

News from Cobham Park Baptist Church

SEPTEMBER 2020

The LIGHTKEEPER

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." —Matthew 5:14



Dear Cobham Park Church Family,
Look at Jesus!

In Christ's Love,

Keith
Pastor Keith

P.S.

I admit that my letter was on the short side, but sometimes less is more. Just let me be Captain Obvious this month. Besides, "Look at Jesus" is the underlying message in most of my devotions and sermons these days. I may write and speak it a thousand ways, but that's what I have to say in a nutshell.

Why do I keep coming back to Jesus? First of all, it's not like you're going to be hearing about Him anywhere else. 2020 has thrown everything imaginable into our minds except Him. You're not going to hear your favorite politician or news network reminding you of gospel-hope. Social influencers and celebrities usually aren't sharing Christ (apart from taking His name in vain or using him to get what they want from you). Current events have pushed us toward doubt, anxiety, and anger instead of faith, hope, and love. If we don't hear more about Jesus from our Christian friends, where else will we?

If a preacher is honest, he can only share what he knows to be true. And this I know: Jesus is the only reason I don't give up. He is the confident hope that holds me up each day. Christ is my smile, strength, and joy. His forgiveness and grace bring healing to my life. He restores my soul! If I majored on any other cause or agenda more than the good news of Jesus, It would be a crime to my calling. Nothing else has much to offer compared with Him. "On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand!" If we lose sight of Him, we lose our very identity. Church would then become a waste of my time and yours.

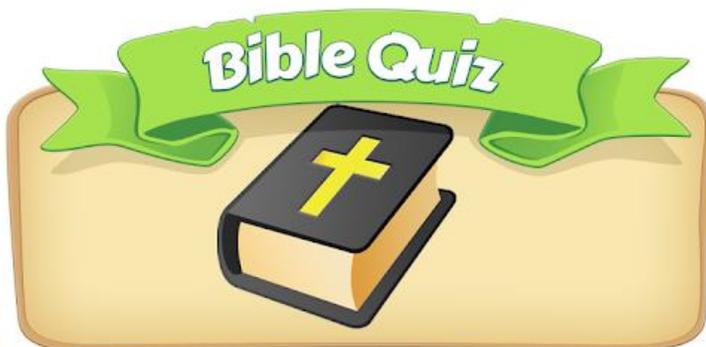
Finally, I keep concentrating on Jesus because that's where our power is. I think of Peter walking toward Jesus across the stormy sea:

He (Jesus) said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me (Matthew 14:29-30; ESV).'

Notice that Peter only starts to sink when he takes his eyes off Jesus. It's the same with us in 2020. Talk about windy weather! Pandemic, protests, presidential elections...it feels like gale-force craziness hit us from every direction at once. We'll only get through this by riveting our attention on Jesus. His lead. His purpose. His promises. His hope. Staring at the wind, we'll sink fast.

So let's look at Jesus!

1. **True or False:** The Bible is the most popular book ever written. (by copies sold)
2. What is the longest book in the Bible?
3. What did Esau receive in exchange for his birthright?
4. What did Joseph's brothers tell their father had happened to him?
5. **True or False:** Jesus stayed away from people with bad reputations.
6. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?
7. How many lepers did Jesus heal when only 1 returned?
8. How many books have the name John in them?
9. Where can you find the 10 commandments in the Bible?
10. What does Jesus say is the first and greatest commandment?
11. What is the shortest book of the bible?
12. How many requests are in the Lord's Prayer?
13. Wisdom is more precious than which gems?
14. When God showed Abram the stars in the sky, what did he promise?
15. Name any of the 9 Fruit of the Spirit. (Can you name them all?)



WORD FIND

Love One Another

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

John 5:12

FRIENDS	OBEY
DOWN	BUSINESS
LAY	FATHER
SERVANTS	GREATER
LOVE	BEAR
COMMAND	LIFE
REMAIN	MASTER
FRUIT	CHOSE

G Q R J N I L D R Z G F U R G
 C O M M A N D D I M Y T E Z I
 G F S Y J F W J O K H N Y O J
 Q W F L F R U I T W S C P M I
 C H M E R B W Q J F N R U P O
 T L D R I K O B U S I N E S S
 Q X S X E J U O E R N L A Y R
 O A P R N E N B A I F L I S R
 M J L B D I O E D K R V T E T
 L A F O S A B Y M Z N N T V F
 M D S A V V Y K N R A A U E E
 Z H T T T E P W L V E L S F F
 Y M N P E H H A R R P O I V Q
 F F G P B R E E G Z H L H R I
 R E M A I N S R V C E C D S A

PRAISE PAGE

During your travels, many of you may have visited some of the lighthouses that can be found across almost all of America's shorelines. Lighthouses have been the beacons of light that for hundreds of years symbolized safety and security for ships and boats at sea.

The beautiful song, "The Lighthouse," has quite a fascinating background. Written by a teenager on toilet paper in a church bathroom, the song has become one of Southern Gospel's biggest hits.

Ronny Hinson sang bass in a group with his siblings called "The Hinsons." Ronny described them as "just ignorant little kids coming out of church singing from the hymnals." They lived in California and started singing as a warm-up group for big gospel groups that came from the east coast to perform.

