

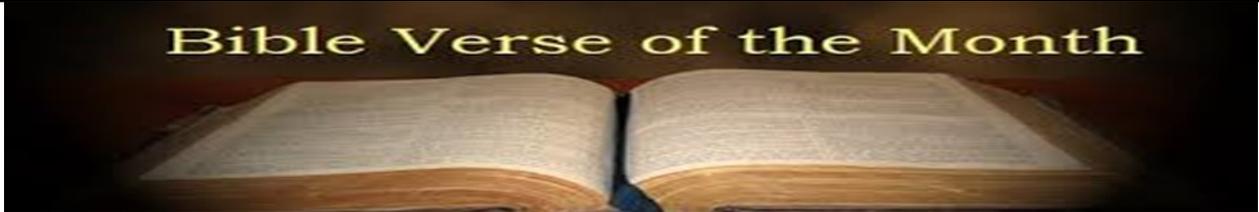
The Tabernacle Good News

September, 2019

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Bible Verse of the Month



Welcome to the fall season Tabernacle Baptist and friends! Fall officially begins the end of September. The festive seasons will be upon us in no time at all.

The theme for the month of September is "A healthy church is a place where the love of Christ shines." Mark 12:30-31, *And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.*

It is so interesting to sit back and ponder the ways of God. He created this universe in six days, and created us so that we could have fellowship with Him. Not because God was incomplete without us, but simply because He wanted to. He created us, and He loved us.

Sin entered the world, and ruined the very reason for our creation. Sin broke our fellowship with God. Yet, the primary heart of God is so basic and simple. The single greatest commandment is simply to love the Lord our God with all of our being. And the second greatest commandment is that we love each other with the same love we often selfishly reserve for ourselves.

That's it. It is sooooo simple!

I love history. As I look at the history of the world however, I see nothing even close to what God originally desired from His creation. Nations rise against nations desiring to hold power over each other. Ruthless rulers hurt their own people and lead them through pointless wars which kill millions upon millions. Mankind enslave each other. Harm each other. Defraud each other. All because God's most simple desires to love Him and love each other are blatantly ignored. We are wise to look upon the past and learn from it. A worldview excluding God's Word may be politically correct nowadays, but it has a terrible track record for the well being of mankind.

God's desires for us are really not complex at all. We are to love Him. Not just in word only, but our love should bubble out of our hearts so vividly that it changes the way we live our lives. Not only should we love our God, but we "...shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

This love that God desires should affect positively how we interact with,

- Our spouses
- Our children
- Our extended families
- Our co-workers
- Our friends
- Our church friends
- Those who don't know the Lord

And all of the annoying versions in-between! Jesus says in Matthew 5:46, *For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?* Loving those who are difficult to love is where God's grace really shines through.

This love should also change our reactions. Viewing life through the lens of **loving God, and loving others** should change the way we react to life and those around us in this life.

Notice through all of this, church has been mentioned very little. If we are seeking to be like Christ in EVERY area of our personal lives, it will **spill out into our church lives naturally**. It will not have to be faked on a Sunday morning, and "go back to normal" the rest of the week. John 13:35 says, *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."*

A church that is truly healthy from the inside out, will be a place where the love of Christ shines through. It will be unmistakable. And THAT is a church that I want to be a part of!

-P. Thomas

2019: "I WILL BUILD"



SEPTEMBER — A HEALTHY CHURCH IS A PLACE WHERE THE LOVE OF CHRIST SHINES

AND THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIND, AND WITH ALL THY STRENGTH: THIS IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT. 31 AND THE SECOND IS LIKE, NAMELY THIS, THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR AS THYSELF.

