

Navigator

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

God's Everlasting Remembrance

Time is seldom kind to our memory. As the twenty-year anniversary of my high school graduation rapidly approaches I am reminded of how dull one's memory can become over the years. Thankfully, God is not like us. John writes, "For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything" (1 John 3:20).

The Bible proclaims the truth of God's omniscience (all-knowingness) which teaches that God knows all facts about Himself and His creation. His exhaustive knowledge extends to even the smallest details of life, such as what color socks you wore on this date in 1983 and what you ate for breakfast on June 3rd of 1997.

But it is not just that God remembers and knows all past events, it is also that He knows all things actual and possible past, present, and future. This is where our minds really get stretched. As theologian Wayne Grudem comments, God "fully knows all things that He could have done but did not do and all things that He might have created but did not create. He also knows all possible events that will not actually happen, and events that would have resulted if some other events had turned out differently in history." While God is doing all of that, you cannot even remember where you put the car keys!

Yet more amazing still, all these facts and all other things that God knows are always fully present in His consciousness at all times. If I were to ask you a question you would have to recall the information and retrieve it from the recesses of your consciousness. You may be able to remember it (or not!), but you would have to pause to think about the answer. God is not that way. Every fact, both actual and possible, past, present, and future, is in the forefront of God's mind continually. He never has to retrieve information, because all of the facts of the universe are front and center in His thinking at all times. Here is an appropriate place to sit back and say, "Wow!"

Knowing all of these things about God's omniscience may cause us to ponder what David has in mind in Psalm 25 when he writes about God's memory. In verse 7 he writes, "Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions." But since God is

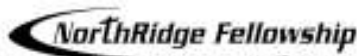
omniscient how could He not remember something, especially sin?

In the Old Testament God says, "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins" (Isaiah 43:25). God also says, "For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). When we read these passages it seems that God has actually forgotten something and it would seem that our sins have slipped from his mind and memory. But that is not exactly the case. God does not forget our sin. Rather, He chooses and promises not to remember our sin any longer.

This is not just semantics; there is a big difference. God cannot forget anything because He is omniscient so it is impossible for Him to forget. When you forget something it is an act that passively happens in your mind as the event passes from your memory. But while forgetting is passive, forgiving is quite active. It is God choosing not to bring our sins back to His memory. God does not forget our sins in the sense that they have passed from His memory and His mind, but rather He chooses not to mention them or recount them or think about them or bring them up to me again. My sins which were paid for by Jesus Christ's sacrifice on my behalf will never be brought to mind by God again. He lovingly and actively chooses to remember them no more.

While God chooses to forget my sins, He always remembers His love and His people. David in Psalm 25 asks that his sins would be forgotten, but he also asks God to, "Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, for they are from old...According to Your mercy remember me" (Psalm 25:6-7). Right at this moment God's mercy and love are at the forefront of His mind. He is at this instant thinking about how enduring His mercy is and about how lavish and unceasing His love is. Not only that, but right now I am on God's mind. And He is thinking about how my sins have been forgiven and how He now sees me as His beloved child through faith in Jesus Christ. Time will not dim God's memory of me, His child saved by grace, and Jesus His Son whose sacrifice made it all possible.

† Pastor Matt



newsletter@nrfellowship.org

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9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays

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Navigator PDF

To receive the newsletter as a PDF in email, please send a request to newsletter@nrfellowship.org and you will be added to the Navigator email list.

Children's Ministries
Helping Children Become God-Focused Believers Through Essential Christian Truth

Children's Ministries: F/3 Wednesday evenings, 6:30pm to 8:00pm
Sunday School 9:15am-10:15am ♦ **Bible Builders** During the 10:30 worship service

F/3 Happenings

During Bible Truth we have learned in the last two months about who God is and why He gave us the Bible. Each night the kids have learned verses that go along with the questions like: what is the Bible? (2 Timothy 3:16), and how powerful is God? (Jeremiah 32:17). Also during this time they have learned about different missions that go on around the world.

During Life Application time we have been working on crafts to give away to a local nursing home for Thanksgiving. We also made a banner to send to our brothers in Diouloulou, Senegal. It has been fun to watch the kids enjoy making things for others. Also, our project for the last two months has been to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The kids are doing such a great job at filling these boxes. We have already filled over 15 boxes! We plan to do other projects that will go to the community and show God's love through the children here at Northridge.

Don't forget that at any time your child can join in on **F/3**! We start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.

Reminder: there will be no **F/3** November 25th. **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Alicia Pharaoh

T₂G TRANSFORMED TO GLORIFY

Teens transformed by Christ, to transform the world, for His glory.

