



NEW LIFE NEWS



~ LOVE ~ LIVE ~ SERVE ~ LIGHT ~



December 2025

Volume 21: Number 12



Be Good for Goodness Sake

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

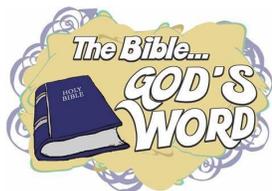
Luke 2:11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Unto us a child is born



BIBLE IN A YEAR

We are glad you made your way through the Bible this year. To complete your reading challenge, you will need to read to the end of Revelation 22 to finish your Bible on December 31st.



Sun 12/7 ~ through 2 Corinthians 7
Sun 12/14 ~through 1 Thess. 2
Sun 12/21 ~ through Hebrews 13
Sun 12/28 ~ through Revelation 9

At the North Pole, goodness is something we talk about often — as often as elves talk about cookies, or reindeer talk about snow. But true goodness, the kind that warms hearts and changes lives, doesn't come from being watched or rewarded. It flows from a heart shaped by Christ.

As followers of Christ, we aren't called to be good only when it's convenient... or when it benefits us... or when December rolls around. We're called to goodness that reflects the One who made us. And goodness that reflects God is never forced.

It's chosen.
It's lived.
It's for goodness sake — for God's sake, for love's sake, for the sake of the world He so dearly loves.

WHY WE ARE OFTEN GOOD

If we're honest — people often choose to be good for simple reasons:
Sometimes we're good because we hope for a reward.
Sometimes we're good because we want to avoid consequences.
Sometimes we're good because someone might be watching.
But Jesus calls us to something deeper.
Scripture reminds us that man looks on the outward appearance, but the

Lord looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). True goodness isn't measured by behavior alone, but by the love motivating it.

Outward goodness without inward goodness is like decorating the tree but forgetting to turn on the lights — something important is missing.

Goodness That Flows From God

The apostle Paul wrote, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness...." - (Galatians 5:22-23).

Notice what he didn't say: He didn't say the fruit of the Christian life is "reputation" or "reward" or "being noticed."

He said goodness — the kind that grows naturally when the Holy Spirit shapes us.

This goodness: stays steady when pressure rises shines even when no one sees chooses compassion over comfort reflects the character of Christ

It is goodness not for personal gain, but goodness that comes from God and returns to God.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

When we speak about being "good for goodness sake," we are echoing the deep truth Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount:

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."
— Matthew 5:16

STAY CONNECTED

✉ Pastorjessesevens@gmail.com ☎ (608)408-9804

✉ jedcrouse@gmail.com ☎ (608)963-1205

✉ newlifebaraboo@gmail.com ☎ (608)356-3367

www.newlifebaraboo.com



What's Happening

CHRISTMAS EVE

Join us on Wednesday night of December 24th, Christmas Eve at 6pm as we celebrate the birth of our Savior together. There will be songs, a message, and a celebration of Jesus on that special night. Please join us, and be sure to bring a friend or another family.

LADIES: Join the fun on Sunday December 14th at New Life @ 2pm for the Jingle and Mingle event. This is an annual gathering for Ladies of all ages. There will be tea, snacks, games and someone sharing. Not only that, but there will be several tables that will have unique Christmas decorations on them. This event is the largest women's event we have all year. You won't want to miss it. If you would like to attend, please contact Sabra Dessauer at (231) 499-9979.

Jesus doesn't tell us to shine so people will praise us, but so they will see the goodness of God.

This is the heart of the call:

To live in such a way that our kindness reflects His kindness.

To do good in such a way that our actions point upward.

To love in such a way that others can sense the love of Christ.

This is goodness for goodness sake — goodness because God is good.

BEING AN EXAMPLE OF GOODNESS

The world is watching... but more importantly, the world is looking for hope. And goodness gives people hope.

When you choose goodness:

You show Christ without even speaking His name.

You plant seeds of faith where soil is thin.

You light a candle in a room someone thought was dark.

Peter reminds us to live such good lives among others that even those who don't understand our faith will see our deeds and glorify God (1 Peter 2:12).

Goodness becomes evangelism without a sermon.

Your life becomes the lantern in the window.

Your choices become the map that leads others to Him.

So this Christmas season — and every day — choose goodness freely and joyfully.

Be kind when no applause is coming.

Be generous when no cameras are rolling.

Be faithful when no one notices but God.

Be forgiving even when it costs you.

Be good... for goodness sake.

Because when your goodness reflects His goodness, the world becomes brighter, softer, and filled with a little more hope — the kind of hope only Christ can give.

With love, joy and a heart full of Christmas hope,

Pastor "Santa" Jed

Happy Anniversary

31 Benjamin & Lindsey Marty

December Birthdays

- 1 Clyde Martz
- 2 Kristen Djonne
- 2 Stephanie Johnson
- 6 Tim Meise
- 10 Allyson Green
- 11 Dave Sherven
- 16 Cindy Doescher
- 17 Jenna Meise
- 17 Lisa Meyer
- 20 Isabelle Westendorf
- 21 Jonathan O'Donnell
- 22 Dale Lempa
- 23 Lydia Gabardy
- 30 Randy Wallace

Financial Report for October 2025 & through October

<u>Month of October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Actual Income \$10,071	Actual Income \$152,239
Actual Expense \$15,989	Actual Expense \$158,062
Difference -\$5,918	Difference -\$5,823
Budgeted Giving \$16,317	Budgeted Giving \$163,167
Budgeted Expense \$15,823	Budgeted Expense \$158,230
Difference \$494	Difference \$4,937



Text 608-963-1205 to receive an Advent text each day leading up to Christmas.