THERE IS NONE OTHER COMMANDMENT GREATER THAN THESE. **MARK 12:30-31**

TBC

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 1: Labor Day Picnic

September 6: Oakland A's Game



September 14: Ladies Craft Day



September 15: Newsletter Deadline



September 21: Men's Prayer Breakfast



Fishers of Men:

Every Saturday @ 10 AM
Country Harvest Days
Invites



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Caring Corner

Birthdays

- 3. Bill Bates
- 5. Michael Moroz
- 6. William Moroz
- 11. Yvonne Elizalde
- 12. Maureen Dilly
- 19. Evy Thurber-Bates
- 20. Gail Brown
- 20. Barbara Daugherty

Anniversaries

- 5. Rich & Christine King
- 21. Brent & Jennifer Palmer
- 22. Bruno & Natasha
Martinez
- 24. Kent Staloup & Sharon
O'Sullivan
- 26. Tom & Wendy
Ciaramitaro



Did You Know?

**Campbell's Soup Company
first sold cream of
mushroom soup in 1934.**

Family Favorites

By Lisa Evans



In September it's getting cooler and time to get your last visits to the festivals in the area. My family would want to get the every last drop of summer. While employed by the Contra Costa Newsgroup, as a representative of the media I worked at many festivals. My family accompanied me to them, but not wanting them to have a full diet of 'fair' food (a fried corn dog is ok once in a while) but I usually prepared a crock pot meal on those days. Coming home tired it was a perfect idea for dinner and it would cook while we squeezed out every drop of summer time.

Hungarian Goulash

3 medium onions, chopped
 2 medium carrots, chopped
 2 medium green peppers, chopped
 3 pounds beef stew meat
 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
 3/4 teaspoon pepper, divided
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1-1/2 cups beef broth
 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
 3 tablespoons paprika
 2 tablespoons tomato paste
 1 teaspoon caraway seeds
 1 garlic clove, minced
 Dash sugar
 12 cups uncooked whole wheat egg noodles
 1 cup reduced-fat sour cream



Place the onions, carrots and green peppers in a 6/5-qt. slow cooker. Sprinkle stew meat with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. In a large skillet, brown meat in oil in batches, browning every edge. Transfer to slow cooker. Add broth to skillet, stirring to loosen all the yummy, browned bits (doing this transfers you from 'cook' to 'chef'..... *almost*) from the pan. Combine the flour, paprika, tomato paste, caraway seeds, garlic, sugar and remaining salt and pepper; stir into the skillet. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Pour over meat. Cover and cook on low for 7-9 hours or until meat is tender.

Cook noodles according to package directions. Stir sour cream into slow cooker. Drain noodles; serve under the goulash.

Missionary Letters

Severin Croitor-Israel

Greetings from Haifa, Israel, to all the saints and faithful brethren in Christ Jesus!

Thank you all for your faithfulness and genuine prayers for me and our Lord's ministry here. During this past Winter and Spring, I have been so busy with Ministry work along with all the other daily activities. I have had many visitors here in Israel and I, again, was called to Romania for family matters (more details, below). The day-to-day routine is very time consuming, but satisfying to be able to serve our Lord in this way.

I hope and pray that each of you is doing well in the Lord Jesus Christ in all aspects of daily life! What a statement that is to the worldly people who know not God or His Messiah! We all know, or are learning, that all who want to walk the walk and follow in His footsteps in order to become more like Christ Jesus will experience daily struggles.

These trials come to us not just because of religious persecution but also because it has been allowed by our Master — as He knows how much we need these trials in order to be made like Him. Praise Him for His faithfulness in teaching us to become like Him! Truly, His ways are not our ways but are higher than our ways.

We need to remember that, for those of us who follow Yeshua, every day is a day of spiritual warfare. The enemy of our souls wants to prevent us from drawing ever nearer to our Lord. And he uses all the resources of the world to do so. But our Lord, Jesus has encouraged us by saying "be of good courage for I have overcome the world." Everyday, we learn by personal experience the faithfulness of our God.

More and more the daily struggles in Israel reveal the soon return of the Lord Jesus to establish His kingdom on earth. Hallelujah! The Bible contains many prophetic statements about the signs of the end times, especially those using Israel as the time clock. The tensions throughout the Middle East are increasing rapidly.

