

Navigator

Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Psalm 143:8b

Jesus ~ Our Treasure and Source of Joy

Joy in Jesus Christ—Unfortunately, when many think of Christianity they picture grumpy old men in three piece suits sitting around with scowls on their faces as they talk about the long list of things they don't do because they are Christians. Now there is certainly nothing wrong with older men, three piece suits, or the truth that the Bible commands Christians to abstain from certain activities. There is, however, something decidedly wrong with joyless Christianity. Of all the people in the world, those that follow Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior should be the possessors of great joy.

Sadly this is not always the case. Often Christians plod through life just trying to "get by" and make it through another day. Life seems overwhelming and the thought of joy in the midst of a hurried life that seems chaotic at best and depressing at worst seems unimaginable. The problem is that many are looking for joy in all the wrong places. Some seek joy through their career and advancement up the corporate ladder. Others look for joy in material possessions and the accumulation of things. While some search for joy in relationships or titles or power or influence or...you get the picture. The point is that the human heart longs for joy and will not rest until it is found.

It may shock some that the Bible actually commands us to seek joy. Psalm 32:11 says, "Be glad in the LORD and rejoice; Shout for joy, all you upright in heart!" The theme of joy is seen in Psalm 37:4 which instructs us to "Delight yourself

also in the LORD." Jesus told His followers to rejoice that their names are written in heaven (Luke 10:19-20) and to "leap for joy" as they await their heavenly future with Him (Luke 6:22-23). The Apostle Paul in his joy-saturated letter to the Philippians commands Christians to "Rejoice in the Lord always" (4:4).

But joy for the Christian is not simply joy for joy's sake. Nor is it a joy that comes from our circumstances or the things that we possess. Rather, ours is a joy that is found in Jesus Christ. The fountain and the source of the Christian's joy must be Jesus Christ and what He accomplished for us in His life, death, and resurrection.

At this point you may be wondering how the pursuit of joy can coincide with some of the demands Jesus made in the Gospels. Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23). Later He said, "Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple" (Luke 14:33). How can self-denial, cross-carrying, and the forsaking of all things coexist with the pursuit of joy? These truths are reconciled as we realize that it is in our giving of all for the sake of Jesus that our joy is realized. The removal of these counterfeit joys from our lives frees us to focus upon the only thing in the universe that brings true and lasting joy: Jesus Christ.

This truth is driven home by Jesus in a one verse parable about the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew 13:44 Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven (knowing Jesus Christ) to a treasure buried in a field. A man found the treasure, hid the treasure again, and then sold all that he had to buy the field so that he might possess the treasure. But what motivates the man to sell all his possessions and buy the field in order to get the treasure? Jesus says his motivation was joy. Because true joy was not found in all that he possessed; true joy was found in the treasure.

When compared with the treasure everything else he possessed seemed to have no value at all (Philippians 3:7-10). Jesus' point is that knowing Him is more valuable and more precious than anything else. As our treasure, He is the source of our joy.

Jesus' point is that knowing Him is more valuable and more precious than anything else.

So the next time you think about Christianity, dispel the notion of the scowl and the three piece. Instead, think about the treasure in the field and the joy that moves us to give all to obtain it. Think about Jesus "who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross" that we might find our joy in Him (Hebrews 12:2).

Pastor Matt

Staff

Pastor	Matthew Boyd 293-2841
Youth Pastor	Shannon Pharaoh 329-0159
Treasurer	Kim Flick 536-4643
Worship Leader	Chris Myhre 644-6421
Education Leader	Kevin Bickel 324-2654
Children's Leader	Gina Bickel 324-2654
Nursery	Laurena Parish 324-2517
Bulletin	Jolleen Kohler 324-3545

Have bulletin items to Jolleen by Wednesday

Leadership

Elders

Matthew Boyd	293-2841 pastor@nrfellowship.com
Travis Flick	536-4643 tkflick1@netzero.com
Rich Henry	736-5025 rich_henry3@hotmail.com

Deacons

Kevin Bickel	324-2654 whispermtn@yahoo.com
Chris Myhre	644-6421 ccmyhre@msn.com
Brian Parish	324-2517

Schedule

Sunday

8:15 a.m.	First Service
9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
10:30 a.m.	Second Service

Tuesday

6:30 p.m.	Youth Group at NorthRidge Fellowship
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Wednesday

6:15-7:45 p.m.	Kids4Truth at NorthRidge Fellowship
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Thursday

6:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer at NorthRidge Fellowship
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Kids 4 Truth



We started our Kids 4 Truth Club at the end of September and it has been awesome to see how the Lord is working. Each Wednesday night we have an average of 40 children and 15 or more adult leaders and helpers. The Kids 4 Truth program was designed to help children know, love and worship God by grounding them in essential Christian truth. We believe it is very important that they know what they believe and why they believe it.

