



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

September 19, 2021

A Word from Our Pastor 09/19/21

With our fall Skeet Shoot coming this Saturday, September 25...I was reminded of what the apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 *"I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!—² I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh.³ For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,⁶ being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete."*

Let me ask you a question: Do any of you struggle with negative thoughts that can prove to be destructive? As believers the enemy's (the devil) goal is to flood our minds with negative thoughts about ourselves and the situations in our lives in hopes that we will literally think ourselves to death. Maybe you too have wondered, where do negative thoughts come from? "Thoughts" ... are past events stored as memories. Our mind conditioning and beliefs are also stored as memories. Thoughts can be POSITIVE or NEGATIVE depending on what we have conditioned ourselves to meditate on. The enemy (the devil) definitely prefers to manipulate us with the latter. The Bible says that he's a roaring lion seek his prey (1 Peter 5:8).

When negative thoughts enter our minds, psychologists believe that, we have less than 30-seconds to either demolish/destroy those thoughts or allow them to fester producing a chain reaction of negative thoughts (and even sin). Scripture teaches us that we need to demolish every negative thought that exalts itself against what God says about us. Just like the skilled marksman... we must be armed and ready to shoot every negative thought using the Word of God as our ammunition (just as Jesus did in Luke 4:1-13).

To successfully fight this spiritual war it requires weapons from the heavenly arsenal. For example...

- "No one loves me," Shoot that thought with Romans 5:8... *"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*
- "My past is so bad, God will never forgive me," Shoot that thought with Philippians 3:13-14... *"¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

- "I don't have the strength to go on," Philippians 4:13... *"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."*
- "I don't know how I'm going to make ends meet" Philippians 4:19... *"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."*

I love the way that Dr. John MacArthur described "spiritual warfare," "Spiritual warfare is an ideological conflict, fought in the mind by assaulting the proud fortresses of ideas that sinners erect against the truth." So let me encourage you, with the speed, precision and accuracy of a skilled marksman, let's destroy (demolish) the enemy and every thought that exalts itself against the Word of God and what it says about us. We can DO what He says... we can DO and BE who He says we can be. The apostle Paul wrote in his second letter to the church at Corinth...*"We destroy (we demolish) arguments (speculations) and every lofty opinion (any unbiblical system of thought exalted as truth) raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ"* (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension and for our elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- Jerry Austin, for physical needs
- Judy DuCharme, in the hospital in CO awaiting tests.
- Kathy Curtis, Barakel missionary, is dealing with some health concerns and a pending surgery. Please pray for her health and insurance needs.
- Gary Kassuba, recovering from hip replacement
- Church leadership as they make decisions moving forward
- Gerri Beehler's sister, Belva, dealing with health concerns
- Dorsey Conley, home with home care
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Carolyn Sackett as she continues to fight her battle in UofM hospital
- Debby Russ, recovering from surgery
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenчук, Stralnic, Van Orman, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian)& Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions)



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Library

We encourage you to visit our church library and take advantage of all of the amazing resources we have to offer! The Library is open on Sundays between Sunday School and Morning Worship and is also open immediately following the Worship Service.

September's Book of the Month: "Victory In Spiritual Warfare" by Tony Evans.

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.

Weekly Goal: \$8,562

Giving This Week: \$7,505

Through the Bible in a Year Daily Bible Reading Assignment		
Date	Old Testament	New Testament
Sept 19	Ecclesiastes 1-3	2 Corinthians 11:16-33
Sept 20	Ecclesiastes 4-6	2 Corinthians 2
Sept 21	Ecclesiastes 7-9	2 Corinthians 3
Sept 22	Ecclesiastes 10-12	Galatians 1
Sept 23	Song of Songs 1-3	Galatians 2
Sept 24	Song of Songs 4-5	Galatians 3
Sept 25	Song of Songs 6-8	Galatians 4
Sept 26	Isaiah 1-2	Galatians 5

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Sept 28- Carolyn Sackett & Ann Marie Harpst	Sept 27 – Pastor & Lisa Strader
Oct 2 – Paul Dunbar	

Men's and Ladies' Barakel Retreats

The Men's and Ladies' Fall Retreats are for high school seniors or older. We are excited to be offering two weeks to give our congregation the chance to attend one of these amazing retreats together.

- Ladies' Retreat: October 1-3
- Men's Retreat: October 15-17

You can register online or via surface mail.

- To register via surface mail: Registration forms are available on the back information table.
- To register online: You can do this straight from www.campbarakel.org or you can go to the church website and register from the "Adult Ministries" page.

Feel free to contact the church office you if need help registering.