

# Welcome

TO  
DRIPPING SPRINGS  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 5th, 2020

*Pursuing*  
Love

*Promoting*  
Truth

*Practicing*  
Godliness

*Proclaiming*  
the Gospel

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Sunday:  
Bible Class - 9:30  
Worship - 10:30  
PM Worship - 6:00  
Wednesday:  
Bible Class - 7:00

# The Spirit Gives Life

By Jacob Rutledge

With the new year comes the hope for new life; resolutions are made, gym memberships are purchased, and revised budgets abound. Of course, we dare not give thought to the similar decisions we made in the previous year but failed to follow through. Yet, thinking on our weaknesses can be instructive and valuable if we hope for genuine change. It reminds us that, despite our best efforts at life, we fail quite often. Not only do we make unwise choices, we plan them assuming they are good choices. If the plan is a good one, we often fail to carry it out. Jesus referenced this tendency in Matthew 26:41 when he declared, “The Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Paul confessed his inability to overcome his weaknesses in Romans 7:18: “For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.” What hope is there for renewal? We need help from above.

John begins his gospel by declaring that the children of God were created by two elements: faith and the will of God (John 1:12-13). He highlights what doesn't create spiritual rebirth: not blood, not the will of man, not the will of the flesh. God creates new life in those who respond to the gospel in faith—but how? Just a couple of chapters later in John 3, Jesus teaches the religious leader Nicodemus this important lesson: we must be reborn by the water and the Spirit (John 3:3-5). By our faith, we respond in penitent, confessing immersion at which point we are given the Spirit of God (Acts 2:38). The agency of creating the response of faith and the bridge for our regeneration is the word of God (Rom. 10:17; 1 Pet. 1:23). Yet, the regeneration that occurs within the heart and life of the believer is the Spirit himself. Paul refers to this as the “washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5). Scripture is the sword of the Spirit, but the Spirit is not the sword; they are independent but intertwined. What makes the scripture powerful and effective is their origin: they come from the Spirit of God. Thus, Jesus could say that the “Spirit gives life” but then subsequently say “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63). Jesus doesn't intend for us to superimpose one over the other; rather he shows us these two elements work together in harmony to create renewal in the people of God: the word and the Spirit (1 Thess. 1:5); or, in other words, our submissive faith and God's sustaining grace.

Later in John 7:37-39 Jesus stated, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive.” What a beautiful picture of the new life God offers us through the Spirit. Not only does he grant us initial regeneration in our salvation, but he grows continual life in our sanctification (Rom. 8:13). What is the life he gives us? It is one of “Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (Gal. 5:22-23)—that which is truly life (1 Tim. 6:19). No doubt we have questions about how all of this occurs but let us never allow our questions to reject the reality of what scripture teaches. We can stand in awe of the mystery, but never reject it because of its complexity or depth—for, truly, it is only the Spirit which gives life.

# Today's Lesson Titles

A.M. • The Devoted Church

P.M. • First Sunday Focus

# Bible Class Schedule

Sunday 9:30 • Revelation - Jacob Rutledge

Sunday (High School) 9:30 • Exodus - Parker LaGrange

Wednesday 7:00 • Ezekiel - Winston Kinser

Wednesday (High School) 7:00 • How to Pray When I... - Parker LaGrange

# Mark Your Calendar

TODAY • First Sunday Focus

• If you are looking for a 2020 devotional book, the church has ordered the 'His Life' devotional books which take you through the life of Christ in a year. If you would like to purchase one, they are \$9.00 and you can get them from the office staff.

• There is a sign-up sheet on the back table for a CPR/AED training class coming up on Sunday, January 19th from 3-5PM at the building. Limited to 20 people.

# Youth Events

Every Wednesday • Friends in Faith - Dinner and fellowship for 6th-12th Graders beginning at 6:15pm.

Every Sunday • Bible Bowl at 5:00pm.

