



Friendship Church
Loving God...Loving People

FRIENDSHIP GOOD NEWS

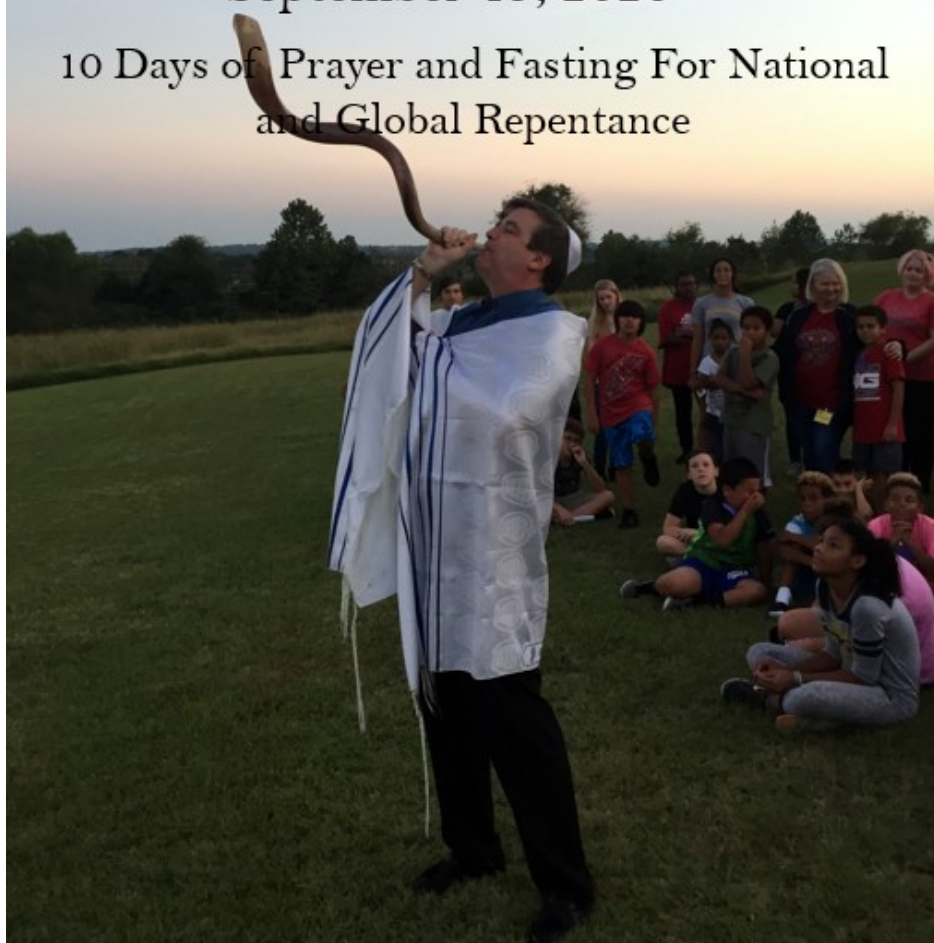
September 17, 2020

Join Us

September 18 at the church @ 7pm
Pastor Mike will be Blowing the Shofar

September 19, 2020

10 Days of Prayer and Fasting For National
and Global Repentance



From Pastor Mike...



At sundown this Friday evening, September 18 begins the Jewish appointed time of “Rosh Hashanah” – the Jewish New Year festival, held on the first (also sometimes the second) day of Tishri (in September). It is marked by the blowing of the shofar, and begins the ten days of penitence culminating in Yom Kippur.

For us as Christians, this night is also called the “Feast of Trumpets.” In this most unusual year, 2020, Friday night marks the beginning of 10 Days of Prayer and Fasting for National and Global Repentance. I believe God is looking for people who will believe Him in prayer to deliver our nation from coming judgment.

I Thessalonians 4:15-18 says; “According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.”

