



An Answer to Prayer

The last couple of weeks, I've spent a lot of time learning about how incredibly powerful, creative, and majestic the Lord is. As man's technology increases, we are able to look deeper and deeper into outer space, and do you know what they are finding? First of all, our universe is really, really big with a lot of amazing stuff in it. When you start multiplying billions by trillions, you wind up with a lot of zeros after a numeral. And as far as we know, it just keeps going. And Psalm 8 says that is just the work of His fingers. And God is transcendent of all that. He is outside looking in, kind of like those dioramas we had to make in school when we were kids.

But the other side of that is also true. Within this humongous universe, the Lord made this little rock and put tiny creatures on it. But He made us to be different. While all of the animals were made after their own kind (Genesis 1:25), He made humans different. God made Mankind in His own image (Genesis 1:26). Yahweh, the Great I Am, wants to have a relationship with you. In fact, He went to great lengths to enable us to get to know Him. He has revealed Himself to us through scripture, speaking through men throughout history to show us who He is and what He has done for us. And then there is the greatest act of revelation ever, God becoming man and living with us. Then He died so that we can have the ability to become His children.

The Lord has not only stooped down for mankind, He has also done great things for Calvary Baptist Church, turning our small actions into very noticeable returns. Last month, we began to use our Sunday School hour to pray for the outreach ministry into our community. And "it just so happens" that right after that, we have had a lot of new people show up at our Sunday morning worship services. Coincidence? I think not! My prayer is that as we become more ready to grow spiritually, the Lord will help us grow numerically. As we continue building in our capacity to Love God, Love People, Proclaim Christ, and Make Disciples, the Lord is doing His part by bringing in more people for us to minister to and with. Praise Him for all He has done for us! May we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ***To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. 2 Peter 3:18***

Serving Him,

Pastor Karl

What is Idolatry

Erik Raymond

When people hear the word idolatry, they think of different things. Some imagine ancient rituals where worshipers bow down before carved statues. Others think of how fans “idolize” their favorite actors, athletes, or musicians. Still others may use the word as a metaphor for obsession.

So, what is idolatry? Essentially, idolatry is worshiping anything created instead of the Creator.

Why is God so concerned with this? Well, it’s simple: God is concerned with idolatry because God is concerned with worship. Sometimes this concept unsettles modern readers because they may perceive God as a narcissist, unhealthily addicted to His worship. This would be true if God were a created being instead of being the Creator. But as people, God made us to worship Him. This is right. It’s good because God alone deserves worship. But if we flip this around and God does not promote or protect His glory and honor, He is not acting like God. Too often, people think about God like He is a person (part of creation) while at the same time thinking about creation like it’s God (worthy of worship). Incidentally, the promotion of creation and demotion of the Creator are both inappropriate. It’s idolatry.

The Apostle Paul describes idolatry as an exchange. Instead of giving glory to God, it’s exchanged for the glory of images of created things. To do this, the worshiper has “exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.” (Rom. 1:25).

Exchanging the glory of God for idols is like appraising God’s value on a scale. Instead of seeing His glory (His infinite weight, value, and substance), the worshiper determines that He is less valuable than something created (in comparison, something light and empty). This exchange is the height of folly. Imagine a person seeing an elephant and a feather compared on a scale and concluding that the feather weighed more. Clearly, such a person would be out of touch with reality. How could anyone think this? How could we replace God with an idol? Only by exchanging the truth about God for a lie. When we suppress God’s revelation of who He is, we draw erroneous conclusions (Rom. 1:18).

To protect against idolatry and to promote true worship of God, the Lord instructs us in His Word:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You shall have no other gods before me. (Ex. 20:2–3)

This familiar passage is intentionally placed at the head of the Ten Commandments. We must not allow anyone or anything to take God’s proper place of preeminence. (Continued)

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But what do we find over and over in the Bible? Even in the same book of Exodus, the people who were redeemed from Egypt fashioned a god out of their gold and then worshiped it (Ex. 32). Then, later, King Jeroboam feared he'd lose power, replicated this idolatry, and invented his own system of worship. Exchanging God's honor, they worshiped the result of their own creation: *"Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt"* (1 Kings 12:28). These famous examples stand as bright neon lights warning us against idolatry. God hates idolatry because He loves His glory. God loves His glory because it is good.

Many have observed that the first commandment is the foundation for the other nine; to disobey the others is to turn away from the true God to worship an idol. This shows how dangerously varied idolatry can actually be. We may think of it as bowing down to an actual statue, but it can also be desiring something you don't have that someone else has (see Ex. 20:17).

