

Vancleave Church of Christ

Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and Christian ministry

July 11, 2021

How Would You Describe Jesus? by: Duane Patton

To accurately describe someone we would have to get to know that person more than just as a simple acquaintance. The Gospel writers spent much time with Jesus of Nazareth. In fact, they knew Him so well that at one point two of them behaved so much like Him that they got arrested for it (**Acts 4:13**). One of them, John, later in his ministry wrote to provide the world a narrative that describes Jesus as being more than a mere man. In fact, in John's Gospel narrative, there is a single theme that runs throughout the book: that Jesus is the Son of God, and He gives eternal life to those who commit themselves to Him. (**John 20:30, 31**). Only the eternal God can grant eternal life!

Well known author, Warren W. Wiersbe in his book entitled "Be Alive" (the first of two books on John's Gospel) explains that, in the first chapter of John, the biblical writer recorded seven names and titles of Jesus that identify Him as eternal God. These are referenced in the Gospel of John as the Word (**1:1-3, 14**); the Light (**1:4-13**); the Son of God (**1:15-28, 49**); the Lamb of God (**1:29-34**); the Messiah (**1:35-42**) the King of Israel (**1:43-49**); and, the Son of Man (**1:50-51**). On their own, these seven descriptions of Jesus may not seem reveal Jesus as being God. But if we were to explore the Scriptures more thoroughly we would be able to discover that these descriptions are just various ways of evidencing who Jesus really was, is and always will be – the ever-living, ever present eternal Creator, Sustainer and Savior of the world (cf., **Ps. 90:2; Jn. 1:1-3, 14; 20:31; Heb. 1:5-12; 7:16, 25; Rev.1:18; 4:9; 5:14**; etc.) – a confession Jesus Himself freely and publicly made (**John 8:58**).

Giving some thought to these things, our lives would be shaped best if we were to strive to be more like Jesus in our thoughts, words and deeds. In fact, the very name "Christian" indicates that we who have committed our lives to Jesus are seeking to behave in such way, from within and without, that when others witness our behavior they may be drawn closer to God – the Light which is reflected in us providing some clear pathway to the knowledge of God's goodness (cf., **Matt. 5:14; Proverbs 4:18**). For this reason, John the apostle would later write in another, much shorter letter, "walk in the light, as [Jesus] is in the light" (**1 Jn. 1:7**). Difficult as it may be to behave more like Jesus with each passing moment, conforming to the sinful world around us will only lead us down a dark path ending in eternal death (**Romans 2:3-11; 6:23**). If someone were to describe you or me, should they not also be, at least in some way, describing Jesus?

Seeking first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Class

10:00 AM Worship

6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6:00 PM

Prayer, Bible Study, Devotional

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children's Home

Gulf Coast Bible Camp

Local Food Pantry

Annual Youth Events

Back-Pack Buddies

The Gospel of Christ TV (Fox 25)

Every Sunday at 6:30 AM

Foreign Missions:

Guyana, South America

India

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries

Local Wi-Fi Network Access:

SSID: 2Wire029

Key: 399572302

E-mail: vco_christ@att.net

Prayer Requests and Announcements

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open into their cry ~Psalms 34:15

Carolyn Hart has requested prayers on behalf of these: Lynn Beasely (passed away recently); **John Bozeman**; and **Sharon Owens** (stress test); **Sam and Connie Helmuth** (their oldest daughter, Rea, passed away, 45)

Greg Blanchard (Brett Blanchard's grandfather) recently hospitalized with blood clotting issues.

Kathryn McMillan: (Charlene's neighbor) passed away recently, family needs our prayers.

Debbie Borries of the Vancleave Community recently suffered the loss of her residence by fire.

Tony Horton (Duane Patton's dear friend) needs our prayers while he waits correct medicine.

Sharon Owens (Carolyn Hart's sister in law)

Continue to remember these: Frieda Wilson (stroke); **Vance Herrin** (Covid recovery); **Jane Gibson** (heart surgery recovery); **Wade and Joanna Phillips** (Mission to Guam)

A men's business meeting is re-scheduled for next Sunday (July 18 at 4:00 PM).

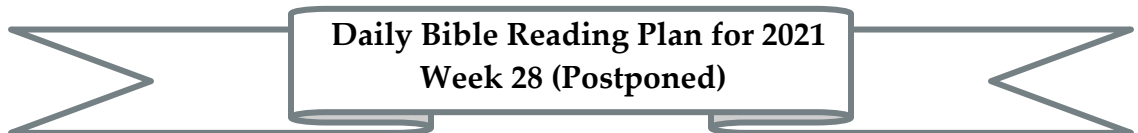
Others: _____

Some previous prayer requests and announcements may not be reflected in the above list. Please refer to earlier published bulletins for these as well as other announcements and other ministry opportunities.

If you have any updates / corrections on any prayer requests or other announcements, please share them by sending an email to vco_christ@att.net or simply text or leave a voice message at 601-436-0868.

WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it" ~ Helen Keller

"Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world"
(John 16:33, KJV)



This week's reading plan will be sent out as a supplemental email and we will pick us on Week 29 next Sunday!

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105