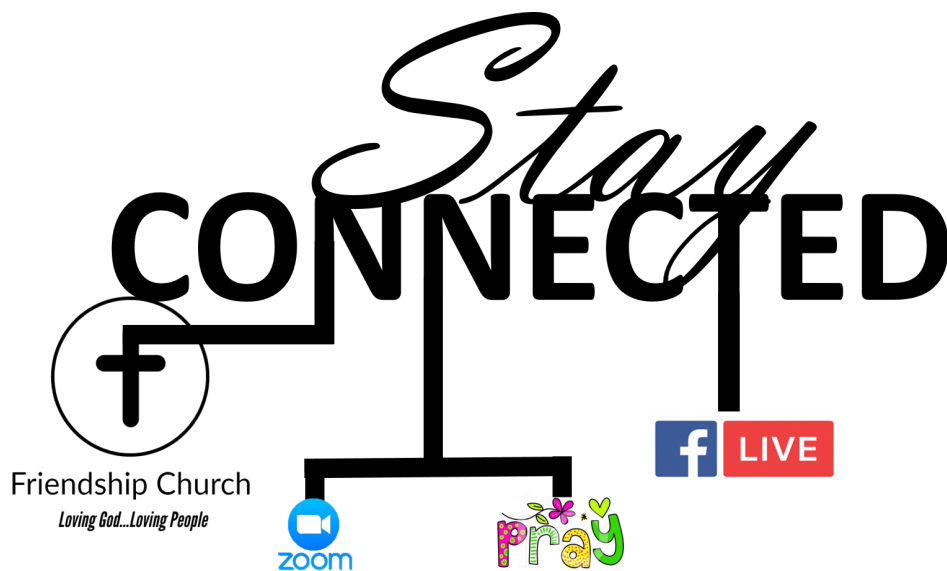
I am calling on all members of Friendship Church to fervently fast and pray and seek God's face during September 18-28. A prayer guide for this time is available [HERE](#). If we as a nation and people of God do not return, we may pass the point of no return. We need YOU to join us in this movement. I am asking those who can to fast (at least partially) from food during these 10 days and I am asking all to fast completely from social media for these 10 days. Take the time away from worldly things to focus on the Word and on seeking the Lord in prayer and repentance.

Join me this Friday night, September 18 at the church at 7pm as I blow the shofar at sundown and we kick-off the “10 Days of Prayer and Fasting For National and Global Repentance.” The church building will be open until midnight for prayer and seeking God.

The BEST is yet to come!

I love you all,

Pastor Mike



SERVICES LIVE ON FACEBOOK

Every Sunday morning at 11am

ONLINE LIVE PRAYER MEETINGS

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening at 7pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS

Check with your Sunday School teachers for times

Get updated prayer requests and announcements.

To sign up, text your name to 479.422.1079

This Sunday's Gospel Project Lesson (small groups)

"Jesus and the Kingdom (Gospels)"

Sunday's lesson "*Jesus Teaches Difficult Truths*" - [CLICK HERE](#) to download your Sunday School lesson!

In the beginning, the all-powerful, personal God created the universe. This God created human beings in His image to live joyfully in His presence, in humble submission to His gracious authority. But all of us have rebelled against God and, in consequence, must suffer the punishment of our rebellion: physical death and the wrath of God.

Thankfully, God initiated a rescue plan, which began with His choosing the nation of Israel to display His glory in a fallen world. The Bible describes how God acted mightily on Israel's behalf, rescuing His people from slavery and then giving them His holy law. But God's people—like all of us—failed to rightly reflect the glory of God.

Then, in the fullness of time, in the person of Jesus Christ, God Himself came to renew the world and to restore His people. Jesus perfectly obeyed the law given to Israel. Though innocent, He suffered the consequences of human rebellion by His death on a cross. But three days later, God raised Him from the dead.

Now the church of Jesus Christ has been commissioned by God to take the news of Christ's work to the world. Empowered by God's Spirit, the church calls all people everywhere to repent of sin and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. By God's grace in Christ, repentance and faith restores our relationship with God and results in a life of ongoing transformation.

The Bible promises that Jesus Christ will return to this earth as the conquering King. Only those who live in repentant faith in Christ will escape God's judgment and live joyfully in God's presence for all eternity. God's message is the same to all of us: repent and believe, before it is too late. Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe with your heart that God raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved.

Most classes meeting online using Zoom. Check with your Sunday School teacher for dates and times.

Friendship Birthdays

September 22 – Ed Valencia

September 26 – Jim Rogers

Friendship Anniversaries

September 24 – Brad & Rosemary Ellison

Friendship Attendance, Sept 13

Small group Bible study - 39

Celebration worship - 72

Tithes & Offering

Sunday, Sept 13—\$2,793.49



Online giving is easier than ever!

[CLICK HERE](#) to try out our new online giving service.



Dixie Jackson Annual

Week of Prayer and Offering for State Missions

September 6-13

Friendship Goal: \$2,500

JOIN US



Location: Friendship Church Fellowship Hall

Day: Monday

Time : 10:30 AM

With global events signifying the end of our age, millions have begun seeking a greater understanding of Bible prophecy. The Book of Revelation, which concludes God's plan for humankind, is one of the most misunderstood books of the Bible, but the Decoding the Future series now shatters the debate by presenting newly discovered ancient anthropological findings from the time of Christ that prove the events of Revelation are not only true, but can now be easily understood as a road map through the end of days.



