

God Likeness

Elizabeth Dean



Do you remember, as a child, being told by your parents to “be good?” To please our parents we did our best to be nice, be polite, follow the rules, etc., most of the time. Then, when many of us received Jesus as our Savior and decided to follow him, “be good” became more mature rules. “I don’t smoke, and I don’t chew, and I don’t go with the girls that do.” Seriously, many think of living life as a Christian as exerting will power and following rules, being a good person.

What is missing in the above approach is understanding that we receive the Holy Spirit when we receive Jesus as Savior and decide to follow Him. “God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, Whom He has given us.” Ro. 5:5. It is the Holy Spirit who produces Christ-like character in God’s child. “The Lord . . . makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image.” 2 Cor.3:18. This is not by willpower or best intentions. Only the Holy Spirit has the power to change us. “God is working in you, giving you the desire and power to do what pleases Him.” Phil. 2:13. The likeness of Christ is not produced by IMITATION but by INHABITATION. “This is the secret: Christ lives in you.” Col.1:27.

Oswald Chambers expressed the above points in his usual powerful and succinct way. He wrote, “The expression of Christian character is not doing good but God-likeness. If the Spirit of God has transformed you, you will exhibit divine characteristics in your life, not human characteristics. God’s life in us expresses itself as God’s life, not human life trying to be godly.” (Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest, pg. 264)

What is God-likeness. A familiar list of virtues found in Gal. 5:22 describe the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness, self-control.

God-likeness is also described by the listing the attributes of God. These attributes or traits are found throughout the Bible and placed in a list by various theologians. Wayne Grudem provides a list, divided into communicable (those God shares with His children) and in-communicable (traits that God doesn’t share). An example of the latter being omnipresents. His communicable attributes are love, knowledge, spirituality, wisdom, truthfulness, faithfulness, goodness, mercy, grace, patience, holiness, peace, righteousness, will, blessedness, and glory (reflection of His glory).

We are finite, created beings, made in the image of our infinite creator. Jesus said, in the Sermon on the Mount, “Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect.” Matt. 5:48. That is the example Jesus gave us. Not of a “good” man or a “good” Christian, but of God Himself.

Chambers says, “The secret of a Christian is that the supernatural is made natural in him by the grace of God and the experience of this works out in the practical details of life.”

Our parents instructed us to “be good.” Jesus instructs us to be “God-like” by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Next month: How do we activate the power of the Holy Spirit?

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Session Summary-September 2023

Session voted to hire Drew Henderson as Transitional Pastor. He will begin his duties on October 2nd.

Elders Jay McGhee, Scott Nelson, and Brandon Furlong will serve on the Pastor Support Team for Pastor Henderson.

Giving was strong in August; however, we are still behind giving overall for the year.

We will celebrate communion on Sunday, October 1, 2023.

James Hudgens, Doug Paden, and Julie Colgan have agreed to join the Personnel Committee.

Paige Funk is resigning as Sunday Morning child care provider. We will be searching for a replacement.

Monthly prayer meetings are continuing the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 p.m.

Discussed the need for discipling for new believers.

Discussed the need and process to follow-up with those going through difficulties.

The Nominating Committee reported that they are making significant progress toward finding Elders, Deacons and Trustees. A Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, October 29th to elect officers.

Discussed the ongoing listening sessions. Session plans to report the results to the congregation at the the next few weeks.

Elders Jay McGhee and David Bolander will be Brookdale’s representatives at the Presbytery Meeting on October 27-28 in Hannibal.

Next Scheduled Session Meeting is October 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

LET'S EXPLORE
God's World

**WESTON BEND STATE PARK
WESTON BIG RED BARN**

HIKING
We will go on a 2-3 mile hike on the bluffs of the Missouri River in Weston. Wear sturdy shoes!

DEVOTION
We will discover the inspiring connection between the world around us and the God who created it.

ORCHARD STOP
On the way home we will stop by the Weston Big Red Barn and go for a hayride and try to work our way through the maze.

SAVE YOUR SPOT

Who: Students in grades 4-8
High School Students can help

Where: Weston MO

When: Saturday, October 21
We will meet in the church parking lot.

Time: 1:00pm - 6:00pm

Cost: \$10.00 (Hayride, Maze, Treat)

RSVP: Church - (816)279-0983 or Sue

TRUNK OR TREAT

Join US!

DETAILS

TUESDAY, OCT 31
4:30PM-6:00PM
BROOKDALE CHURCH
31ST AND EDMOND ST.

FUN
GAMES
HOTDOGS
CANDY
MUSIC
PHOTO OP
FACE PAINTING



FREE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

October, 31
4:30-6:00pm
Brookdale Parking Lot

WE NEED YOU!



TRUNK OR TREAT
Can you help out & decorate a trunk? Be sure to sign-up.

2023 Women's Retreat

In early September with just the hint of fall in the air, 25 women headed south for a spiritual retreat. They gathered at the Heartland Retreat Center in Parkville. The women were met with the warm touch of sunflowers and quilts. Wonderful meals were lovingly prepared by Sondra Quick and Mitzi Hargis. Worship music was abundant with our guest, Ellie McGinty. And retreaters were blessed with a three-part program on The Holy Spirit by Julie Neimann. Hiking, journaling, fellowship, bonfires and smores were part of free time. The women were also renewed spiritually during a time of prayer and foot washing on Saturday night and worship and communion on Sunday morning. Worship time was lead by elders Ann Weston and Elizabeth Dean which included hymns lead by Leah Peek. The retreat was a special time of connection and its success is due to good planning by the Women's Ministry team, all the attendees and of course, grace from the Holy Trinity.





