



BERKSHIRE COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

BULLETIN

01/07/2024



Let it Dwell Richly in You.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God”

(Col. 3:16). One of the things any Christian should strive for, according to the apostle Paul, is for the word of Christ to dwell in them richly, but what exactly does that mean? The word of Christ is all the teachings of our Savior, both what we learned directly from Him in the gospels and all the rest of the New Testament writings. Interestingly, we are not only told to learn what Jesus teaches us, but additionally, to have it “dwell” in us. In other words, it has to be more than a collection of information stored in some obscure file in the furthest recesses of our minds; it has to become a part of our fundamental being.

When the word dwells in us, it directs our minds and commands our hearts. But that is not an automatic process gained from merely accepting Christ and obeying the scriptures. If only it were that simple. Instead, it involves a thorough process of carefully studying every word and cultivating a deep, meaningful connection to the teachings and principles of the Bible. When that is carefully and thoughtfully undertaken, we allow those lessons to rest in the forefront of our conscious and subconscious minds. When the word truly dwells in us, it becomes our moral compass, influencing every decision we make, reshaping our worldly nature to a spiritual one that glorifies the Father with every action.

In Joshua 1:8, one of my favorite and most quoted scriptures, the author states something we can apply to our current context. “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” We don’t have the same admonishment to obey the letter of the Old Law, but we certainly have the New Testament we can apply that to. What better way to have the word of Christ dwell in us than by meditating on the Word, day and night? I trust that by now, you have noticed the emphasis on what needs to be done to properly invite the word to come and take up residence in our hearts and minds. Success in that regard is up to us. The effort we exert will be more than matched by the reward we receive.

PTO...

Of course, once we have committed ourselves to that quest and been victorious, it would be a sin to keep it all to ourselves, so Paul says to teach and admonish in all wisdom. Not with the wisdom of the world but a spiritual wisdom that comes directly from God by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Teaching is, above all things, the imparting of positive truth, but it is also an act of encouragement and gentle warning of errand ways. In some ways, at least in the spiritual sense, the two go hand in hand. Whenever we teach the scriptures, we inevitably impart great hope and the possibility of God's blessings but also warn of behavior that could lead us away from the Lord's loving but righteous arms. And how should you cap all that teaching and admonishment off? With songs and hymns and spiritual songs. If anything is motivating, it is the shared praise and worship of our Lord God Almighty. The words of genuine songs of praise are ballads of the heart that express our devotion to God in ways nothing else can – and they are great teaching tools as well. But singing is only an effective means of communicating our devotion to God if it originates in the heart. It must come from that earnest, most special place and be accompanied by thanksgiving for the free gift of grace delivered to us by God and presented to us by the resurrection of Christ. Let it dwell in you so that your life can be blessed and then bless other people by teaching them what you have learned with a thankful heart.

<u>AM ORDER OF WORSHIP</u>	<u>PM ORDER OF WORSHIP</u>
<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> - Douglas Roy	<u>ANNOUNCEMENT</u> - Douglas Roy
<u>SONG</u> - 48 - Anywhere with Jesus 1,2,4	<u>SONG</u> - 348 - Jesus Is All the World to Me 1,2,4
<u>PRAYER</u> - Jer 29:11 Douglas Roy	<u>PRAYER</u> - Douglas Roy
<u>SONG</u> - 50 - Are You Washed in the Blood 1,2,4	<u>SONG</u> - 523 - Our God, He Is Alive 1,2,4
<u>COMMUNION</u> - Matt 26:26-28 Bill Joy	<u>SERMON</u> - "Am I Worthy?"
<u>SONG</u> - 71 - Blessed Assurance	<u>SONG</u> - 667 - There Is Power in the Blood 1,2,4
<u>SERMON</u> - "Triumph through Trials"	<u>COMMUNION</u> - Bill Joy
<u>INV SONG</u> - 255 - I Am Resolved 1,2,4	<u>INV SONG</u> - 682 - To God be the Glory
<u>CLOSING PRAYER</u> - Emmanuel Twumasi	<u>CLOSING PRAYER</u> - Cleve Stafford



ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Please silence your phone by placing it in airport mode.



We ask all visitors to please pick up a visitors card and fill it in.

- Bulletins are on the fireplace table and sermon notes are inside when available.
- Please put your offering in the provided envelope (don't write anything on it)..
- If you look on the back of the visitors card you will see space to right a prayer request if you have one - feel free to do that and hand it in to us so we can pray about it.
- Our next potluck meal will be on 28 January following morning service. Invite someone and bring a dish to share. There is a sign up sheet in the back.
- Ladies breakfast will be 3 February at 10:30am (weather pending) bring a dish to share.



PRAYER REQUESTS



- Continued Prayers for Melinda's mom Isabel du Toit who is still undergoing Chemotherapy.
- Prayers for Cleve's dad, Edgar Stafford who is struggling with early onset dementia.
- Prayers for all our service people wherever in the world they have been deployed to.
- Safe travels for Douglas Roy who is traveling tomorrow.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

- Praise God for our sponsors.
- Praise God for the privilege to worship in safety
- Praise God for the measure of health and wealth we enjoy

BIRTHDAYS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS



January Birthdays

- 4 - Damien Tarmey
- 1 - Benjamin Twumasi
- 5 - Candice Twumasi

Sunday morning Bible Class - 9:00AM
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 7:00PM
 Personal Bible Study (Convenient time)



Web Page



WiFi



Facebook



Word List

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|---------------|---------|----------|------------|
| BIRDS | BODY | CAMELS | EFFECT |
| ENTICED | GROUND | HEARTS | HOLYSPIRIT |
| LOVE | LURED | PARABLES | ROMANS |
| SEEDS | SINS | SOIL | SOWER |
| STEADFASTNESS | TEMPTED | TRIALS | |