The Palestinians are more restless these days. The conflicts and warfare in Syria (which is right next door) were frightening to many here. And, now, it looks like Iran is starting trouble as well. Something big seems about to happen. Could these events be the birth pangs spoken of by the prophets?

Conflicts between Israel and the Palestinians and Hamas (mostly in the Gaza Strip) are increasing daily. Since the President of the United States, Donald Trump, officially recognized Jerusalem as the Eternal Capitol of Israel and moved the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, the tensions have increased dramatically. Then the President recognized the Golan Heights as Israel's territory. Since then, the backlash from Gaza has been relentless. You probably read about the hundreds of rockets that have been fired into Israel since then. But almost all of them landed in open areas and harmed no one and no homes. There have been riots in some areas and shootings. But we give thanks always to God for His mercy and protection!

I am so happy that the cold winter months are ended at last here in Israel. This year the Winter was colder than usual. I struggled both day and night just to keep warm in my flat while trying to keep the electric bill low. Neither worked as I was cold and the bill was still high. In the middle of this, I came down with a cold and was sick for a while. I thank my God that he saw me through it all.

Just when I thought it was cold in Israel, I was called to go to Romania. In February 2019, I traveled to Romania for about two weeks where it was very cold. I was called to attend a funeral for a brother-in-law. Before I could reach Romania, a second brother-in-law went home to be with the Lord.

The first of these was over 88 years old and had served a long time as a pastor of a local congregation even during the communist regime. He was steadfast in his service even though he experienced persecution for being faithful to Jesus when many others served communism instead. He was a big influence on me as a young child inspiring me to always follow Jesus and to pursue my dream to become a missionary for our Lord. In my teenage years, he was one of my spiritual leaders.

The second brother-in-law was also a follower of Jesus. He was 72 years old. We served in a home church together in our youth. He was a talented musician and used his God-given talent to passionately serve God in a local congregation.

After they both served the Lord Jesus to the best of their abilities all the days of their lives, God called them both (a Priest and a Levite) home within two days of each other.

These events presented special opportunities to speak with family members and friends about their own walk with the Lord. God also gave me opportunities to speak to some churches. I even got to speak with some young and wild people and to encourage them to forsake their own ways and follow Jesus. There is no more exciting a life than that!

While I was glad to return to Israel, my welcome home was not what I expected. Upon my arrival at my flat, I discovered there had been an electrical blackout while I was gone. The food in my refrigerator had spoiled. It took quite some time for the smell to leave my flat. But I learned that this was yet another situation that caused me to turn to Jesus and to overcome in Him

While I was battling the odors in my flat, little did I know that the adventures were just beginning. Within 3 days, I found myself waiting for the arrival of friends from Spain. I was their host for more than a week. It was their first time in Israel. I gave them several tours of various parts of Israel. It was a great time of fellowship with these Brethren even though my body felt worn out when they left.

After another 3 days and very little rest, my nephew (who is a pastor) came from Romania with his wife and mother-in-law. Again, this was the first time they had visited Israel. I hosted them and took them to see a number of Biblical sights. My nephew was asked to preach in a Romanian Church while in Israel which he did. What a blessing that was for all.

Of course, during and despite all of this activity, day to day responsibilities must still be met. I continued my ministry work with OM, including meeting weekly with the OM team for prayer and the weekly Bible studies. Some of the meetings are in Haifa and some are elsewhere. I also serve as the assistant Pastor for a Romanian Church in Haifa. This requires at least going there 2 or 3 times every month just for the services. And, I could not neglect the continuing development of the friendships with Jewish and Arab friends — meeting with them for encouragement and prayer — as God ordained.

Some events and activities stand out. Here are some highlights of the last few months that I found special.

Hanukkah. This is a holiday that commemorates the miraculous oil supply for the menorah that God provided as a sign for Israel. I spent this day with my best Jewish friends — Barak and his wife Paula. Both are followers of Yeshua. We enjoyed sweet fellowship in the Lord and encouraged one another to continue to serve Yeshua. They have also met with me with a small group that meets on Fridays for Bible study and prayer.