Our first theme has been about God's Word - The Bible. The children are memorizing answers to questions and verses to support those answers. They have been learning that the Bible was inspired by God without any mistakes. Pastor is doing a great job teaching the Truth Lesson and it is neat to see and hear the kids interact with him. Our next theme will start November 14th and it is "The Greatness of God."

Each night is filled with energetic songs, a truth lesson, book and game times. The kids have been working hard to earn their standards (sashes) and patches. The workers are doing an excellent job interacting and encouraging the children. It is an awesome sight to see kids and adults worshipping and praising God through music and being so enthusiastic about learning biblical truths.

Children can also earn patches by completing a service project for each theme. Since our theme this month was God's Word the kids were each given a Book of John to give to a friend, neighbor or relative. The kids were very excited about this and many of them asked for an extra copy to give to someone else. Please be in prayer for the people who received them. We are very proud of our young missionaries.

November 7th is Bible Character Night. Children and leaders will have the opportunity to dress up as their favorite Bible character. We will not have K4T on November 21st because Thanksgiving is the next day.

You can personally be a part of this ministry by joining with us in prayer. First, please pray that the Word of God will be at work in the hearts of our children and that they will come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior. Secondly, we ask that you pray for the families of the children who do not attend our church. And lastly, as leaders, we covet your prayers that the Lord will be evident in our lives and that God will use us to minister to these children that God has entrusted to us.

Gina Bickel

H₂O Youth Ministry

John 4:13-14

FLOOD

Our youth ministry is such a blessing, and we are watching so many things that God is doing.

Most of you know that we have started a new Bible study called FLOOD. It is a study for the youth that deals with real life stuff they see or are going through now, and they learn how the Bible answers these situations.

This study meets every Tuesday night from 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. at NorthRidge Fellowship.

If you have any teens 7th grade - 12th grade invite them to come share a great time of worship and fellowship!

December Christmas Shopping Fun!!! December 15th

There are great things coming in December so mark your calendars. Dec. 15th we are having our all-day childcare from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. where parents can drop off the kids and go finish that last minute shopping. The kids will also get to finish up their shopping for their parents. We will be making gifts for parents and wrapping them.

Youth Ministry Christmas Party December 22nd

12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.
Mark your calendars!

Get Ready for the 3rd Annual Valentines Banquet

We are working on our 3rd annual Valentines Banquet, so get prepared for that because this year we are going to *knock it out of the park!*

We are needing 80 steak knives, so if you would be interested in helping with that need please contact Alicia Pharaoh.

We are also in the process of starting a puppet ministry, so please be in prayer for that!

NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Tea and Luncheon is this Saturday!

If you would like to bring **snacks for the nursery**, please contact Laurena Parish at 324-2517. Animal Crackers are popular with the kiddos.

The Nursery is interested in **volunteers** to watch and care for our precious little ones during the second service on Sunday mornings. Contact Laurena Parish at 324-2517 if you are interested in sharing Jesus in the nursery.

Help us fill 100 shoe boxes by November 11th for **Operation Christmas Child!** Pick up a brochure in the lobby and have great fun being part of missions in a real way. These shoe boxes really can make a difference in the life of a child who doesn't know Jesus.

Pray for the Africa Mission Team as they spread the gospel in Diouloulou, Senegal from **November 13 to November 29**. Let's begin praying for them today! Look in the lobby for a schedule of their trip so that you can pray specifically for each day's needs.

All Church Potluck and Wreath Making will be November 30th at 6:30 p.m. at NorthRidge. Enjoy food and fellowship as you make wreaths to be used for advent reading in your homes for the month of December.

HEY KIDS! Find the turkey in the newsletter—tell Mrs. Brockway and you'll get a prize!

A Message From Your NorthRidge Elders



Keeping Our Eyes Upon God

There are times when we think it would be great to have a direct and detailed “master plan” from God about NorthRidge Fellowship and its future. A plan that outlines where we would be as a church next month, next year, in five years, in ten years, and so forth. A plan that included exactly what kind of facilities to build, how big they should be, and when they should begin. A plan that alerted us to the dangers that lie in our future. A plan where we would know what programs should be started, what activities should be budgeted for, and what needs should be met.

