



Southwest *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 – VOLUME 26

THE SECRET TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Like a child looking at an unusual piece of machinery, he asks, "How does it work?" Many have wondered this about the Christian life for years.

Jesus had a following of people and decided one day to share with them "how it works" following the Lord. It turned their world upside down. We commonly call this the Sermon on the Mount. It was Jesus laying the ground rules for anyone who would be His followers. Let's just say, he didn't pull any punches or hold back by any means. It is a straightforward address dealing with very sensitive and challenging subjects, such as: living blessed under persecution, witnessing, keeping pure and away from lust, dealing with unforgiveness, staying married, forgiving and living non-judgmental, loving your enemies... and more.

How does that work? Who can live this way, and if they do, how are they doing it?

Jesus didn't share this message to discourage everyone, or to weed out the wimps – nor did he raise the bar so high that no child of God could reach it. Scattered throughout his message, Jesus reveals the secret to the Christian life. **You must learn how to spend time alone with God and pray.** It isn't an option, or just a nice thing to do; prayer is essential to your soul's well-being.

Take note of Jesus' words:

Matthew 5:43-45

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and **pray** for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. NIV

Matthew 6:5-8

5 "And when you **pray**, do not be like the hypocrites, for

they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 6 But when you **pray**, go into your room, close the door and **pray** to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.... 8 Do not be like them (hypocrites), for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. NIV

Matthew 6:9-13

9 "This, then, is how you should **pray**: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' NIV

Matthew 6:25; 33-34

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life... But **seek** first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. NIV

Matthew 7:7-12

7 "**Ask** and it will be given to you; **seek** and you will find; **knock** and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who **asks** receives; he who **seeks** finds; and to him who **knocks**, the door will be opened. 9 "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who **ask** him! NIV

Jesus' point: we can't do this on our own. Even Jesus took time to pray. We must also take time for God, and pray. It really works.

Pastor Scott and Cindy

OTHERS

Lord, help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way,
That even when I kneel to pray,
My prayer shall be for – others.

Help me in all the work I do,
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for You
Must needs be done for – others.

Let "Self" be crucified and slain,
And buried deep; and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again,
Unless to live for – others.

And when my work on earth is done,
And my new work in Heav'n's begun,
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of – others.

Others, Lord, yes others,
Let this my motto be,
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like Thee.

- Charles D. Meigs, 1902

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04-13-2012

FYI: THERE'S A TOOOOOOON OF PEOPLE
DOWN THERE THANKING YOU THAT IT IS
FRIDAY

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for a full house Sunday! Every person matters to God and therefore matters to us!
- Praise the Lord for a wonderful time at District Retreat in Shipshewana! Pastor Scott and Cindy were able to relax, be encouraged from the services, and enjoy the fellowship of the district pastor's and spouses. Thank you, church family, for sending us each year... such a blessing!
- Praise the Lord for the new doors installed! We appreciate Brad Adkins, our Buildings and Grounds Manager, installing a new set of doors for the office entry and a new door for the fellowship hall. These will help us save energy and be a blessing for many years to come. We have more door replacements coming!!

Prayer Needs:

- Pray for the new people attending our church.
- Pray for the pouring out of the Holy Spirit through our upcoming revival with Rev. Billy Huddleston and Rev. Mark Murphy.
- Pray for the R!OT Youth retreat in October. May it be a time for our teens to unplug, rest, refresh, and fellowship together!
- Pray for the West Coast fires – all whose homes and lives are being affected by these, the firefighters, and the churches and organizations trying to help those in need.

Opportunities to Donate:

We are collecting **School Pal-Paks** and **Crisis Care Kits** to send out to meet the needs of individuals across the world! If you want to provide one or several of these items, please bring them to the church and place in the properly labeled boxes in the foyer. It is important that you purchase new items **EXACTLY** as they are listed, or they cannot be shipped out to help others. Your contribution is needed and appreciated! Thanks! We hope to send several of these kits out in September. Questions: See Lisa Fishburn.

Jeremiah 29:12

"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."

