

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Plans

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Nate Nichols, Darlene Smith, Wayne Ezell, and Peggy Beebe

New Arrival: Brezlynn Desiree Grace Morigeau arrived April 3, 2019 at 4:28 PM. She weighed 8 pounds 5 ounces and is 21 inches tall. Both mother and daughter are doing well.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Hans and Danesa are traveling home. Tom and Debra will begin travelling Thursday. Eddie and Susan will begin traveling on April 14.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

Today's Scripture: "So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice," **Acts 5:38-39 (ESV)**

Today's Wisdom: "Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, but those who plan peace have joy." **Proverbs 12:20 (ESV)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 77/69 Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EVANGELIST

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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear	Romans 10:17
Believe	Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent	Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess	Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized	Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life	Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes:	10AM
AM Worship:	11AM
PM Worship:	5PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study:	7PM
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OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Plans

There is a country music song with a verse that goes something similar to “If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans.” The idea, of course, is that man’s plans are not all that important to God. Jesus told us this through His parables. In **Luke 12:16-21 (NKJV)** Jesus tells us the following: “Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: *‘The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.’*” ’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” Then Paul stated in **Romans 13:13-14 (CSBBible)** “Let us walk with decency, as in the daytime: not in carousing and drunkenness; not in sexual impurity and promiscuity; not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and don’t make plans to gratify the desires of the flesh.”

While these passages indicate that we ought not spend much time planning for a future here, James makes it crystal clear what we should be planning for. “Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.’ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, ‘If the Lord will, we will live and also do this or that.’” **James 4:13-15 (NASB)**

James tells us that when we plan we need to include God in them. This allows us to recognize that whatever we are doing, God should be consulted first and what we do must be in accordance to His will.

There are things that we know that we should not be concerned about. Jesus tells us that we can depend on God to care for us. “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteous-

By: Bill Beebe

ness, and all these things will be added to you.” **Matthew 6:25-33 (ESV)** Jesus tells us here what our plans should be designed to do. That is to please God and do His will. When we do that, Jesus promises that all the things that we need to live in this world will be provided for us.

The primary plans we should make are those that help us to serve God. Once we make those plans we should plan to be good stewards of what God has blessed us with. Jesus teaches us this, again through his parables. The parable recorded in **Matthew 25:14-30** teaches us that proper use of what God has given us is something that we should plan for. The person that was given ten talents planned for and produced another ten talents, the same thing happened with the person who was given two talents. But the person who was given one talent didn't plan to increase the talent that he was given. Instead he buried the one talent he had. We know from reading that passage that both those who planned for and produced additional talents were acceptable, but the one who buried his talent was rejected.

So, how do we plan to serve God? We do this the same way that we plan for anything else. First we identify what it is that we need to do. Then we decide how to do it. And finally, we make a concerted effort to accomplish those plans. In order to serve God, we need to worship Him first and foremost. Since we know what we ought to do, and what we as Christians want to do, our next act must be to decide how to accomplish those things.

In order to worship God, we should plan to attend worship services as scheduled by the Elders. While there on the First Day of the week we will sing, pray, study, observe the Lord’s Supper and offer. When we worship God on other days, we still sing, pray, and study. It is the act of setting aside time to come together to worship that allows us to begin this process. But in addition to setting aside the time to come together, we need to participate in the worship services. We need to sing to the best of our abilities. We must pray and when we are being led in prayer, we should concentrate on the words being said and make those our prayers as well. When we study, following the preacher, we must engage our minds and think on the things being said. Participating in the Lord’s Supper is a special privilege that we, as Christians have. This is not the time to think about ourselves, but to think on the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. And when we offer, we should give what we had preplanned to give, not just what we happen to have in our pockets.

Plan to worship and obey God, don’t do it just because it is what you have always done and it has become a habit. And when you plan to worship, follow through, turning those plans into active and dedicated worship. Plan to obey by studying to understand what God has commanded then incorporating that into your life.