



February 2022

Volume 18 : Number 2



I Can Be Your Friend

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

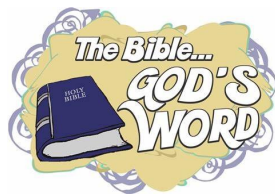
The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

1 Timothy 1:5 ~



BIBLE IN A YEAR

We welcome you to join us as we make our way through the bible this year. You will need to read through Deuteronomy 27



Sun 2/6 ~ through Leviticus 24
Sun 2/13 ~ through Numbers 18
Sun 2/20 ~ through Deuteronomy 3
Sun 2/26 ~ through Deuteronomy 21

Jesus was accused of being a friend of sinners. That was the word on the street in first-century Palestine. The precise phrase — “friend of sinners” — is mentioned twice in the Gospels, in Matthew 11:19 and Luke 7:34. The naysayers of the day, the religious leadership, criticized Jesus as a “glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.”

They called him this because it was TRUE. He was a friend of sinners. Jesus himself said that he didn’t come for the spiritually healthy, but for the sick. “I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance” (Luke 5:31–32).

Just like he greeted children that others thought were a nuisance, he welcomed sinners that others wouldn’t (Matthew 19:14; Luke 7:37–39). He looked at them, as Mark says he did with the rich young man, and he loved them (Mark 10:21). He had compassion on them. And most glorious of all, because of his relationship with them, he had the opportunity to wield his authority to speak those wondrous words, “Your sins are forgiven” (Luke 7:48).

This is all very important for us because, as we strive to be disciples who make disciples, we must pattern our lives after Jesus’s example. He has, after all, sent us into the world in the same Spirit of his own mission (John 20:21–22).

If Jesus was a friend of sinners, we must be too.

1. Be okay with marginal.

We need to be all right with “marginal”... all the way around. We must be okay with associating with the

marginal, the poor, the destitute, those often overlooked in society (Luke 7:22).

We so quickly forget that we were once sinners. Separated from God. If we can humble ourselves enough today, we can get to a point where we can echo Paul in 1st Timothy 1:15”... This is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the worst.”

Our obedience to God and our love for others commands us to Go! Go there. Go where they are. Be with them. Serve them. Learn from them.

We also need to be okay with being thought marginal ourselves. The truth is that many of our neighbors will think we’re weird. Or stupid. Or close-minded. Or judgmental. Jesus reminds us in John 15: 20 “‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.”

The number of those who share our convictions, or are even open to listening, may continue to dwindle. And, really, this is fine. It’s okay. Our calling doesn’t live or die by societal acceptance.

2. Aim to love, not be liked.

We must nail this down. We are called to be a servant not a celebrity. The aim of our charge is love, not popularity (1 Timothy 1:5). Jesus constantly infuriated the popular ideals of his day. They knew his teaching contradicted their own so they tried to shut him up (Mark 12:12). “If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they malign those of his household” (Matthew 10:25).

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February EVENTS



February Birthday

3 Carl Sherven
3 Rachel
5 Brandon Wegner
7 Chuck Koberstein
12 Theo Fuller
19 Eugene Starks
19 Peggy Goodenow
21 Erika Horstman
26 Bonnie Sherven
26 Cameron Meise
27 Ron Greenwood
28 Joe Canepa

Happy Anniversary

20 John & Juanita Rockhill

MENS BASKETBALL

EVERY MONDAY
AT 6:30PM



Midweek Huddler every
Wednesday at 6:00pm
February 2—Meal
February 9
February 16
February 23

2022 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting for 2022 will be on Sunday February 6th, 2022, right after church. It will start at 11:30am. In order for the meeting to be “official”, we will need AT LEAST 25 members in attendance, but ALL people are welcome. During the Annual Meeting, we will have a written Annual Report, as well as hear oral reports from both of the Pastors, and various committees. It is a great time to hear about what God did in 2021, as well as look forward to 2022.