NIV



- ✓ 2 – Composition Notebooks
(no larger than 9 ¾" x 7 ½")
- ✓ 1 – Package of 10 to 12 of #2 Pencils
- ✓ 1 – Package of 10 to 12 Ballpoint Black Pens
- ✓ 2 – Pink/White Erasers, 2 to 3 inches long
- ✓ 2 – Rulers with Metric Measurements (6" or 12")
- ✓ 1 – Package of 12 to 15 Colored Pencils
- ✓ 1 – Pair of Blunt Nosed Scissors
- ✓ 1 – Handheld Pencil Sharpener
(NOT electric / battery powered)

- ✓ 1 – Shampoo (12 to 18 oz)
- ✓ 2 – Bars of Soap (Bath size or larger)
- ✓ 1 – Toothpaste (4.0 to 6.4 oz)
- ✓ 3 – Toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- ✓ 1 – Box of Band-Aids (30 or more)
- ✓ 1 – Fingernail Clippers
- ✓ 1 – Sturdy Hair Comb
- ✓ 2 – Hand Towels
- ✓ 4 – Pocket-sized pkgs. Kleenex
- ✓ 1 – Beanie Baby-Sized Stuffed Toy

R!OT Youth News:

R!OT Youth Meetings:
Sundays - 5:00-7:00pm
Meet outside for games, food,
and fellowship.

We wanted to remind you about this great opportunity for teens to attend the REFRESH Weekend! It'll be a great time doing fun activities like axe throwing, ropes courses, connecting with friends and spending time learning about how important it is for us to rest and refresh in Christ.

For more information about the event & necessary registration forms, please visit www.swnazarene.org and look for the banner scrolling across that looks similar to the image within this post! Hope you can join us!

TEAM CHALLENGE COURSE-GAGA BALL-HUMAN FOOSBALL

WORSHIP-BONFIRE

R!OT YOUTH PRESENTS

REFRESH

UNPLUG-REST-DISCIPLINE-FOLLOW

OCTOBER 16-18, 2020
WOODLAND LAKES RETREAT CENTER
AMELIA, OH

AXE THROWING-
ROPES COURSE-ZIPLINE-CLIMBING WALL-VERTICAL MATRIX

The banner features a dark background with a mountain range and a night sky. It lists various activities and the event details. The word "REFRESH" is prominently displayed in large, bright green letters.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

Saturday, Sept. 19th – 9am-11am
Security Training with Officer Tom Kinman: in the fellowship hall. If you are interested in being a part of the security team, please plan on attending this training.

Tuesday, Sept. 22nd – Board Meeting
Starts at 6:30pm. Please send your reports to Katrina by Friday, September 18th at southwest@swnazarene.org.

Sunday, Sept. 27th – Alabaster Offering: Time to get those boxes of change and dollar bills ready to bring to service this day!



Sunday, Sept. 20th at 10:40am
Back to Church Sunday

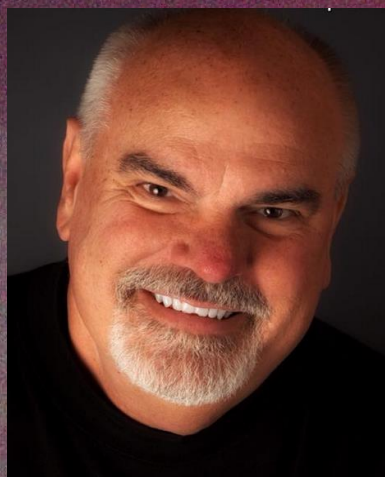
Invite a friend or a few friends for this special day. There will be no tailgate party this year, but we will still have a great service!

Come Join Us at
Wednesday Prayer
Meetings – 6:30pm!
See you there!

Special Note: We are upgrading our aging alarm system and adding new features to our office entry. Both of these items will soon have remote access. The office entry doors will have a card key access, as well as the app to lock or unlock the doors. These are both helpful security and convenience measures the church board has decided to make. If you presently have a key to the church, please let Katrina know and we will be in touch with you when the new card reader is installed to distribute the new card key.

Sunday, October 4th - Wednesday, October 7th
Sun. 10:40am & 6:00pm; Mon. - Wed. 7:00pm nightly
Fall Revival with Rev. Billy Huddleston, Evangelist
& Mark Murphy, Song Evangelist

Please take a moment to pray for this time of renewal in the Lord!



Sunday, November 22, 2020
at 10:40 AM
Blake & Jenna Bolerjack in Concert