January 11th • Serve Saturday at 10AM. Meet at the Building. All Ages.

January 11th • 6th-12th Grade Ultimate Frisbee. Details TBD.

January 14th • Tuesday Night Teens in the Word at 7PM at the LaGrange's house. 6th-12th grade.

# Leadership

## Elders

Roland Merz ....Bill Hyde....Tracy Frisinger

## Deacons

Randy Banks ..... Matt Walker  
Stephen Estrada ..... Winston Kinser  
John Gray ..... Brian Wilks  
Damon Hyde ..... Robert Wright  
Jay Kelsey ..... Tim Wright

## Ministers

Jacob Rutledge ..... Parker LaGrange

# For the Record

December 22nd

Sunday AM..... 166

Contribution ..... \$6,873

December 29th

Sunday AM ..... 183

Contribution ..... \$13,318

# January Birthdays

1st • Phyllis Barker

2nd • Norman Starling, Ryan Allgyer & Peyton Allgyer

5th • Matt Hand & Christie Pogue

9th • Stephanie Gray

11th • David Strickland & Joel Wilkinson

13th • Micah Moore

14th • Sheri Bangs & Shanna Underwood

15th • Myra Fox

17th • Kyle Merz

18th • Margaret Tilley

22nd • Sandra Johnson

25th • Weslea Wilks

26th • Asher Bonnett

27th • Lynn Johnson

28th • Matthew Walker

29th • Noah Gray, Macy Hand, Dennis Joiner, & Jennifer Mauck

30th • Lon Calvert

# Privileged to Serve

Sunday, January 5th

## Morning

Announcements.....Paul Brown

Song Leader.....Keith Mauck

Opening Prayer.....Mat Cain

Scripture Reading.....Alec Estrada

Sermon.....Jacob Rutledge

Closing Prayer.....Matt Hand

## Evening

Song Leader.....David Nuckels

Opening Prayer.....Jay Kelsey

Sermon.....Jacob Rutledge

Closing Prayer.....Robert Wright

## Lord's Table

Roland Merz .....Lon Calvert

Tom Pawelka.....Daryl Burrell

John Gray.....Kelly Miller

Harrison Gray.....Mark Cowan

## Wednesday, January 8th

Opening Prayer.....Parker LaGrange

Song Leader.....David Nuckels

Speaker.....Stephen Estrada

Closing Prayer.....Tom Pawelka

## Ladies Room 101 Duty January

Jeri Belyea, Nichole Bonnett, Jennifer  
Mauck, Tricia Allgyer

# Keep In Your Prayers

Church Family • Phyllis Barker, The Mark Crumley Family, Russ and Pat Molenaar, Grady & Janice Moore, Stephanie Reed, Clinton & Carolyn Rutherford, Margaret Tilley, Norman and Betty Starling, Bob Templeton, The Walker Family

Shut-ins & Other Needs • Nelawyn Dalley

HCC Resident • Nancy Wallace

Lavender Springs Residents • Marvin Crumley

Ledgestone Residents • Elaine Hartzog, Elsie Norton, Shirley Scott, & Marie Balderson

Family & Friends of the Church • Will Allen, Pat Balders, Tom Barthel, Faith Beamon, Betty Bufkin, Timmy Burchfield, Shirley Burrell, Mike Coon, Vincent Ewald, Gary & Carol Heinemann, Marvin Mills, Gary & Sandra Montgomery, Regina Sanchez, Margie Simmons, John Suter Sr., Ariana Stainitis, Dennis Tilley, Pat

## Sympathy

We want to express our sympathy to Marvin Crumley in the loss of his brother Charles Crumley. Please also keep Darrell Davis, Charles Crumley's son, in your prayers.

## Prayer Updates

• Marvin Crumley is at Longhorn Village in Austin. Please see the email for details on his location if you would like to visit. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

• Carolyn Rutherford was moved to rehab at Hill Country Care. Visitors are welcome.