NRF Youth News In the month of November, thoughts naturally turn to Thanksgiving. Much has been written about the subject of thankfulness. The Bible speaks, not of a thankful attitude as a good idea, but as a command: "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15)

We have so much for which to be thankful, yet we often find ourselves anything but thankful. How many times a day do we hear others, and sometimes ourselves, caught up in complaining. It seems that once complaining starts it snowballs so that we have a negative view of everything. It becomes a habit, a way of life.

The key to being thankful is found in the first part of the verse. We must let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. For something to rule, it has to dominate. If we understand that Christ is in control of our lives, we have peace that what comes our way is not an accident or bad luck, but part of His plan. The knowledge that Christ is in control allows us to be thankful.

So, as much as being negative and complaining can become a habit, so can the attitude of being thankful. We can ask a friend to help remind us if we are complaining. We can review our day to evaluate how many times we were negative. Let's make Thanksgiving more than a day in November; let's make it a normal part of our daily lives. Then, we can put into practice Ephesians 5:20—"Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Upcoming Dates

November 20 Youth Service Project
 November 25 No Youth Group
 December 12 Boise Christmas Shopping Trip
 December 16 Grinch Christmas Party

Kevin and Gina Bickel



Meet

Kevin Jesser

Where were you born and raised?

Twin Falls, Idaho.

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

My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ above all; my dad and my brother played a good part too.

What is one of your favorite passages and/or books of the Bible?

I have several, but I probably think and pray about Colossians 3:17-24 the most.

Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?

It's actually kind of funny—I love the children's book series *Hank the Cowdog*, and any book about Volkswagens.

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

Cheeseburgers, bratwursts, salmon, and snack-packs.

Who in the Bible do you most identify with?

I know who I wish I was more like, and that's Paul. He never passed up a chance to spread the gospel.

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

Grand Canyon, Zions National Park, Hawaii's Big Island.

How did you come to know Christ?

It's hard to make it short. I first started going to NorthRidge just about a year ago. I thought "Ok, Jesus, cool, I'll have some," but I didn't get the picture. Sin was still reigning in my life and on June 25, 2009 it all changed at the men's conference. I gave my life to Christ. I was so excited that I stayed up praying and reading the Bible till 2:30 a.m. in the morning! I was hopeless without Him and I give thanks every day good or bad. Sin no longer reigns in my life; Jesus does!

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24



An Excerpt From The Classics



From "Christ Is All in All," by Jeremiah Burroughs (1600-1645)

The Apostle Paul was a chosen vessel to bear the name of Christ, to carry it up and down in the world. Indeed, his spirit was full of Christ. He desired to know nothing but Christ, to preach nothing but Christ, to be found in none but Christ. The very name of Christ was delightful to him. He seeks to magnify Christ in all of his epistles and, in these words I read to you, he omnifies Christ. He does not only make Him great but he makes Him all. "There is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free, but Christ is all and in all." [Colossians 3:11] That is, there is no privilege in the one to commend them to God, and there is no lack of anything in the other to hinder them from God. Let men be what they will in their outward respects, what is that to God? Let them be never so mean in regard of all outward things, that can never hinder them from the enjoyment of God, for God does not look at these things, but Christ is all and in all to them.

But that which is the main scope of the Holy Ghost here is this high expression of Christ's transcendent excellency, which I will deliver in this doctrinal proposition: Christ is the only means of conveyance of good that God the Father intends to communicate unto the children of men in order to eternal life; He is all in all. This which I am to preach to you now, namely God's communicating Himself in His mercy to mankind through a Mediator, is the very sum of the gospel, the great mystery of godliness. It is the chief part of the mind and counsel of God that He would have made known to the children of men in this world. This is the great message that the ministers of the gospel have to bring, and it is the most absolutely necessary point in all theology.

...As He is all in all in the good we have from God, so He is all in all in whatever we offer up to God: as in descent from God to us, so in ascent from us to God. Christ must come in here. He must be all in all in our services. Though our services be never so good, though they are spiritual, they must still find acceptance with the Father through Christ. That text in I Peter 2:5 is very remarkable for this, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Mark, to offer up spiritual sacrifices. But though the sacrifice is spiritual, that is not enough to make it acceptable. Christ must come in. Therefore he adds, acceptable to God *by Jesus Christ*.

If Christ is all in all, then let us bless God that ever we knew Christ, and that the great mystery of the gospel has been revealed to us. For otherwise we would have been without God in the world, and what would have become of us had not this grace of God in the gospel been revealed to us? Could it ever have entered into your heart? Certainly not, nor into the heart of any creature in heaven and earth. Therefore, blessed are your ears that hear the things you hear. Blessed are your eyes which see the things you see, and know that when you come to live under the ministry of the gospel, you enjoy the greatest mercy that you have enjoyed since you were born.

This shows how dear Jesus Christ should be to us. Oh, how we should delight and take contentment in Him who brings the treasures of grace from the bosom of the Father and opens them to us. And He not only opens the mind of God the Father to us, but comes and lets out the treasure of God's goodness to us. It was stopped before, but Christ opens the floodgates and lets the current of grace and mercy in upon us. Oh, how dear, then, should Christ be to us?

