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JANUARY 2017

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

Are you Feeding Yourself?

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

Psalm 1:1-3

This month I want to hit on something that is really important in my opinion. As your pastor I appreciate it when you make the time to come to Bible study and services on Sunday. I have a great passion to teach and preach the Word of God. But if your spiritual life is only being fed when you come to these services you are starving yourself. If your only exposure to God's word is when you come to church then you are missing a very important element to the growth of your faith and the growth of the church.

I know that many Christians live day in and day out coming to church and hear what the pastor says and goes home and never once opens their bible to review what they said. Some may come to church and never even bring their bible to follow along. How can we truly hear from God if we keep his Word closed and put away? I've always made time to get into God's word daily. Even when I was in college then when I was pastoring and working full time. It's too important not too. Being consistent about a time to read each day is much more important than *which* time of day you pick. I want to challenge each person to make it a habit to get into God's word each day in 2017.

Wayne Cordeiro writes in his book *Divine Mentor*, "If you will develop a daily self-feeding program from the bible and allow yourself to be daily, hourly mentored by God's Holy Spirit your life will undergo an unprecedented change for the better." George Muller put it this way, "The vigor of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Bible in our life and thoughts." If you are not getting into God's word daily you are losing the necessary nutrients to sustain your soul in this life. A lot of Christians are biblically illiterate because they don't get into the Word of God on their own. A lot of Christians are empty, weak, and struggling because they are not feeding on the scriptures. The scriptures answer the questions of the soul and satisfy the emptiness of the heart. The truth and reality is we need to hear from God more than he needs to hear from us.

The *American Journal of Medicine* a few years ago published a highly revealing conclusion to a study: The health of twenty-first-century America will no longer be determined by what people can get doctors to do for them but by what doctors can get people to do for themselves. My job as a shepherd is to get you to develop a daily self-feeding program in the Bible. I am going to keep pushing this church that each person **MUST** be in the Word daily. Your own spiritual life depends on it and so does the church. Jesus said this

"If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine." (John 8:31) The fruitfulness of following Jesus comes from continuing in His word. This means we must have daily exposure to it.

Proverbs 8:34 tells us "Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway." Jesus told us to pray in Matthew 6:11 for our daily bread. Today stay near the door of scripture and receive from his Word what he wants to teach you. Jesus said we needed daily bread not "Sunday" bread. Don't wait until Sunday stay by the door and receive daily. God wants to speak but if you are not waiting at the door you won't hear. All the way back during the Reigns of King Uzziah and Jeroboam II around 792-750 Amos wrote these words a problem that seems is relevant to today "The days are coming declares the Lord when I will send a famine through the land not a famine of food or thirst for water but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord. Men will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east searching for the word of the Lord but they will not find it." (Amos 8:11-12) Today I think we have induced a self famine by forgetting God's words. The average American has on average 3 bibles per household but all they do is sit there waiting for the power to awaken in their lives. Men are staggering around wondering why they are not being fulfilled when they come and hear the sermon on Sunday. You won't survive as a disciple of Jesus only hearing His Word once a week or maybe twice. Bible study is very important and Sunday is very important and I continue to challenge you to be here in attendance coming ready to learn and hear from God but you also need to find daily time to learn and hear from God on your own. Why?

Because Daily time with Jesus causes a metamorphose of authenticity.

The world is going to be changed by men and women who sit daily at the feet of Jesus. There is too much at stake in your life to not get in God's Word each day. We have decisions to make, steps to take, hardships and struggles to overcome, questions needing answered, people to deal with, souls to save. Outward growth begins with inward growth. Inward growth comes from being a tree planted by streams of water, the living water, which is Jesus Christ. And the tree is the man who mediates on the word of the Lord day and night.