The Friendship Food Pantry needs:

- Spaghetti sauce
- Spaghetti noodles
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Dish soap
- Single serving:
 - Cereal
 - Apple Sauce
 - Fruit cups
 - Juice boxes
 - Fruit snacks



THE RETURN

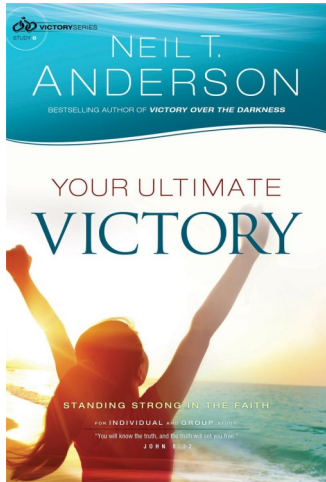
NATIONAL AND GLOBAL DAY OF
PRAYER AND REPENTANCE

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

*For if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray
and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven,
and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

— 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

IT BEGINS NOW...
THERETURN.ORG



MEN'S STUDY

Victory Series Study 8—"Your Ultimate Victory"

Session Six: Degrees of Spiritual Vulnerability

Location: Friendship Church

Date: Wednesday, Sept 23, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM

Become Equipped to Withstand the Enemy

In *Your Ultimate Victory* Dr. Neil Anderson shows you how to win the battle for your mind and stand strong in the faith. "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood" (Ephesians 6:12)--rather, it is against things unseen, things often kept secret out of fear and shame.

In *Your Ultimate Victory*, Dr. Neil Anderson shows you how to win the battle for your mind and stand strong in the faith. In this last of eight Victory Series studies, you will learn how Satan attempts to influence your mind and how he tries to lure people with false knowledge and power. You will explore the tactics he has used from the beginning and how you can overcome his temptations, accusations, and deceptions. You will discover how to identify false teachers and false prophets and how to resist demonic influence, possession, bondage, and control.

It is the unique work of the Holy Spirit to shed light on the finished work of Christ. And in Christ, you have the resources to overcome every temptation and claim ultimate victory in Him.

WOMEN'S STUDY

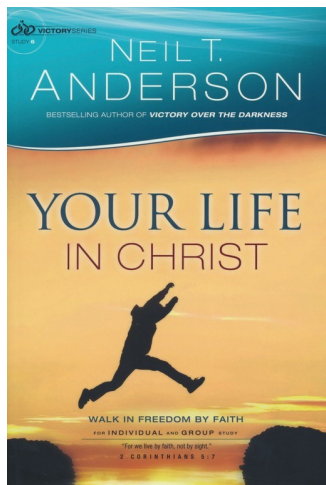
Victory Series Study 6—"Your Life In Christ"

Session Six: The Kingdom of God

Location: Zoom

Date: Thursday, Sept 24, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM



In *Your Life in Christ*, Dr. Neil Anderson shows you how to walk in freedom by faith, according to God's will. In this sixth of eight **Victory Series** studies, you will discover how to discern God's will and assess whether you are walking in faith according to God's Word. You will learn biblical principles of leadership and how to disciple others and help them find true freedom in Christ from a biblical worldview perspective.



Gospel K.I.D.s

Stephen Kendrick said “When we speak into the ears of our children, we’re speaking into the ears of our grandchildren, great- grandchildren. We are affecting generations down the road.”

Children are hearing the Gospel message, and the truth is being spoken into their ears each week during our **GOSPEL K.I.D.s Bible Time** on Sunday mornings.

We are so thankful for the parents and grandparents who are making an impact on the lives of the children by bringing them to church each week.

We pray that you are continuing family discipleship at home with your kids and grandkids when possible. Your influence, whether good or bad will live on for multiple generations.

Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man
who fears the Lord,
who greatly delights in his
commandments! His offspring will be
mighty in the land; the generation of
the upright will be blessed.

Psalm 112:1-2



4 Burdens Mothers Always Carry for Their Children

By Jennifer Waddle

“When you are a mother, you are never really alone in your thoughts. A mother always has to think twice, once for herself and once for her child.” - Sophia Loren

The burdens we carry for our children can be likened to books in a backpack—a backpack that is continually fastened to our mama-hearts. There are times when the backpack is lighter, and we hardly notice the weight. But other times, the backpack is so full, it’s almost too heavy to bear.

Fortunately, we have a heavenly Father who knows all about our burdens. He knows every thought that is turning in our troubled minds, and the weight of worry that is pressing on our hearts. But He doesn’t leave us to carry the burdens alone. In fact, Psalm 55:22 encourages us in this very thing by saying, “Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.”