Punctuation and italics added. Excerpted from puritansermons.com.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

9:15 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship

Sunday Services

www.norridgefellowship.org
314 West Ave J
Jerome, ID 83338



Place
Stamp
Here

To The Ends of the Earth



Good News: Jesus died for you!

When we were in Diouloulou, Joseph and Abdoulaye were so thankful that our church here in America sent people to tell them about Jesus Christ. If our church had never gone to Diouloulou they might not have ever heard the Good News that Jesus loved them and paid the penalty for their sin by dying on the cross for them.

On Tuesday afternoons we have the privilege of going to Summit Elementary School to have Good News Club. It is such a blessing to see these boys and girls excited about learning the Bible. When we were taking one of the boys home last week, he said, “Why don’t you have Good News Club twice a week?”

Good News Club meets on Tuesday afternoons from 2:50 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Please pray for the students and the parents. Do you know of someone in 4th or 5th grade who would like to come? If you would like a flyer to invite them just let us know.

Good News is something we love to tell people. Maybe there is someone in your neighborhood or someone you know who needs to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Will you be the one to share it with them?

Kevin and Gina Bickel

Matt Boyd and Dennis Cornwell are traveling to Diouloulou from November 9th to November 20th

Prayer requests: Their families during the 11 days; Joseph, Abdoulaye, Carlos, Papis; safe travels for Matt and Dennis; that God would use Matt and Dennis for His glory; that God would direct them to new villages who need to hear the Gospel.

Come hear Matt and Dennis share about their trip on Sunday, November 22

NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Are you thankful? On Sunday, November 22 at 6:00 p.m. we will gather and sing hymns to give praise to God for all He has done, and those who want to can **share with others what God has done** in their lives this year. Let's give thanks together!

MEN's LEAD Bible study meets **every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** All men are invited to study and eat lunch with us at the Wok and Grill in Twin Falls.

How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life is an ongoing study held on the first Sunday of every month. Everyone is invited. Next study will be Sunday, December 6.

Good News Club meets every Tuesday at Summit Elementary School. Contact Gina Bickel if you would like to be involved.

Prayer Requests: Give your prayer requests to Nancy Cornwell at 324-8980 or 320-1556.

HEY KIDS! How many times did God carve His ten commandments into stone for Moses? Tell Mrs. Brockway, and you will get a prize!

Keep people in the know! Send your **bulletin announcements** to Robin Plank by Wednesday each week. Email robin@nrfellowship.org, or call 324-4962/324-5733.

Experience the joy of giving by participating in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

Bring your boxes to the church any time between now and November 15.

IT'S EASY!

1. Pick a shoe box for a boy or a girl
2. Pack with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, hard candies, socks, Bible, and a personal note with a photo.

For specific packing directions and detailed lists, go to:

www.Samaritanspurse.org

See Gayle Boyd for more information.



Let Your Soul Delight in God's Abundance

Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live;

As I watch the news and talk with people each day, I am impressed with our nation's faith in "our government to take care of me, to provide for my needs, to give me the life I deserve." As I listen to our President promise jobs, housing, healthcare, and social security to all, I am impressed with all the people who believe him. I was raised to believe that it was the responsibility of family and church to meet these needs as much as possible. I was raised to believe that each of us had to meet certain responsibilities to attain the quality of life of which we dreamed. Now I hear that these are "rights" given by our government. In reading the Constitution it states that our country was founded on the God-given rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. How far we have strayed.

In Isaiah 55:1-3 God shares His promises to us: "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—the sure mercies of David."

"Everyone" includes not only the nation of Israel, but all who seek after what satisfies a person's spirit. "Wine and milk" refer to complete satisfaction. Having no money means the gift of salvation is free for those who desire it. The promises of the everlasting covenant are extended to all who come to God. They are fulfilled in Jesus Christ and His church.

Isaiah 55:6-7 states, "Seek the Lord while He may be

found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Our Heavenly Father is drawing each of us to Himself. He desires that all will come to know the saving grace of Jesus.

Isaiah 55:8-9 says, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." We may not always understand what is going on in our lives, or in the lives of our loved ones, but God's purpose will someday be revealed. As I grow older, I have seen many times where God blocked a certain path for me and sent me another way. At times I was angry or hurt. It was not the way I wanted to go. But looking back, I see God's love and protection in guiding my path.

Isaiah 55:11-12: "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but I shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace." When we rely on God's promises, we will see God's blessings despite the trials and tribulations. During these times, we grow closer to God. This is shown by the peace and joy in our spirits.

So as I listen to the news and sense the concern many have in the government becoming our family, providing for our needs, taking care of us, I contrast this with what our Lord and Savior has promised us. Which one will you believe?

Rich Henry