

This article comes from different writings of a devotional by Renovare sent out in a weekly newsletter. I have brought some of their thoughts together which I wrote out in my prayer journal.

Dag Hammerskjold: "Thy kingdom come- not mine. Thy will be done – not mine."

(Jesus) is proof that life under God's authority and faithful to his purpose truly is the good life – a life of "righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Our self-rule on the other hand, is not. And yet our own kingdoms are so hard to leave behind! Thankfully, the good news of Jesus isn't an impossible ideal. The gospel of the kingdom comes with the power to change. Whatever rules over us can be overcome as we follow Jesus.

Your main barrier to life with God is yourself. Anything that you let control and direct is your ruler – stomach, temper, addictions, fears. As long as you live under the reign of tyrants like those, you can't fully enjoy and obey the true God. Transformation is not a spiritual hoop to jump through; it's just the fact of the matter that unless we change, we stay in a holding pattern of destructive self-rule and self-focus.

Leaving all of that to enter God's abundant life takes nothing short of a miracle. You need a new outlook. You need renewed ideas, desires, and choices – a complete rebirth of your spirit.

Richard Foster: "We must experience the many little deaths of going beyond ourselves."

You aren't free and ready to do God's will if your own preferences reign supreme. There will come a point when your own kingdom comes into conflict with love of God and neighbor. This is exactly what Jesus invites you to crucify. Whenever your will comes into conflict with God's will, the choice to follow him rather than please yourself is a movement deeper into his kingdom.

These words so accurately describe my challenges in growing in Jesus Christ. I am probably not alone. One young man has recently pointed out that our desire for comfort has distorted our Christianity. Yes, it has. Read these words above. Re-read these words above. Consistently ask God for a miracle to enter God's abundant life by having him help you release your grasp on your will, from yourself, so that we may fully grasp our God's will and his life for us.

Pastor John

Church Board News

- The organization of the board resulted in Warren Peckman continuing to serve as assistant chairperson and Anthony Ogburn continuing to serve as the secretary
- The board decided to invest \$75,000 of the general fund reserve in three stewardship certificates, (\$25,000) each for 15 months at 5% with the BIC Foundation
- The board was updated and discussed some of the transitions that are coming within out congregation

February Spiritual Exercise:

- Pray the words of the February prayer daily.
- Read the thoughts above two or three times a week.
- After those readings, listen to the Holy Spirit. What is he telling you? What is one of your preferences that is hindering you from experiencing God's abundant life?
- Write down anything he is saying after each reading and meditation on those words.
- At the end of the month, look back over what you wrote. What are you learning? What has God been saying?

<u>February Prayer:</u> Father, create in F

Father, create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a faithful spirit within me. Do not force me away from your presence and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore the joy of your salvation to me and provide me with a spirit of willing obedience. Amen. (Psa. 51:10-12 GW)





Community of the Month

Pleasant Hall/Orrstown

Walk, ride, and drive through Pleasant Hall and Orrstown. Ask God to give you the opportunity to talk and pray with people.

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	February 2024 F	SIBLE KEA	DING PLAN
1	Matthew 10:21-42	14	Matthew 16:1-12
2	Matthew 11:1-19	15	Matthew 16:13-28
3	Matthew 11:20-30	16	Matthew 17:1-13
4	Matthew 12:1-21	17	Matthew 17:14-27
5	Matthew 12:22-37	18	Matthew 18:1-14
6	Matthew 12:38-50	19	Matthew 18:15-35
7	Matthew 13:1-23	20	Matthew 19:1-15
8	Matthew 13:24-43	21	Matthes 19:16-30
9	Matthew 13:44-58	22	Matthew 20:1-16
10	Matthew 14:1-21	23	Matthew 20:17-34
11	Matthew 14:22-36	24	Matthew 21:1-11
12	Matthew 15:1-20	25	Matthew 21:12-22
13	Matthew 15:21-39		

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."



Soles for Souls

36=The number of pairs of shoes that has been collected as of January 21. Our church is collecting gently used or new shoes for the ministry of The Tide. People in India will have the opportunity to hear the gospel due to funds that are raised through this program. There is a collection basket for shoes in the narthex until the end of February.



The Missions Dinner for Karina Thrush has been re-scheduled for March 1. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Please sign up by February 25 if you would like to attend.



SWEETHEART DINNER

The sweetheart dinner will be held on February 9th here at the church. Dinner will be at 6:00 pm in the gym and invitations have been placed in your mailboxes.

Meat Canning-Meat canning will be held at the Cumberland Valley Relief Center from February 26 to March 1. Brethren In Christ Day is Tuesday, February 27. Sign up information and time slots will be sent in early February.

YOUTH NEWS



February 9th, the youth group will be having a lock-in here at the church. This will start after the Sweetheart Dinner. We will begin around 9:00 pm and be at the church until 7:00 am Saturday morning. Along with food and games, we will be hearing from several different speakers that will be sharing how God is working currently in their life or how God helped them through a situation in their lives. The testimony times will be followed by praise, worship and prayer. We will also be having a bonfire with smores or mountain pies and outside games. (weather permitting) If you would like to help by providing snacks or volunteering time, please contact Pastor Travis at 717-658-6796 or Kisamore90@gmail.com

MARRIAGE WEEKEND

When: March 8-9
What: The Power of Us Marriage Weekend
Who: Dr. Rick Marks will be the speaker.
Where: Air Hill BIC Church
When: Fri evening, March 8, 6:30-9 Saturday morning, March 9, 9-12
Cost: \$50/couple







SAVE THE DATE WEEK OF JUNE 9 AIR HILL CHURCH





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	2	3 7:00-8:00 am Discipleship Group
4 8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S 10:00 am Worship	5 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	6 7:00 pm Praise/ Prayer	7 2:15 pm Good News Club 6:30 pm Kingdom Kids/Youth	8 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	9 6:00 pm Sweetheart Dinner 9:00 pm Youth Lock- in	10 7-8:00 am Discipleship Group 12-9am Youth Lock- In
11 8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S 10:00 am Worship	12 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group 7:00 pm Church Board	13 8:30-12:30 Ladies Sewing 7:00 pm Praise/ Prayer	14 2:15 pm Good News Club 6:30 pm Kingdom Kids/Youth Group	15 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	16	17 7-8 am Discipleship Group
18 8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S 10:00 am Worship	19 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	20 7:00 pm Praise/ Prayer	21 2:15 pm Good News Club 6:30 pm Kingdom Kids/Youth	22 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	23	24 7-8 am Discipleship Group
25 8:30 am Prayer 9:00 am S.S 10:00 am Worship	26 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group	27 7:00 pm Praise/ Prayer	28 2:15 pm Good News Club 6:30 pm Kingdom Kids/Youth	29 11:30-2:30 Homeschool Group 6:30 pm Property Mgt Meeting		