If you’re a burden-carrying mom, feeling weighted down by all the things, please know you aren’t alone.

Here are 4 burdens mothers always carry for their children, and how to release them to the Lord.

Friendship K.I.D.s Korner News (continued)

The Burden of Safety

Ask any mom on the planet, and she will likely tell you that her children's safety and well-being is at the top of her concerns. Not only were mothers created as nurturers, they were created with a heart of protectiveness as well. And while protectiveness can be a good thing, in the sense of teaching our children to look both ways before crossing the street, or shielding them from harmful influences, it can also become a burden of control.

The bottom line is, we cannot keep our children safe from every single harm. They will skin their knees. They will get their feelings hurt. And, they might even go through a serious, life-threatening trial.

However, we can release our burden of safety to the Lord time and time again. Declare your love for Him and ask for His divine protection.

Then, release your children into the hands of the One who loves them more than you ever could. In fact, the Bible encourages us this way:

"Because he loves Me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My name. He will call on Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." ([Psalm 91:14-15](#))

The Burden of Happiness

As Christians, we like to say that "happiness" is superficial, and instead, we should seek the inner joy of the Holy Spirit. While this is absolutely true, if we're completely honest with ourselves, we long for our children to be happy. We long for an untroubled, carefree life—for ourselves and our kids. After all, life can be hard; it throws curveballs at us every chance it gets. So in the in-between times, it's not all bad that we desire happiness for our loved ones.

However, problems arise when we focus too much on earthly happiness. We default to buying things for our children in order to cheer them up. We overindulge them just to keep them smiling and content. We turn to material blessings instead of God's blessings. The thing is, it's actually good to let our children go through periods of boredom, discontent, and even unhappiness. Why? By allowing our kids to experience real emotions, while giving them the tools to navigate them in healthy ways, we are helping prepare them for the real world. We don't need to carry the burden of happiness for our children. We simply need to guide them through their rough-and-tumble moments and remind them there is a God who cares.

After all, God is *"the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."* ([2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#)) Through God's comfort, we can, in turn, comfort our children.

And when we start to worry about their happiness, we can turn it over to God, trusting He will give them what they need when they need it.

Friendship K.I.D.s Korner News (continued)

The Burden of Success

Oh, how we want our children to become successful upstanding citizens of society! We have such hopes and dreams of them succeeding in college, career, and family life. But in our quest to raise them as successful men and women, we might be creating a burden we were never meant to carry.

Success in God's eyes is far different than our perception. And while there is nothing wrong with wanting our children to prosper, we certainly don't want them to succeed by the world's standards, yet fail to receive Christ in the process. The Bible says in [Mark 8:36](#), *"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"*

To prosper in God's eyes is to live separately from the world and follow after Him. [Psalm 1:1-3](#) paints the picture by saying, *"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."*

Let's cultivate our children's hopes and dreams by first teaching them to remain planted in the Lord. Then, the burden of success will be lifted as we know they will prosper in His good, pleasing and perfect will.

The Burden of Salvation

The burden of salvation is one that mothers will always carry for their unsaved children, and it's a burden that will only be lifted once the heart is surrendered to God unto salvation. If there are any "good" burdens for moms to carry, I would venture to say this is it. After all, this heaviest-of-burdens forces us to pray hard for our children. It reminds us that time is short and "this is the day of salvation." And hopefully, it motivates us to share the truth in love as often as we can.

The thing is, the burden of salvation isn't something we can force or "make happen" in our children's lives. It's simply a reminder that our kids need our faithful prayers and words of wisdom as God provides the opportunity.

If you carry the burden of salvation for your children, please know you aren't alone. There are many mothers right alongside you who are crying out to God day and night for their sons and daughters to be saved. Consider enlisting a few trusted friends to come alongside you in interceding on behalf of your unsaved children. This is a powerful way to remove doubt and fear and replace it with faith and peace.

At the end of the day, there will always be burdens—like books in a backpack—that mothers carry for their children. On the lighter days, we can rejoice that things are better than the day before. And on the heavy days, we can lean in, even closer, to our heavenly Father. After all, He knows all about our mama-burdens, and He is faithful to sustain us.

Friendship Youth News

Youth News

The youth girls have been meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:30 for Bible Study. Teens today are struggling with very difficult questions and doubts. This study ***I Am... Getting to Know God*** digs into scripture and helps answer some questions like-

How can God love me when I've done so much wrong?

How do I know God is speaking to me?

How can a God of love allow bad things to happen?

What is my Identity in Christ?

Please pray for them!



Blessings, Mary Ann

