

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

December 31, 2017

Greetings and a warm welcome to each one this last Sunday of 2017. We are glad you are here and wish you a blessed New Year. May the Lord be our personal guide each day and may He be pleased to lift each of us to a higher spiritual plane in 2018.

New Year's Resolutions/ Goals

Making New Year's resolutions is a tradition in most cultures, which dates back to the early Babylonians when a common resolution was to return borrowed farm tools.

As believers in Jesus Christ it is good to reflect on our relationship with the Lord and how we can better serve Him—and this time of year lends itself to considering goals for the future.

The goal of the Christian life is to be like Jesus Christ. As we consider plans for the new year, may we remember God's purpose in saving us—that we be conformed to the image of His Son—and commit ourselves daily to the lifelong objective of becoming more and more like our Savior.

Reflecting on 2017

As we contemplate the past year, we are overwhelmed with thankfulness for each of you, and grateful for all you contribute to the ministry of the Word at Indian Hills.

We know God hears your prayers and we trust He is working through each one, as it is your faithfulness that keeps the ministry going.

Not only do you blanket the ministry with prayers, but many of you have given your very hearts, time, strength, talents, and treasure to the work of the Lord through this local church. We truly have a huge debt of gratitude that we can never repay and no matter how many times we say thank you, we continue to be in your debt all the more.

Each of us has a choice of where we invest our time and strength, and we are deeply thankful for all you do for the Lord through this local church.

God bless you!

Encouragement to Be in the Word Daily

by Gil Rugh

One of the most important things a believer can do is spend regular time in the Word, and yet it is probably one of the most difficult areas to be consistent. The Enemy does not want us to be in the Word, and we are constantly attacked and tugged by the pressures of life to give up our precious time with God.

However, the Scriptures clearly indicate that we are to be a people of the Word. Psalm 119 shows David's appreciation for God's Word. David had a very limited portion of Scripture available to him—primarily the Books of the Law—but he stressed their importance, saying they were sweeter than honey to his taste. God's Word made him wiser than his teachers because he had God's revelation as his instruction. God's Word kept him from evil.

While on the Mount of Transfiguration, the Apostle Peter was an eye witness to the glory and majesty of Jesus Christ. God's voice from heaven confirmed the glory of the Son as being one with the Father. Peter wrote that God's written Word added to the validity of God's declaration:

We have the prophetic word made more sure . . .

But know this first of all, that

no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God (2 Pet. 1:20, 21).

Peter clearly stated that the Scriptures did not originate with men, but with God. Men were involved as the spokesmen, but Scripture does not find its origin in their minds or wills. The word "moved" refers to carrying something. These men were carried along by the Spirit of God. Human instruments were moved and empowered by the Spirit of God to speak a message from God (see 2 Cor. 2).

The Holy Spirit (through the prophets) spoke about the sufferings of the Messiah and of His glory.

As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow (1 Pet. 1:10, 11).

The prophets did not understand the message they were preaching and studied their own prophecies in an attempt to under-

stand them. Their messages were clearly supernatural messages from God, through men, to men.

Second Peter 1 lays out clearly why careful study of the Bible, both the Old and New Testament, is so crucial. We do not study a message from men, but a message from God through men.

So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention (2 Pet. 1:19).

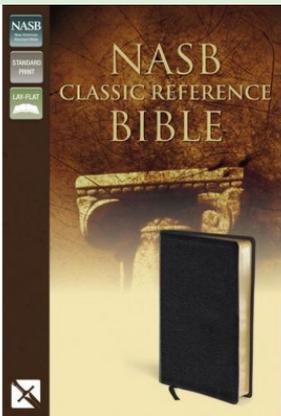
The present tense indicates that we are to be continually paying attention. Since this is the perfect Word of God, inspired by the Spirit and spoken through men, it behooves us to be paying attention, to be giving heed, to be following it.

Make every effort to make

time in the Word of God a daily habit. Be prepared for attacks from the Enemy; you will often be tempted to miss your time with the Lord. Keep in mind that Satan knows the power of God's Word. He does not want us to love, cherish and obey God, or His Word, and will do whatever he can to keep us from our Bibles. But, reading God's Word is one of the most important things a believer can spend time doing.

“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart” (Heb. 4:12).

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Monday Night Sisters Bible Study

Chris Thomas

Ladies, if you are not involved in a ladies Bible study because of conflicts during the day, we would like to invite you to our Sisters group that meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 at church.