Ronny recalls that they were rehearsing for a concert and had to come up with some original songs: "We were scanning the song books at 2 in the morning but couldn't find anything. I said to my brothers and sisters, 'I'm going to go to the little boys room downstairs and I'm going to come back up here in just a few minutes with a hit song.' I just laughed, and they laughed at me."

"When I came back up, I had written some words on a piece of toilet tissue. I opened it up on the pulpit and said, 'This is my song. Are you ready?' and started singing it. One of them grabbed it, wadded it up, threw it in the trash and said, 'That's not it.'"

Ronny remembers, "We tried two more song books, and it was almost daylight. My brother said, 'Get that piece of toilet paper out of the trash and open it up. I've got an idea.' And he started singing. The presence of the Lord filled the place."

What is unbelievable is that Ronny Hinson had never seen a lighthouse before he wrote the song. When the song became so popular, Ronny rode his bicycle 30 miles to find a lighthouse. It was the first time he had ever laid eyes on a lighthouse—Pigeon Point Lighthouse in Santa Cruz, California. Ronny recounts, "I sat there, saw the lighthouse and thought, 'What a picture. What a scene.' Hope in the middle of all that dreary hopelessness. Then I looked at my toilet paper and saw what I'd never seen before. Tears ran down my face, and I knew that the song was something God had orchestrated. God always keeps me humble with that one trip to the Lighthouse. I remember that I didn't even know what a lighthouse was when I wrote the song."

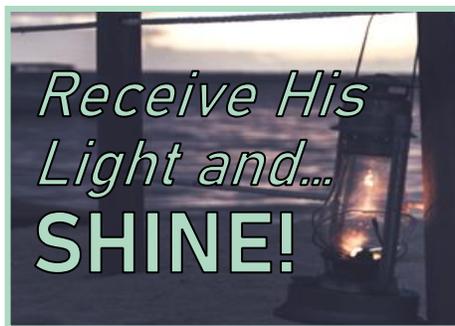
*There's a lighthouse on the hillside
That overlooks life's sea
And when I'm tossed it sends out a light
That I might see
And the light that shines in darkness now
Will safely lead us o'er
If it wasn't for the Lighthouse
My ship would be no more. (Chorus)*

*Everybody that lives around us
Says tear that Lighthouse down
The big ships they don't sail this way anymore
There's no use of it standing round
Then my mind goes back to that stormy night
When just in time, I saw the light
Yes, the light from that old lighthouse
That stands there on the hill. (Chorus)*

***And I thank God for the Lighthouse,
I owe my life to Him
For Jesus is the Lighthouse
And from the rocks of sin
He has shown a light around me
That I could clearly see
If it wasn't for the Lighthouse (tell me)
Where would this ship be?***



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"St. Paul in Prison,"
by Rembrandt (1627)

II Timothy: Last Letter from the First Missionary

Whether or not Paul was technically the first international missionary, he's certainly the most famous one. God used Paul to write more books of the New Testament than anyone else, and this is the last we have. What will Paul say as his life on earth nears its end? What is important to him? Does he have unfinished business? Regrets? Let's read through 2 Timothy this month to find out. Take two days to digest each reading. We plan to send out devotions every other day as we have previously.

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|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Sept. 1:</u> II Tim. 1:1-2 | <u>Sept. 11:</u> II Tim. 2:8-13 | <u>Sept. 21:</u> II Tim. 3:14-17 |
| <u>Sept. 2:</u> II Tim. 1:1-2 | <u>Sept. 12:</u> II Tim. 2:8-13 | <u>Sept. 22:</u> II Tim. 3:14-17 |
| <u>Sept. 3:</u> II Tim. 1:3-7 | <u>Sept. 13:</u> II Tim. 2:14-19 | <u>Sept. 23:</u> II Tim. 4:1-5 |
| <u>Sept. 4:</u> II Tim. 1:3-7 | <u>Sept. 14:</u> II Tim. 2:14-19 | <u>Sept. 24:</u> II Tim. 4:1-5 |
| <u>Sept. 5:</u> II Tim. 1:8-14 | <u>Sept. 15:</u> II Tim. 2:20-26 | <u>Sept. 25:</u> II Tim. 4:6-8 |
| <u>Sept. 6:</u> II Tim. 1:8-14 | <u>Sept. 16:</u> II Tim. 2:20-26 | <u>Sept. 26:</u> II Tim. 4:6-8 |
| <u>Sept. 7:</u> II Tim. 1:15-18 | <u>Sept. 17:</u> II Tim. 3:1-9 | <u>Sept. 27:</u> II Tim. 4:9-18 |
| <u>Sept. 8:</u> II Tim. 1:15-18 | <u>Sept. 18:</u> II Tim. 3:1-9 | <u>Sept. 28:</u> II Tim. 4:9-18 |
| <u>Sept. 9:</u> II Tim. 2:1-7 | <u>Sept. 19:</u> II Tim. 3:10-13 | <u>Sept. 29:</u> II Tim. 4:19-22 |
| <u>Sept. 10:</u> II Tim. 2:1-7 | <u>Sept. 20:</u> II Tim. 3:10-13 | <u>Sept. 30:</u> II Tim. 4:19-22 |