And while God has graciously given us His Word which guides and governs all facets of His church and all the decisions that we make, He has graciously not given us a “master plan” for NorthRidge Fellowship. And that is for our good. If we had such a plan we would be tempted to turn to the plan and not turn to Him. A plan like that, given in advance, would tempt us not to trust God for the grace and direction that we need today and would cause us to take our eyes off of Him.

In 2 Chronicles chapter 20 King Jehoshaphat and his nation faced an uncertain future.

Amassing at the border of Judah were three invading and bloodthirsty armies that desired to put an end to Jehoshaphat and his people. They were at a loss for what to do and were no match for the military might of these combined forces.

But in the midst of this uncertainty they remembered who to trust. King Jehoshaphat called all the people together for a time of prayer and fasting in order to seek the Lord (v. 3-4). As the people came together Jehoshaphat stood and prayed a prayer of great trust and dependence upon God. He recalled who God was and what He was like (v. 6). He remembered the past victories of God on behalf of His people (v. 7-8). And the King reminded them that God was their deliverer (v. 9).

King Jehoshaphat closed his prayer by humbly saying, “For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You” (v. 12).

Jehoshaphat made no pretense about the fact that he did not know what to do or what the outcome was going to be. While the King

Sunday Morning Studies

There are still many weeks left on these great Bible studies. Consider being part of one!



Defending Your Faith
Chris Myrhe

Biblical Perspectives on Marriage
Mandy Auclair
Ladies only

Philippians
Travis Flick

Bible Studies begin at 9:30 a.m.
Coffee is provided!

Men, consider becoming an integral part of the ministry at NorthRidge by joining us in prayer. We meet on Thursday mornings at the church at 6:30 a.m.

All of the glory went to the God who simply called His people and their leader to trust Him in the face of the unknown.

and his people did not have a “master plan” from God detailing what was going to happen, they were certain that they had a faithful God that must be trusted no matter what the obstacle. God soon reminded Jehoshaphat that this was His fight and that there was no reason to fear (v.15).

The next day God, not the King or the people of Judah, routed the enemy as His people praised and worshipped Him (v. 22-24). Because of the defeat of the three invading armies the surrounding nations were not talking about King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah; they were talking about Jehoshaphat's God (v. 29). All of the glory went to the God who simply called His people and their leader to trust Him in the face of the unknown.

We praise God that we do not have a “master plan” because it keeps us humbly on our knees before our gracious Lord seeking Him, His guidance, and His direction as we await His victory. While we do not know exactly what the future holds for NorthRidge Fellowship, we do know that God holds the future. And our eyes are upon Him.

Pastor Matt

Meet Dennis Cornwell

Every month you will be introduced to a fellow attendee at NorthRidge Fellowship.

Where were you born and raised?

I was born in Spokane, WA, and raised in Idaho and northwest Arkansas.

Who are (or have been) the most influential people in your life?

Today I would say Pastor Matt Boyd, Lee and Donelle Kaufman, and of course my father.

What is your favorite passage and/or book of the Bible?

I enjoy studying all the Bible. My favorite book would be James. My favorite passage is Galatians 2:20.

Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?

I truly enjoyed reading the *Left Behind* series from beginning to end. As being a new Christian I am just now beginning to enjoy reading.

If you were stranded on an island, what four foods would you most want to have?

Cold milk with Oreos, popcorn, pizza and seafood (shrimp).

Who in the Bible do you most identify with?

James. Even though I have my struggles I find myself striving to submit myself to God in all my ways and actions.

What are the four most interesting places you have been to?

Senegal, West Africa. Key West, Florida, delivering a load in the dome on the campus of the University of Syracuse New York, Wolf's Island Ontario Canada. Eating walleye and northern pike fresh from the St. Lawrence Seaway.

How did you come to know Christ?

Through having Children, I realized that God had blessed me with a good and faithful wife with whom I am in love with. And then after 20 years of marriage he blessed me with 2 beautiful children. At that moment I knew I needed to have the Lord as the center of my life.

Books Worth Reading

Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. Romans 14:19



***Point Man*, by Pastor Steve Farrar.**

Available at Christian Book Distributors (www.cbd.com), \$10.99.

Six years ago I had a very nervous member of my power line crew give me a book to address the insurmountable problems I was going through in my life. With all the advice I had been given by the well-meaning friends that surrounded me, I figured it to probably be more of the same kind of unusable *stuff* I had already received. Man, *was I wrong*.

The book is *Point Man*, by Pastor Steve Farrar. The results of me reading the book is a saved family, a new life in Christ, and a man who by the grace of God has a completely different idea of what real success is.