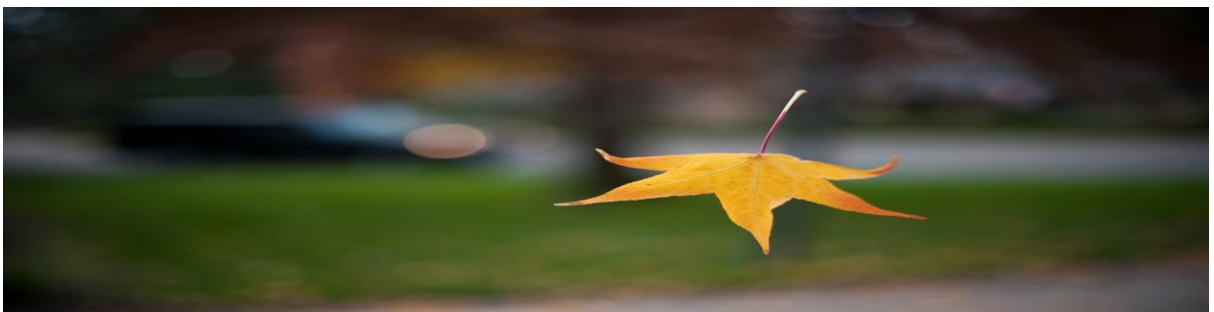
When we become Christians, we turn away from idols to serve the living God (1 Thess. 1:9). But this is not the end of the fight. We must continue to turn away from idols (1 Cor. 10:14), working to keep ourselves and others from them (1 John 5:21).

The Apostle Paul provides us with a suitable and challenging example. While walking around Athens, waiting for his ministry partners to join him, he looked at the sites. Instead of being impressed by the architecture, he was provoked by the rampant idolatry (Acts 17:16). Paul was so jealous for God's glory that he was actually irritated that God was not getting the honor that He deserved. As a result, he went out and shared the gospel with everyone around him.

This love for God's honor is a suitable safeguard against idolatry. So, think much upon the supreme value of God over all. Dwell upon His unfailing faithfulness, unreserved love, inexhaustible grace, inflexible righteousness, incorruptible goodness, unimpeachable wisdom, and unchanging character. Who is like this? Then think about how, in Jesus Christ, this is the God who knows and loves you.

We can pray that God would help us and that we'd resolve to give God the honor He deserves and be quite uncomfortable with anything else.

Submitted by FS





October Birthdays

- 5 Carla Morrison
- Marek Kmiec
- 9 Norma Haye
- 12 Glenn Urquhart
- 24 Janice Haskell
- 29 Teo Urquhart

Please Turn in
November Newsletter
Items By/On Tuesday,
Oct. 28th, to the
Church Office.



REGISTER NOW AT CAMPELKANAH.COM

ADMISSION: \$20 ADULT
\$10 UNDER 18
(WITH PAID ADULT)

INCLUDES:
MORNING REFRESHMENTS,
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EASTERN OREGON MEN'S ROUND-UP

OCTOBER 18TH AT CAMP ELKANAH

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER: TOM SELMAN

PRE-REGISTER BEFORE
OCTOBER 10TH FOR A CHANCE
TO WIN A FULLY FUNCTIONING
1851 CONFEDERATE NAVY
BLACK POWDER REVOLVER!



THE SOONER YOU REGISTER,
THE BETTER YOUR CHANCES!

9AM-4:30PM

MINI GOLF

FREE CHILI & CHILI DOGS



Join us for dinner & mini golf during the
trick or treating downtown!

FRIDAY, OCT. 31, @ 5-7PM

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ON BROADWAY BETWEEN 3RD & 4TH STREET





YoungLife Update

We kicked off the new year of YoungLife on Monday, Sept 22nd, with a Carnival! We had popcorn, shaved ice, cake walk, plinko, ring toss, corn hole, wheelbarrow races, raffles, and a couple of group games. We ended the night with 2 leaders getting pied in the face. We had so much fun and had 30 kids show up! At least half, if not more, were new kids who had never been to club!



We continue to pray and look for a "clubhouse" - a dedicated location we can design, decorate & make our own. We *may* have a location, but would have some work to do on it, such as figuring out how exactly we will be using the space, shopping for any supplies we need (chairs, rugs, laptop, projector, speakers, etc.) before we are ready to move in and start utilizing it. We're very excited for this new development, but are patiently waiting to be where the Lord leads us and provides for us. Please continue to pray for club - for the teens, leaders, committee, and our community. Danielle Pierce



October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9am Church Body Prayer Time 10am Worship, Child Church & Nursery	29 6 pm Ladies' Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7:07 pm Young Life at BMS	30	1	2 5-6 pm Community Dinner— <i>Spaghetti!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	3 9 am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral	4
5 9am Church Body Prayer Time 10am Worship, Child Church & Nursery	6 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	7 10:30 am - 1:30 pm CBC gets to Servs Lunch at the Sr Center!	8	9 5-6 pm Community Dinner— <i>Good Eats!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	10	11
12 9 am Church Body Prayer Time 10 am Worship, Child Church & Nursery	13 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	14	15	16 5- 6 pm Community Dinner— <i>Biscuits & Gravy!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	17	18 9 a-4:30 pm EO Men's Round-Up at Camp Elkanah
19 9am Church Body Prayer Time 10 am Worship, Child Church & Nursery	20 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	21	22	23 5-6 pm Community Dinner— <i>Yummy & Delicious!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	24	25
26 9 am Church Body Prayer Time 10 am Worship, Child Church & Nursery	27 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	28  Newsletter November Items Due	29	30 5-6 pm Community Dinner— <i>Mummys & Tombstones! (Weiner Wraps & Tots)</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	31 5-7 pm Halloween Outreach Mini Golf & Chili at Calvary!	1