romans 12:19; Hebrews 10:30)
14. **Help others grow in the faith.**
Romans 14:17-20 ESV

Take some time this week and review the spiritual principles and the Scriptural passages (above) and let the Word of God wash over you and bring you into a right relationship with God and with others.

A Nugget from Noah (for Parents) 3/28/21
"#6...*We use screens for a purpose, and we use them together, rather than using them aimlessly and alone.*"



When I was an RA in college, I looked at my RA partner and said, "We need to go on a mandated man-date!"...meaning, let's ditch the guys on the hall, leave campus, and go hang out! He agreed, and we ended up going to dinner somewhere in town. As we sat down, my friend proceeded to pull out his phone and mindlessly scroll through facebook. You know what I'm talking about: glazed eyes, unresponsive, thumb randomly flicking the screen upward to see what else the social media platform had to offer. I think I told him to put his phone away, but in all seriousness, how many times have we played the victim *and* the culprit of "mindlessly scrolling"?

Andy Crouch tackles this topic in his next chapter of *The Tech-Wise Family*. He begins by talking about the wonders of Creation and the world that God has made for us to enjoy and explore, and yet we have traded His beautiful world for easy, colorful, flashing screens that have to keep ramping up the excitement (and often the filth) in order to keep the masses entertained (142-43). He discusses how easily we fit screens into the cracks of our lives; to fill spaces that were never meant to be filled, and yet leave us feeling empty (146-47). We can all agree that a bag of chips might be deliciously enjoyable, but it won't fill us like a hearty serving of broccoli will. They might be tantalizing to the taste buds, but in the end, we feel empty in our stomachs, and ravenous for that punch of flavor again. Screens do the same thing. They explosively delight our senses, but lack the hearty value of accomplishing something great; so instead of building that fort we've always dreamed (which would take days of hard work with great reward), or learn a new instrument, we binge watch *The Office* or some other show and mindlessly quote lines we have heard a hundred times over...do I need to ask why we're miserable at times? Crouch's solution is simple, yet sobering: when screens are on, they are used for God-glorifying purposes together as a family—which means that more often than not, the screens are turned off (148-49).

As a guy who grew up in the rise of video games, movies, and the internet, this one is a struggle for me. I used to spend hours *each day* playing video games, and now I go days without even powering up the Nintendo Switch. Part of it is life—I grew up—but another part has become an increasing conviction that what Andy Crouch is saying in this book is absolutely true. I have two feisty boys in my house, and one that will likely follow his brothers as he gets older. Do I want to placate that energy by distracting them with screens, or feed into their energy, wonder, and longing for experience? **"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork (Psalm 19:1)."** God's creation is beautiful; a rich display of His glorious design! Why substitute it for something that holds no value?



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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.
- Collins family, passing of Paul
- Karen Johnson and family, following the passing of her father
- Larry Van Buren and family, following the passing of his sister
- Debby Russ, diagnosed with breast cancer, waiting for treatment plan
- 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: \$7,625

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 28	Judges 4-6	Luke 4:31-44
March 29	Judges 7-8	Luke 5:1-16
March 30	Judges 9-10	Luke 5:17-39
March 31	Judges 11-12	Luke 6:1-26
April 1	Judges 13-15	Luke 6:27-49
April 2	Judges 16-18	Luke 7:1-30
April 3	Judges 19-21	Luke 7:31-50
April 4	Ruth 1-4	Luke 8:1-25

Birthdays	Anniversaries
March 28 – Barb Collins	March 31 – Jim & Alicia Baker
March 30 – Bonnie Tew, Betsy Kuhn, Maddie Ost	
March 31 – Dana Brooks	
April 1 – Carol Armstrong & Tonya Paschall	
April 2 – Kim Ratliff	
April 4 – Lynn Brooks	

New Members

The Deacons are recommending Brian, Kelley, Ian, Emily, & Isaac Keuhn for church membership. As per our Constitution, if any member would like to forward comments to the Deacons regarding the above name, please do so by Sunday, April 4.

Prayer Gathering

Our prayer gathering on Sunday Mornings (9:30 a.m.) will move to the auditorium! We will no longer meet in Room 207.