The OM Annual Retreat was held in the Golan Heights area in a village called Katsrine. We dressed as they dressed in Biblical times and tried to eat as the disciples did. Pesach (Passover)-this year we celebrated the Seder meal together with my Jewish friend and Yeshua believer, Barak, and his wife Paula with Barak's very Jewish religious family who lives near Haifa. It was a very special time to reflect on what God did to intervene to free the Jewish His people from Egypt slavery!

It was again an opportunity for encouraging and prayer for us being part of that event and to pray that God may open their eyes to see Yeshua

Hamashiach and God the Father to lead them and all Israel to know Jesus Christ! May the deliverance from Egypt lead them to deliverance from bondage to this world through the true Deliverer — Jesus.

I had a call in the morning to go from Haifa to Jerusalem to meet an old friend of mine and his wife. He had asked me to baptize his wife. I met them in Jerusalem and we all went down to Jerihon at the Jordan River in Judean wilderness. The baptism was very special as it always is. We also had a great time seeing people coming to follow Jesus Christ and stepping in Baptism water right in the Jordan River!

The Romanian Church from Jerusalem met together at the site of the Lord's Tomb in Jerusalem. We had a worship service and celebrated the Lord's Supper right at the Garden Tomb. This congregation is blessed to do this every year at this time - at the end of Pesach! Praise God for His blessings to His own.

Larry & Dixie Quade...Wales

We arrived safely back in Wales and are excited about our new ministry in Brynteg. Pray for me, as my body is refusing to adjust to Welsh time — so I am not sleeping. My M.E. pain is back and am very weak at the moment. Please pray that I can start sleeping soon, so that I do the ministry that God has planned for me!

We had a good furlough without any problems — God is good. We were able to report to several churches including two new ones. We picked up many new prayer partners and all were excited about our new ministry.

We only drove about 5,000 miles, and flew more than usual. In our younger days, we used to drive 20,000 to 25,000 miles in 3 months. It is cheaper flying distances, rather than driving, so we are flying much more than we used to. It not only saves money, but gives us more time with family, friends and churches.

I wrote to you in our last Prayer Letter, that Sue was saved in April. She is really excited about her faith in Jesus and is coming to different Bible studies to learn more about Jesus. She has surrendered to be baptized. We have to use another church as we do not have a baptistry in our building. Pray for her husband and family who are not at all interested in the truth and are not coming to her

baptism — pray for God to work in their hearts so that they will be saved!

We will be celebrating the Church's 70th anniversary in September — so that is another opportunity to invite people who will not come to normal church services. Outreach is the only way to contact and reach new people.

Many churches are doing away with outreach because it takes too much time and money. But that is the only way to find people that are searching for truth or confused about the world we live in. So, our church uses every opportunity and excuse to schedule a special service, etc. in order to try and move people to visit us and see that we are just ordinary people, but we love the Lord and the life that He provides for us.

Thank you for all of your prayer for us while we were on our furlough. Thank you for your faithful prayers for us and our ministry in Wales. Please continue to pray for the people of Brynteg Village and their salvation!

Bill and Doyla Bramblet-Australia

On August 3rd Doyla and I will have been married for 45 years! Over 40 of those years we have been missionaries to Australia. It's a blessing to have such a faithful and godly wife. Our latest adventure with foster children is testing her strength. We sure appreciate your prayers for us! Our family camp went well. We had about 30 in attendance. The theme was "Walking with Jesus." It was a blessing to be able to spend time together as a church. We did a quick survey of the New Testament in the mornings and had preaching at night - plus a lot of fun and good food! This was a rehearsal for the youth camp we are planning for January.

Please pray for the salvation of Dempsey and Tanaya, Tareek and Chanise, Tony and Kylie, Robert and Jessica; also Patrick, Inna, Tarsi, Nick. Pray for our youth to trust the Lord and be willing to stand for Him. Also pray that the Christian couples who often attend will join with us in faithfully serving the Lord. Please keep praying that God will supply a national pastor, either from our own folks or somewhere else in Australia. Thank you so much for supporting our ministry. We appreciate your faithfulness.