*"When your words came, I ate them
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name Lord God Almighty."*
~Jeremiah 15:16

**With Love in Christ,
Pastor Jamie**

SUNDAY SERVICES

Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Pastoral Prayer 9:10 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:35 a.m.
Children's Quizzing 5:00 p.m.
 September - April 1st Grade - 6th Grade
Pastoral Prayer 5:40 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

"Family Bible Study" 6:30 p.m.
 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday of each month

Missionary Service 6:30 p.m.
 3rd Wednesday of each month

Children's Quizzing 6:30 p.m.
 September - April 1st Grade - 6th Grade

Check out our Website and Facebook Page at www.annanaz.com



Nazarene Missions
INTERNATIONAL



I want to thank Jess and Jason for completing the lesson in December. 2017 will begin with a new challenge. As NMI President my primary job is to call the meeting to order and to end them with prayer. Starting in January I will not be able to attend Wednesday night because of my school schedule. I am praying someone steps up to help with the meetings and people to present the missionary lessons. I have several ideas but make things difficult not being present. Ideas will be carefully and prayerfully considered. If you feel the nudge to volunteer to start the meetings or volunteer to teach a lesson let me know. I have been making a list and if you turn me down please have an idea of a replacement.

January and The New Year has a bad reputation. People begin with their new year's resolutions with eager anticipation. Most of us will break their resolution before the month is up which sets us up for discouragement. I know because I have been battling my weight for as long as I can remember. I do have a resolution suggestion you can add to your list. Budget \$5 per month for the Samaritan's Purse ministry and you will have \$60 to spread the Good News to a hurting world. The great thing about this resolution is you can spend it throughout the year and not feel bad. I love to purchase things after holidays. Last Christmas I found six Christmas puzzles for 10¢ and now they are on their way to some child who needs Christ. If the Lord is willing I will continue to give you advice on making wise and timely purchases. January is a great time for deals on hats, gloves, and scarves. I am confident you will do your best to share the word of God to people around the world.

Sarah Elkins, NMI President



Greetings from
David, Jen, Bethany and Max Allen
from Africa
wishing you a wonderful 2017

Write to us at djallen8501@hotmail.com

Missionary Service - January 18 - 6:30 p.m.

Yvonne Graham will be serving her delicious home-made vegetable soup.
So come and enjoy and learn about how our missionaries
are ministering around the world

UPCOMING EVENT

TEAM DAY

'INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP'

Saturday, January 28th Salem Grace ~ Salem, IL

Time: Registration 8:45 am

Plenary Session 9:30 am

Homeward bound 3:00 pm

Cost: \$20 per person

(Includes Book, Lunch, Materials)

SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE FOYER TABLE AT THE CHURCH

(Registrations due by Jan. 21st.)

Guest Speaker, Walt Bennett, Executive
Pastor Organic Outreach International
Pastor at Shoreline Community Church
Outreach Influence Team Leader



Sponsored by: Discipleship (SDMI), Missions (NMI),
Student (NYI) , and Hispanic Ministries

NO



TIME

There's a loving letter I mean to send,
There is a visit I mean to pay
There's a careless habit I hope to mend,
When I get the time someday.

There's a dusty Bible I mean to read
There's an hour I'll keep to pray
I'll turn each dream to a golden deed,
When I get the time someday.

I'll carry flowers to the sick and sad
I'll seek for those who stray
You can trace my steps by hearts made glad,
When I get the time someday.

So somebody, thought, so somebody said,
But wasn't it just a crime?
Too busy with less important things
They never did get the time.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 1

Special Music: A.M. Abby Barlow P.M. Randy Wright & Johnathon Cauble
 Greeters: A.M. Darrell & Marie Mowell P.M. Bryan & Ginger Morrison
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Jason Elkins
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Brad Clayborne
 Video: A.M. Michael Hill P.M. Abby Barlow
 Ushers: Robert Smith, Logan Wiseman, T.J. Macy, Chad Brooks
 Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Richard & Yvonne Graham
 Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Madison Wright
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 8

