



# THE BEACON

## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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**Sr. Min.** Bill Platt; **Assoc. Min.** David Rorabaugh; **Youth Min.** Gage Addington

**Elder Emeritus:** Ron Greenway, John McKinley and Glen Noble

**Elders:** Greg Barneburg, Scott Buerge, Don Cubbage  
Doug Gammon, Wayne Jeans and Rick Jones

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## From the Pulpit.....

### Easy will not Do

Easy tends to be a pattern found in so many things. We tend to like easy, but the truth is that with many things, easy is not good for us. If you choose to sit versus exercise (even just walk around) there will be consequences. If you choose to eat what tastes good and have several helpings which is easy to do, there will be consequences. If you choose to sleep which is so easy instead of study, your grades will definitely take a dip.

The same is true with faith. Many of us seek to take the easy way. God's wonderful gift of grace even tends to lend to this temptation of easy faith. James (2:19) records that "Even the demons believe..." in grace. If your faith amounts to no more than belief, you may be stuck in the easy way. So, if you are to practice a faith that leads beyond easy it will require the un-easy. How do we do that?

One of the first verses that my dad had me learn was 2 Timothy 2:15 "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Oops, pardon my King James, my early learning is showing. In order for you to know how to grow in faith you must dwell in God's Word. Next, I would urge you to plug into one of our existing or new small groups. Hanging with those who are in the word helps grow faith in us. Then, trust me, life will supply struggles that will exercise your faith. Struggles are more do-able with faith in God and knowing He is present.

These are only a couple of things that will grow faith, but they are a great place to start. So, hopefully, we will see you in small groups and studying God's Word.

C U Sunday,  
Bill

P.S. – Plan to be at our leadership ordinations at 10:30 on Sunday, June 9th. This will be followed by a potluck.



**VACATIONS AND GET-AWAYS** can be fun and refreshing. Sally and I appreciate the time we were allowed to go to Aaron's graduation ceremony from Colorado Christian University in Denver, CO. We were also able to drive to Albuquerque, then to Deming and Alamogordo, NM to see family and friends from the past. We visited a lot, chatting about the past, people, places, and changes and such. We worshipped with a little congregation which I had been introduced to back in the late 70's during my college years. It was great to reflect and get the updates, but it was also frustrating to hear of the trials and heartaches. And the road got pretty long, too. But overall, God is good, His blessings continue and His reward is yet to be seen. Let's all continue to be encouragers as we remain faithful to our Savior, Jesus

Christ.

**Join a study group and grow in your faith.** Three new groups are forming for the purpose of reviewing the Sunday sermon and making application, along with supporting each other. You are invited to join any of the established groups now meeting. Please contact us if you would like to start a group of your own.

**Young Adult Small Group:** Monday evenings at 6:00pm with Gage.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS FOR ADULTS,** from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in a verse by verse walk through the Bible (book of Matthew), led by Bill.

**Soul Sisters** and **Cord Brothers** meet at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The ladies gather in the Fellowship Hall and the men meet in the Youth center. Please call the office if you need child care.

**CHOIR** is on summer break, but I would appreciate your considering joining us this fall when we resume practices. God has blessed some of you with extra abilities in the music field, so please utilize those talents for His glory.

Celebrating Life in Christ,  
David Rorabaugh

# What does it look like to follow Jesus?

I posted this question on all of my social media accounts just to see how people responded and the answers varied from quotes of Scripture to a gif from Avengers: Infinity War. Most of the answers had something to do with love, fewer of them had to do with sacrifice, and one of them was about Chic-fil-a. The truth is, it is difficult to narrow down what it looks like to follow Jesus into one sentence, especially in a world where the opinions and understandings of Jesus vary about as much as those who hold them. But if I had to sum up what it looks like to follow Jesus in one sentence, I would say these two words: become Christ.

Now, I don't think we can literally become Jesus, or that we can become the Christ. But what I do mean is that our lives line up with His, our actions and words look and sound like His, and the things that we care about are the things that He cares about. Paul expresses a similar mindset in 1 Corinthians 11:1 with this very simple command. "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." As those who follow Christ, and especially those of us who are in Christian leadership, we are to look enough like Jesus that people can follow us and meet Him.

Following Jesus means that we love God and love people. Following Jesus means that we deny ourselves and our fleshly desires for His desires and plans. Following Jesus means that we imitate Jesus with our every breath. And in order to imitate Jesus, we need to know Him pretty well. So I guess my question for you is this: how well do you know Jesus? Do you know Him well enough to imitate Him, or do you know just enough to do an impression? Do you simply know some of the things He did and some of the things He said or do you know Jesus personally? If you seek to follow Him, first fall in love with Him, and the best way to do that is to get to know Him. I pray that, in following Jesus, you will look more and more like Him every day.

Until He returns,  
Gage Addington



**The Nevada Griffons invite you to join them for Church Night at the Ballpark on Sunday, June 2 at 7:00pm at Lyons Stadium.** Free admission is given when you take your worship bulletin from that morning.

The church with the most people in attendance will receive a \$75 donation to their church's youth group. This is Fan Appreciation Night so admission is free for all.

**Encouragement Group Begins.** Do you have a thing, or many things, you want to do better in your life. You know, things like exercise more, read your Bible every day, do meal prep, pray more, keep your journal up to date, or whatever. We are all so busy, but we all seem to want to do something better. Okay, so, let's get together and encourage each other! Let's help each other develop those good habits. Tena Tyler and Lynda Jones are going out on a limb and starting an **Encouragement Group.** We'll meet on Tuesdays from 5:15 to 6:00 pm, allowing those of you who plan to attend the Moore/McCarter/Barneburg Group to get there on time. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, June 11 at 5:15 in the Parlor.

## Small Groups Are Beginning.

Sign-up sheets are now available for small groups that are forming. The Butterfield/Clark Group has begun meeting on Tuesdays at 2:30 pm at the Butterfield's house at 201 North Webster. The Jones/Platt Group begins on Monday, June 3 at 6:30 pm at 1913 N Elm. The Moore/McCarter/Barneburg Group begins on Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 pm at 18349 S 1453 Road. Sign up sheets are at the Welcome Centers.



**We are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Each month we collect different items. In June, the suggestions are T-shirts, loose dress, socks and hair ties or bows.** Collection boxes are

in the parlor and in the fellowship hall where you can place the items.

Anyone needing a ride to Sunday School/ Church in our vans, please let us know by calling the church office at 667-3540 **BEFORE NOON on FRIDAY.**



Van  
Ministry

To help support our local **Community Outreach Food Pantry** we are collecting non-perishable food and dry goods. A box is in the parlor for collection. **Suggested June products:** Canned chicken, canned veggies, soup, jelly, oatmeal, Jello, peanut butter.



Pantry  
Needs



gathered  
together

## One United Service

Sunday, June 9, 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School 9:30 am

New Leader Ordination 10:30 am

Potluck Fellowship Dinner 12:00 Noon



## NewSong to perform at Bushwhacker Days Festival

Be sure to see NewSong who is performing for Gospel Night at Bushwhacker Days this year. They will perform Thursday night, June 6 on the South Side of the Nevada Square. Bushwhacker Days Opening Ceremonies begin at 6:00 pm while NewSong will perform at 7:00 pm. Founded in 1981 at Morningside Baptist Church in Valdosta, Georgia, NewSong has had twelve GMA Dove Award nominations and one Grammy Award nomination. The band founded WinterJam in 1995 and host it every year.

Soul Sisters will be heading down to the square to listen to NewSong on Thursday, June 6. Bring your lawn chair and come join them!

Believe!