

HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR YEAR

What a great day Sunday as we looked at the great Word from Galatians 5:22-23 which lists the fruit of the Spirit. There we emphasized the last phrase, “against such things there is no law.” We highlighted that you can do as many of them as you want and there is no law, no restrictions, no boundaries, and no restraints. In fact, the more I do, the better for me and you. We highlighted three things we really need to do in trying to maximize our year and be even more fruitful. First, an extremely important aspect of the Christian life is to Develop a Strong Root System. Listen to Jeremiah 17:7-8 *Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.* (ESV) Difficult days and times of drought come in our lives. How do we survive? By having a deep abiding trust in the Lord, knowing that our foundation is sure and secure so that we cannot be moved! Secondly, we looked at how you have to Always be Eliminating the Problems - the weeds and distractions which can get us off track. We looked at the parable in Luke 8:4-15. Many received the Word with joy but had no roots when times of testing of the riches and cares of this life caused them to fall away. The third is to Get Ready for Some Pruning, it will come and it will always to push us toward our very best. Hebrews 12:11 *For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.* (ESV) The last thing we mentioned was that we must be patient. God takes two days to make a mushroom and sixty years to make an oak tree. Growth takes time, but make it a priority. We must be serious about our faith. C.S. Lewis said, “Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing Christianity cannot be is moderately important.”

Sunday evening was a great time as we began looking at number two, “What is God Like?” of Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know! We highlighted ten of His attributes. We will finish with fourteen more this week. Oh my, what a blessing to know Christ. Make sure ONE thing you do in 2018 is walk with Him daily. Brag about Him to somebody this week; they hopefully will want to taste and see that He is good!

See you this Lord’s day!

Love you and striving to fill your bucket!
Bryan

Journey with the Israelites from the Red Sea to Mount Sinai as we watch “Fire On the Mountain” Video Series by Ray Vanderlaan, which will begin this Sunday night after the music portion at 5:00. Kelly Anderson will be facilitating.



The Long Range Planning Committee & the Finance Committee will meet jointly on Sunday, January 21 at 4:00pm. If you are a member of either of these committees, please make plans to attend this important meeting.

Smith Baby Shower

A baby shower for Cody and Callie Smith will take place on Monday, January 22 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall. Cody and Callie are expecting a girl, and since this is child #4 for them, they are requesting diapers, wipes and gift cards.

Financial Peace University

This class takes place on Sunday nights at 5:00pm starting February 25. Cost for the FPU membership kit is \$109. The membership kit is a great investment in helping you plan your financial future.

Kristi Murphey will be facilitating this class. Kristi is a certified FPU coach and will also be assisted by experienced FPU facilitators.

You can register and purchase your membership kit by going to the FPU link on the church website, www.bwbc.org or by contacting the church office.

JANUARY

- 21 - Long Range Planning & Finance Committee, 4:00pm
- 22 - Smith Baby Shower, 7pm
- 26 - Senior Adult Game Night, 6:00pm
- 28 - Ministry Committee, 4:00pm

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Senior Adult Breakfast @ McDonalds, 8:00am
- 3 - Iron Man Breakfast, 7:30am; Seekers Class, 9:00am; Wonder Women, 10:30am
- 4 - Deacon’s Meeting, 4:00pm
- 15 - Senior Adult Breakfast @ McDonalds, 8:00am