Thank You!

It has been such a joy to work with Paige over the last two years. Paige has the most contagious smile that can brighten anyone's day. I want to thank her for her service to Brookdale and the littlest ones in our church. She has faithfully served with love and kindness to the children and volunteers, she will definitely be missed. Paige is looking forward to spending more time in the worship service with her family so when you see her, be sure to thank her for all she has done. I overheard her sweet daughter say "Mom, I want to go sing Jesus songs!" They will be able to do that now every week. Thank you, Paige for your time and care, as our Brookdale Childcare Coordinator.



A warm Brookdale welcome to our new Transitional Pastor, Rev. Drew Henderson. Drew will be part-time at Brookdale Church starting Monday October 2nd. Welcome Drew!



All Church Picnic

The Deacon's hosted the Brookdale Church Picnic. It was held at Bartlett Park on September 17th. It was a beautiful fall evening full of food, fun and fellowship. Many people enjoyed playing yard games.

October Birthdays

- 1 - Cheyenne Nightingale
- 2 - Sol Bryant, Dick Crowl, Connie Lemon
- 3 - Susie Yardley
- 4 - Ryan Swank
- 5 - Dan Schwabe
- 6 - Linda Midyett, Bill Patton, Blake Schweder, Roger Shepherd
- 13 - Bryan Beier
- 14 - Dylan Corcoran
- 15 - Leslie Poggemiller
- 16 - Jane Schwabe
- 18 - Sondra Quick

- 20 - Steele Stewart
- 21 - Kathy Scroggins
- 22 - Ted Hargis, Jay McGhee
- 28 - Kristi Furlong
- 29 - Ralph Dahle
- 30 - Liam Hancock, Wyatt Hancock
- 31 - Mary Keck, Bart Nightingale

November

- 2 - Tessa Miller
- 3 - Terri Lansbury
- 5 - Gwen Bachman, Lara Miller

Family Notes...

Dear Brookdale Family,

Dear Brookdale Family– Thank you for all the outpouring of love and support we have felt since Howard’s death. Thank you for flowers, plants, meals, goodies, hugs, cards, and prayers. This is what family is all about and we are honored and blessed to be part of this Brookdale family! Blessings on each one of you! Love in Christ, Linda Miller and family.

The Family of Billie “Bill” Patton thanks you for your words of sympathy, your voice of concern, your many gestures of caring and the love you offer. It is so hard to explain how much your love, support and prayers have filled our heart and given us strength and peace. Sharon, Brett, Debbie and families.



A minute for Mom!

DO YOU NEED JUST A LITTLE BIT OF TIME?

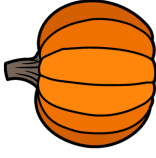
*Coffee with a friend
Grocery store pickup
or just some REST*

On the 1st and 3rd Monday of October, November and December we will be happy to watch your little one. You provide snack and baby supplies, we will supply the care and a Bible story/craft.

10:00am-11:30am
Children 4 and under
Brookdale Church Nursery
Limited Space Available

Reservations required by the Sunday before each session. Call the church or send Sue a text.

October Brookdale 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship/ Communion 6:30 Youth	2 10:00 Women's Bible Study	3 6:30 Men's Ministry 5:30 Dance Fit 6:30 Deacons 7:00 Square Dance	4 6:30 Men's Prayer Break- fast 10:00 Women's Bible St. 5:30 Dance Fit	5 9:30 BSF 10:00 Griefshare 6:00 Griefshare	6 6:30 Mens Bible Study Men's Camp Out Trip	7 10:00 Dance Fit Men's Camp Out Trip
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth Men's Camp Out Trip	9 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:15 Finance	10 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Square Dance	11 6:30 Men's Prayer Break- fast 10:00 Women's Bible St. 11:00 Dayfimers	12 9:30 BSF 10:00 Griefshare 6:00 Griefshare	13 6:30 Mens Bible Study 10:00 Griefshare 2:00 Book Club at Doris Wykcoff's house	14 10:00 Dance Fit
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth	16 10:00am Women's Bible Study	17 5:30 Dance Fit 6:30 Session 7:00 Square Dance	18 6:30 Men's Prayer Break- fast 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Prayer	19 Haven House Food Kitchen 9:30 BSF Starts 10:00 Griefshare 6:00 Griefshare	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study	21 10:00 Dance Fit 1:00 Youth Day Trip to Weston
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth	23 10:00am Women's Bible Study	24 5:30 Dance Fit 7:00 Square Dance	25 6:30 Men's Prayer Break- fast 11:00 Dayfimers 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bibl~ Study	26 9:30 BSF 10:00 Griefshare 6:00 Griefshare	27 6:30 Men's Bible study	28 10:00 Dance Fit
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth	30 10:00am Women's Bible Study	31 4:30 Trunk or Treat 5:30 Dance Fit 7:00 Square Dance				



203 South 31st Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501

Return Service Requested



*Brookdale Church is called to
bring the beauty of the Gospel
to the brokenness of life.*