Special Music: A.M. Jaida Smith P.M. Ginger Morrison, Nina Shepard, Marilyn Elkins, Carla Ramage
 Greeters: A.M. Chad, Am & Abram Brooks P.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Sarah Elkins
 Sound: A.M. Stanley Elkins P.M. Stanley Elkins
 Video: A.M. Jason Elkins P.M. Clayton Ramage
 Ushers: Matt Macy, Terry Wiseman Sr., Noah Wiseman, Curly Ralls
 Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Kathy Papa, Leonard Sadler
 Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Marie Mowell
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 15

Special Music: A.M. Bryan Morrison P.M. Jason & Jessica Elkins
 Greeters: A.M. Kathy Papa/Lottie Smith P.M. Leonard & Connie Sadler
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Verna Fuller
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Brad Clayborne
 Video: A.M. Michael Hill P.M. Clayton Ramage
 Ushers: Curt Lyerla, Esten Parks, Jacob Wright, Phil Ray
 Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Richard & Yvonne Graham
 Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Kerri Macy
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 22

Special Music: A.M. Betty Odum & Rin Ray P.M. Jack & Nina Shepard
 Greeters: A.M. Terry Wiseman Sr. & Noah Wiseman P.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Sarah Elkins
 Sound: A.M. Stanley Elkins P.M. Stanley Elkins
 Video: A.M. Jason Elkins P.M. Abby Barlow
 Ushers: Curly Ralls, Heath Brooks, Darrell Mowell, Mark Smith
 Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Kathy Papa, Leonard Sadler
 Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Marva Wall
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 29

Special Music:
 A.M. Joseph Brooks
 P.M. Singspiration

Pick your favorite congregational song and we will sing it together or if you would have a special song you would like to sing bring it along and share it with us.

Greeters:
 A.M. Darrell & Marie Mowell
 P.M. Bryan & Ginger Morrison

Projection:
 A.M. Verna Fuller
 P.M. Jason Elkins

Sound:
 A.M. Brad Clayborne
 P.M. Brad Clayborne

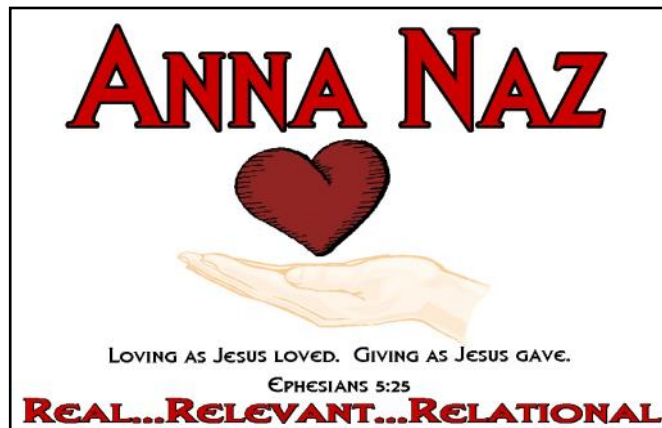
Video:
 A.M. Michael Hill
 P.M. Clayton Ramage

Ushers:
 Robert Smith
 Logan Wiseman
 T.J. Macy
 Chad Brooks

Pastoral Prayer Partners:
 Bryan & Ginger Morrison
 Kathy Papa
 Leonard Sadler

Nursery Worker/Helper:
 Vonda Hill/Nancy Smith

Finance Team
 Jack Shepard
 Nina Shepard
 Carla Ramage



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Anna First Church of the Nazarene January 2017 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NEW YEARS DAY	2 Church Office Closed	3	4 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	5	6	7
8 PM-Communion	9	10 Board Meetings Sunday School 6:15 pm Church 7 pm	11 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Missionary Service 6:30 pm	19	20	21 Fellowship Hall Reserved
22	23	24	25 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	26	27	28 Team Day at Salem
29 P.M. Service Singspiration	30	31				