Bits and Pieces, Notes and News

Ladies Fellowship: This month we are having a Ladies Craft Day on September 14th at 2pm in the lunchroom. All ladies are welcome to attend but you must sign up ahead of time so the supply kit will be waiting for you. Sign up sheets will be available September 1st and 8th. A small fee will be charged and is payable at sign up to cover expenses. No drop ins please.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: This month's Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on September 21st at 8am in the lunchroom. In addition to a good breakfast, Troy always has a timely message and there is also a time of prayer. All men, young and old, are invited.

New Church Directory: Life Touch will be coming to Tabernacle on October 11-12 2019. It is time for us to do a new directory. All members and regular attenders are to be included. Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 photo. Sign up sheets will be available with specific times so you can choose a day and time that fits your schedule.

Labor Day Picnic: Our annual Labor Day Picnic will be on September 1st. Plan to attend. As usual the church will supply the hamburgers and hot dogs and drinks. You are asked to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to feed a lot of people. Our picnics are always a fun time and a good way to get to know each other.

Oakland A's Game: Our annual excursion to an A's game will be on September 6th. The A's will be playing the Detroit Tigers this year. All baseball fans should plan to attend. Members and friends are invited. This is always a good time whether the As win or lose.

New emails: Hedda@TabernacleBaptist.Church,
PastorThomas@TabernacleBaptist.Church, and website TabernacleBaptist.Church

Country Harvest Days: Our annual Country Harvest Days are coming for the entire month of October. Don't miss a single Sunday. There will be activities every Sunday so mark your calendars. Details to follow. This is an excellent time to invite friends and family to join us. On September 7th we will start inviting our community to join us. Please be in prayer that this outreach will bring people to hear the gospel and come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please let me know if I have your date(s) wrong. Not only do computers have a mind of their own, but I sometimes just do not have the information or what I have is incorrect. The only way I know is if you tell me. I want to have these correct and am never offended by correction. There seems to have been a rash of errors lately and I do apologize.

Ralphie's Puzzler of the Month

What nation other than Israel was scattered all over the world?

Last Month's Answer: What great man was seen about 1500 years after his death? Moses
Mark 9:2-5

Mary Lou's Musings

By Mary Lou McCauley

My brother called me the other day to talk about moving expenses, and various and sundry other things. It's interesting to notice that if one is not careful everything rises and falls on finances. The Lord made it clear that we are to "take no thought for the morrow," what we should eat or what we are going to wear. He says that tomorrow will take care of itself. I am trying to learn this lesson as I walk through this move.

Have you noticed how everything costs money? Moving is one of the most expensive things I have encountered in my life! Renting a truck, buying gas, buying supplies, staying in hotels, getting airplane tickets, storing furniture, even moving furniture from place to place costs *money*. And yet the Lord told us, basically, don't worry about it!

I have learned that God's timing is perfect, however, and this is a great lesson to learn. God has provided for me by allowing to sell my house for less money than I asked for by giving me another avenue to realize some financial gain. I am so grateful that He did this in a manner which made me know that it was all right to accept the offer that was proffered. His timing in this was impeccable. I knew without wondering that this was a good offer that I could accept because of this other cash reserve that He provided for me!

I remember reading about George Mueller praying for his orphans because they did not have food; how God wonderfully provided for them just when they needed it. God desires that we understand that, like manna from Heaven, His gifts come straight from His heart to our hands and mouths. It is so good that our Heavenly Father not only provides for us, but He also lets us *know* beyond a shadow of a doubt that the gift is from Him. He wants us to realize that He is the Provider! It is easy to mouth those words without the true experience to back it up. When we actually go through a time of great financial outflow, that is when God is saying, "Now you have to trust Me! You have no other recourse!" And those are the times when we truly see Him as the Great Provider and Care-Giver that He is! Praise God He gives us such times so that we can learn to trust Him more fully!



