

The Tidings

Antioch Baptist Church

Serving God and our Community since 1776

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From the Pastor's Desk

For now, we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. 1 Corinthians 13:12

In recent weeks you have had the opportunity to attend a series of roundtable discussions called, "Growing in the Son." These discussions have been guiding us as we discover, articulate, and live out God's vision for us in real and practical ways. Through these discussions a phrase continued to surface, "Know, Grow, Go." From that phrase "Know Jesus, Grow in Jesus, and Go with Jesus." In the months ahead we will briefly look at each of these parts.

A basic building block of religion is knowledge. It is key to know what it is you believe and continue to learn all you can about your faith that you may then become a good or faithful practitioner. Without knowing, one has no proper point of reference from which to begin their journey and no understanding of the direction of that journey.

In a religion or faith system, there are things to know and learn about the founder of the faith, key leaders, and rules to ascribe to so that you may become faithful to your religion. While I know who George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln are, I do not actually know them. I know facts and details of their lives that I can read in history books but do not have a relationship with them.

Thankfully, Christianity is not a religious set of practices, but a relationship with Jesus who was God's Son in flesh and bone. He is not just someone I read about from history but is alive today and I can have a relationship with him. A relationship changes how you know and respond. A relationship is alive and dynamic. A relationship is not what you know, but who you know. You may know your grandma's address, dad's place of work, mom's birthday, or your child's favorite toy, but that's just the details and we know them differently because we have a relationship with each.

Paul writes here in Corinthians that he at first sees dimly (as if blinded), he knew things about Jesus but on the road to Damascus, he came to know Jesus personally. Paul never met Jesus physically face to face and looks forward to that day. Jesus first command was also an invitation, "come and follow me." Knowledge without relationship is a very dim understanding that does not ultimately change us, it may change our opinions but not our lives.

Many will say they know Jesus when they mean they know about Jesus, that Jesus from history or the Bible. While knowing about Jesus isn't bad it allows room for us to keep Jesus at a distance, like the distant past. Treating him as a guru to help get us through a tough time. Knowing about Jesus may allow us to use Jesus for our gains, purposes, or agendas.

Do you know his heart? His words are still there, "come and follow me." Many will choose knowing stuff about, rather than knowing the Savior. Why? It's safer, after all a relationship is about mutuality and giving. As we come to know someone personally and intimately, the danger is they may come to know us the same way. Some will fear that if Jesus truly knows them, he wouldn't love them. Our scripture reminds us, that we can know fully even as we are already fully known by him. Jesus already knows you fully and loves you, will you come to know Jesus's heart and not just details of his life?

Blessings,
Pastor Greg Soult

Antioch Children/Youth News

We are looking for adults to help with children beginning September during Sunday School and Worship Time. Please let us know if you can help in any way big or small.

Beginning September 2019

Boys and girls in 4th grade and up will remain in the Sanctuary for Worship time.

We hope they will participate in Sunday Sanctuary tasks; such as handing out bulletins, take up offering, read Bible verses, check pew supplies, light candles, ring the bell and more with Pastor and Deacon approval.

- ❖ **First Sunday of each month** boys in 4th and 5th grades will meet during Worship time as a group, leader Alicea Sanders.
- ❖ **Third Sunday of each month** boys in 6th grade and up will meet during Worship time as a group, leader Alicea Sanders.

Please contact Alicea Sanders for more information or if you have a talent to share with the children and youth.
(W)804-527-7706 (C)804-439-1420 alicea.sanders@markel.com

Thank you for sharing your child with us at Antioch Baptist Church.

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Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating in the month of SEPTEMBER: Kathryn Bradley(11), Carolyn Johnson(13), Carolyn Perry(15), Lewis Johns(16), Helen Wilmore(17), John Johnson(22), Chris Shobe(22), Joe Westbrook Jr.(22), Barbara Moore(23), Arlene Gordon(25), Charlotte Worley(26), Aaron J. Boggs(30)

(If your birthday has been inadvertently left off the birthday list or entered incorrectly, please contact the Church Office.)

Penny Social

Plan ahead! The Senior Group will begin meeting again on Monday, September 9 at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall! Bring \$1.00 for a chance to take home lots of treasures at our Penny Social. Not sure what that is? Ask a senior! We welcome your donation of good junk! Covered dish luncheon follows the meeting.

BRING A FRIEND!

Don't let your friends and neighbors miss out on the fun of being part of our group! Invite a new member! We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month!

HAVE IDEAS FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS?

Share your ideas with Mary Dick (mwdick@icloud.com or 804-837-6253)

President – Pat Chalkley

Vice President – Ruby Vaughan

Secretary – Jo Gillen

Assistant Secretary – Carroll Allen

Treasurer – Bonnie Winn

WMU – WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

WATCHWORD: “My dear friends, stand firm and don't be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile” (1 Cor. 15:58, CEV)

OUR MISSION: to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ.

Each day of the month for September missionaries' names are listed for us to pray for them in the Missions Mosaic magazine. Some are with the International Mission Board – some with our State Convention – some with the North American Mission Board – some are retired, and some are chaplains and volunteers. Let us continue our prayers of intercession through this month (September) and each month thereafter. We conclude each of our Baptist Women meetings with a prayer for each of our missionaries. We invite you to join with us at home and pray for them as a group. If you would like a copy of their names, let me know and I will be glad to run off a copy for you. May we come to value His love letter more and more each day.

Reminder on our “Walk of Faith”. We will be collecting a love offering for the Walk of Faith in Birmingham, Alabama to purchase a brick in memory of Elsie Jepsen for the memorial garden at the WMU Headquarters in Birmingham. The brick will become part of the story there. If you would like additional information, please contact me or Pat Chalkley. (This is our mission project for the month of August)

September project will be homemade cookies for the Raceway Ministry. October and November projects are to prepare shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Alma Hunt Week of Prayer for Virginia Missions is September 8-15 and the goal is \$600.00 The theme is “Together As One”. Envelopes are in the pews for your convenience.

After all, it is our attitude toward life that brings us joy in living” – May Rowland

Joyce Adams, Reporting for WMU