This book is addressed strictly to men and focuses completely on what it is to be a God-centered, family-oriented, powerfully-convicted, Christian man. As some of the eleven men whom God has allowed me to give copies to in the last six years will tell you (nine so far in our congregation), the book was given to me at a time when I had divorce papers on the table and plans of running off and trying to pick up the pieces of my life in a place where no-one knew of me or my failures. Now hopefully this is not the case for any of you in the congregation, but if it is, or if you know of someone who is in this situation, this is a great gift idea. God-willing, it will do for them the impossible as it did for me.

The great application of this book is the great conviction it can have on the Christian man who is subject to stumbling in his life as a husband, or a dad, or a man who has a secular job and is subject to the temptations of the world. (Maybe you know someone this applies to.)

It starts out with a war story that grabs every man right by the nape of the neck and scoots him to the edge of his seat. It holds you there throughout the book by the conviction that it causes in your heart and mind to truly be what God's word commands us to be as Christian men, husbands, and dads.

Men, this book will lead you through keeping your family protected from the enemy and teach you the importance of raising your children with the values Christ looks for in His children. It will bring to light the alarming rate at which the crime of adultery is sweeping the church and what you need to do to avoid the paths and pitfalls that lead to this crime against God and your family. We can't afford to miss the message God is sending us through this Biblically-based book. The cost of not stepping up to the alter and admitting our need of God and His guidelines and grace is nothing less than the loss of our families and the destruction not only of our own lives but the lives of our children and their children.

Point Man is a great tool in the life of the saved and the unsaved man to bring us the knowledge we need to stop the failures of men and marriages all around us. It points us back to the One who is able to do all things according to His good will. His will is that men step up and be the leaders of their families!!! *Point Man* is an excellent tool for every man to guide us according to God's word in doing just that.

Give it a try, and let me know what you think!

Your Brother in Christ, Brian Parish

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

8:15 a.m. First Service
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Second Service

Sunday Services

www.northridge.org
456 Golf Course Road
Jerome, ID 83338



Place
Stamp
Here



To The Ends of the Earth

Acts Chapter 29—The book of Acts chronicles the birth of the church and the spread of the Gospel throughout the ancient world. In the book of Acts we are introduced to amazing servants of God such as Paul, Barnabas, and Stephen, as well as given insider views of the Spirit-empowered work of the disciples that we met in the Gospels such as Peter and John. Acts begins with the final departing commission given by the Lord Jesus to take the Gospel to “the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8) and concludes with Paul imprisoned in Rome still preaching the Gospel and looking forward to his future travels to those who have yet to hear the Gospel message.

But there is something about the book of Acts that seems a bit incomplete. As chapter 28, the final chapter of Acts, comes to a close there are many loose ends that seem to be in need of tying up and numerous questions that remain unanswered. Does Paul leave his Roman prison cell? Does he ever make it to Spain (Romans 15:24, 28)? What about the other Apostles? Where were the next missionary efforts focused? With all of these curiosities left unresolved in the inspired pages of Scripture, if Acts were a movie we would anticipate a sequel!

But the conclusion of the book of Acts in this way allows us to be characters in God’s continued work of Kingdom expansion. While the book of Acts is surely and finally completed, the work of Acts continues to this day. The Gospel continues to spread and lives continue to be changed by the transforming message of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And God has called us to be a

part of this work that He has been orchestrating for nearly 2,000 years.

As NorthRidge Fellowship seeks to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth our mission focus has been upon the Jola-Fonyi people of southern Senegal, West Africa in a region known as the Casamance. There are approximately 315,000 Jola-Fonyi people living in the Casamance and over ninety percent of these are Muslim. Most practice what is known as “Folk Islam” which is a veneer of Islamic practices mixed with their traditional ancient animistic beliefs. NorthRidge’s work among the Jola-Fonyi has led us to adopt a village called Diouloulou for prayer and evangelism. This November a team from NorthRidge will be making our third trip to the village where we will work in the high schools, lead Bible studies, and seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with a people that have been blinded to the truth of the Gospel (2 Corinthians 4:3-6).

While not everyone can travel to Africa to minister to the Jola-Fonyi people, everyone can have a part. It has been said that there are three types of people when it comes to missions: those that go, those that are passionate to send others through their prayers and support, and those who are disobedient to Jesus’ command to take the Gospel to the people of world (Matthew 28:18-20).

We are living out the last chapter of the book of Acts, a chapter that will conclude with the return of Jesus Christ and the culmination of human history. Until that last period is added and the book is forever closed, may we be about the Lord’s work as we take the Gospel to the ends of the earth and to a people who have never heard!