Sisters teachers are Marcia McClurg, Chris Thomas, Judy Zabel, and Rita Thomas.

We meet at the north end of church across from the chapel in room 1112. The lesson usually runs around an hour and we social-

ize some with treats afterwards. Every 3 months we go out to eat on Monday evening for the birthdays in those months. It's a very relaxed Bible study and we would love to have you join us.

This new year on Monday, January 8, we are starting a new book "The Enemy Within" by Kris Lundgaard. It's straight talk about the power of sin in our lives and how we can defeat it. We apply the lesson to our roles as women and encourage each other to continue to grow in the Lord until the day we are home with Him.

The teachers are Judy Zabel, Rita Thomas, Marcia McClurg, and Chris Thomas. Consider starting the new year with learning more about our great God along with like-minded sisters.

Save the Date

Men's Seminar

February 16 & 17, 2018

Speaker: Randall Price

Held at Indian Hills Community Church

Save the Date

Ladies Retreat

True Wisdom Found: The joyful mindset of fearing God

February 23 & 24, 2018

Lied Lodge in Nebraska City

Teachers: Nancy Butterfield, Sheila Abresch, Deb Terry, LaVon Sperling, Carrie Smith

Children's Studies

Children's Sunday School. The children studied Romans 12:1, 2 and learned about being a living sacrifice.

Children's Church. The children studied Exodus 12 and 13 and learned about the Passover. The lesson goal is to see God's power and sovereignty.

Information

Church Building will be closed at Noon today.

No Sunday Night Church tonight.

Church Building will be closed Monday, January 1, 2018, in observance of New Year's Day.

Boys of Faith Riflery Clinic will be held January 13, 20, and February 3. This is open to all 8–13 year old boys and girls. Cost is \$15 per person. Questions? Call Jonathan Goodding at 402-326-8505.

Tom Price/Adam Flaugh auditorium sections. Our PotFaith lunch is Sunday, January 7, in the Family Center. Please bring a main dish and a salad/dessert. Everything else will be provided. Questions? E-mail Tom at mathmanprice@gmail.com.

2018 Offering Envelopes are available by Sound Words. They are individually labeled in alphabetical order and may be picked up at your convenience. If you used an offering envelope during 2017,

then a new one has been prepared for you. We tried to make sure no one got missed but if we did or if you simply want to start using an offering envelope for next year, please go to Sound Words and they will issue one to you.

End of Year Giving. All giving must be received **today** to qualify as an income tax deduction for 2017. The church building will be closed after morning service so be sure to plan accordingly. Also, you may have heard that Congress is in the process of changing the 2018 formula for itemizing deductions. If they do, you may find it beneficial to move some of your giving into 2017.

Last Minute Giving. Using the church's website (www.ihcc.org) is a convenient method of doing last minute giving toward the General Offering or Sound Words.

Used Toy Donations. Titus Tuesday will be holding a used toy swap for toys in good condition on January 16. If you are de-cluttering and would like to contribute, there is a drop off location by the second-floor elevator. Books, puzzles, and costumes are welcome. Questions? Call Jeri Moser at 402-805-1651.

Last Week's Message

December 24 AM. Gil Rugh.
GRM 1176. *The Importance of the Son.* Hebrews 1:1-3

This Week's Events

Sunday

Peter Barber Preaching AM
Building Closes at Noon
No Sunday Night Church

Monday

New Year's Day
Church Building Closed
No Sisters

Wednesday

Praise Team, Band 6:00 p.m.
No Orchestra
No Awana
No Choir
No Junior High Study
No Issues . . . World
No Wednesday Night Study

Thursday

No Alpha Omega Study

Future Events

January 7

Duane Nelsen Preaching AM
Bill Cooley Preaching PM

January 10

Wednesday Night Classes Resume

January 13

Boys of Faith Riflery Clinic

January 26, 27

Boys of Faith Lock-in

February 9

Girls of Grace
Daddy Daughter Date Night

February 10

Derby Workshop

February 16, 17

Men's Seminar

February 23, 24

Ladies Retreat

March 3

Pinewood Derby

March 30

Good Friday Service
Communion

April 1

Resurrection Sunday

April 7

Dodgeball Tourney
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

April 8

Dessert Social

April 10

Intermission 6:15 p.m.

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