A few of the items that will get voted on are:

- 1) **Edit New Life’s Constitution.** Due to the fact of the changing size and age, some minor adjustments needed to be made. The Pastors, Elders, and official board have been working on this through the 2021 year and have approved of all the changes that are being suggested. A copy of those changes will be available online on our web site at this link: <http://www.newlifebaraboo.com/new-life-constitution-edit/> - and there will be paper copies at the church for anyone that would like to have one in hand. They will also be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- 2) **Approve the 2022 Ballot and Standing Committees.** The Nominating Committee has presented them to the New Life Board, and they have approved them. The ballot is included in this newsletter and will also be hanging on the foyer bulletin board. 3) **New Life’s 2022 Annual budget.** Each year the Finance Committee presents a new budget to the board before the Annual meeting for approval, then the Official Board brings it to the Annual Meeting for approval. Join us as we seek to be good stewards of the resources New Life has been given.

Give Online



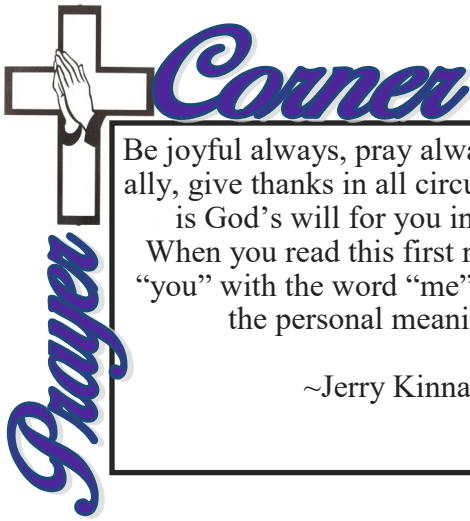
www.newlifebaraboo.com



Listen Online

Financial Report

December 2021		End of Year	
Actual Income	\$22,314	Actual Income	\$177,690
Actual Expense	\$16,555	Actual Expense	\$197,717
Difference	\$5,759	Difference	-\$20,027
Budgeted Giving	\$13,474	Budgeted Giving	\$174,380
Budgeted Expense	\$15,590	Budgeted Expense	\$195,200
Difference	-\$2,116	Difference	-\$20,820



Be joyful always, pray always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

When you read this first replace the word "you" with the word "me", then it takes on the personal meaning for us.

~Jerry Kinnamon

STAY CONNECTED

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Jesus wasn't a fan favorite. They crucified him, remember? The leaders and the people. In a sense, there is a holy disregard for what outsiders think, but that's not the whole story. In the Pastoral Epistles, Paul lays out that one of the qualifications to be an elder is that "he must be well thought of by outsiders" (1 Timothy 3:7). As Christians we should care what others think because God cares. Ultimately, "we want outsiders to become insiders." Jesus came to serve, not be served (Mark 10:45), and the same goes for us. We are in this world to serve, not be pampered. To love, not be applauded. To bless, not be notarized. So we should care about our reputation, to serve and love and bless, but that doesn't mean trying so hard to be liked by everybody. Having a respectable reputation is one thing, trying to get everyone to throw their arm around us is another.

3. Put the gospel to work.

The most important thing we could ever say is that Jesus is Lord. He is the risen King of the universe, alive now and reigning in his mercy and love, commanding all people everywhere to repent and come home. This is the good news, this is Great news... and it is controversial.

Our job is to share and show the most glorious,

humble event in history. God became a man. He suffered. He died. This is our example as we strive to live like Jesus

Our message and lives are marked by this relentless posture of servanthood, we are to serve live Jesus. Christ's love has no preconditions. It's lavished on the worst of sinners and tidiest of Pharisees, giving us all the eyes of faith, so that we can love like Jesus. Jesus, having been victorious over the grave, commissions us that we are destined for another world, a better one. Heaven will be on earth, but not yet. The world will be made completely new, but now we're still working and waiting, loving the lost, shining the light of Christ, that others might see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven.

Pastor Parnell writes, "When these truths touch our lives and are put to work in our relationships, we'll be walking in the steps of our Savior. When this world-shaking wonder orders the way we, sinners saved by grace, think about those around us, sinners in need of grace, then, and only then, we'll make for good friends. Then we'll be good friends of sinners, like the true and better "friend of sinners.""

Pastor Jed