Monthly Devotional

Library Corner



September 2019
By *J. Harmon

September

Follow hard after God Almighty!

Read: Psalms 63:8

8: My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me:

As a follower of Christ, God does uphold and keep us in His hand (Psalm 37:24). How can a follower of Christ measure the intensity of his faithfulness to God? Are our standards on a higher level than the standards we set for the sheep of God? Are we studying and applying God's word in our life with at least the same intensity as we expect God's sheep to uphold? Do we give ourselves leniency to break God's standards more than we do the sheep of God? Do we believe God's word with all our hearts? Do we believe and teach that God's word is only a compilation of stories to teach us lessons? Do we teach that the accounts of the Bible are not true accounts (1 Corinthians 10:11)? We need to review our answers to these questions. It will easily give us an idea to the intensity of how much we are following God. Do not kid yourself, for our conscience will speak loudly to us. Do not ignore the Holy Spirit as He will notify our conscience (1 Timothy 4:1-2).

Goal

As a follower of Christ, we must have a higher standard for ourselves than we do for the sheep of God. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. Do not become insensitive to the Holy Spirit. Do not cauterize the conscience from the Holy Spirit. As much as possible, we should strive to be the best example to others as we can.

Anonymous

(Reprinted from December 2016)

At our last evening church service, I mentioned that I was ending a journey that began six and a half years ago, when I was laid off, February 1, 2010. It has been an interesting time, in that I have learned several things that God could not have taught me any other way.

Looking back... it was the best thing that could have happened. Being unemployed for that year, provided time I would not ordinarily have. It all started with a book from a thrift shop about J. Hudson Taylor (1832-1905) and the **China Inland Mission**. After finishing that book, I became interested in other believers that I had heard about through the years. I was curious to know how they dealt with fear, panic and the thought of homelessness.

At the time I was not in church, however I did have access to the library of a church I had attended 10 years earlier. I began to read biographies. We have some of those same books in our library here at TBC.

Saint Augustine, William Carey, Dr. Livingstone in Africa, John Newton (author of Amazing Grace) what a story he had, a former slave ship captain! John Calvin, Martin Luther, George Whitefield, Charles Spurgeon, John and Charles Wesley, John Bunyan, William and Catherine Booth (I never knew the **Salvation Army** was spiritual!) Amy Carmichael went from Ireland to India, but not before a brief stay in Japan.

Corrie Ten Boom started her ministry at 53 years old; after being released from a German prison camp. Sabina Wurmbrand, (wife of Richard Wurmbrand, founder of **Voice of the Martyrs**) tells of the communists who came to Eastern Europe (Romania) after WWII. Her story **The Pastor's Wife**, details her three years in prison for being a Christian, and how the church in Romania was forced to go underground. Richard spent 14 years in prison for being a Christian. A Jewish Christian at that! Bruce Olson, "**Brucho**" left home at 19 years old to go to South America. To this day, he works with the Molitone Indians.

That first book opened the door, beginning the journey of faith. A small church library permitted me to step through that door, introducing me to brothers and sisters, whose testimonies are written and preserved in those books.

Those biographies combined with my own trials and disappointment, faith is no longer a feeling. It has become something that I can touch in the deepest part of my soul. I know now that God is faithful and worthy of my trust, and I can say with the Psalmist, my times are in His Hand. (Psalm 31:5)

Tabernacle Baptist Church Ministry

Sunday

9:45AM Sunday School For All Ages
 10:45AM Morning Worship Service
 Children's Church (3s through 3rd grade)
 Nursery
 6:00PM Evening Service

Wednesday

7:00PM Discipleship/Prayer Meeting
 7:00PM Patch The Pirate Club/Master Clubs/ACCESS-
 Tabernacle Teens (Both programs are off for the summer)

Saturday

10:00 AM Fishers of Men

"Occupying till JESUS comes"
-Luke 19:13c

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The Tabernacle Good News
Next Deadline: 3rd Sunday,
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 your suggestions and
 contributions.

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The Tabernacle Good News

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