

CALENDAR

Sunday	10:00 am	Bible Study	At the building and live stream
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship	At the building and live stream
Sunday	4:00 pm	Walking the 12 Steps with Jesus	TBD
Wednesday	10:30 am	Breakfast with the Seniors	At Perkins Restaurant
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bible Study	6/28 - At Ella's Smith's - 2093 Irene Lane, Idaho Falls
Saturday	7:00 pm	Teen Group	At the building
Jul 15 th	Senior Breakfast – 10:30 at the building (3 rd Saturday each month.)		
Aug 6 th	Area Singing with the Pocatello Church of Christ. Details to follow.		
Sep 15-17 th	Idaho Falls Youth Rally		
Dec 8-10 th	Winter Rendezvous in Cody Wyoming. The link to the registration page is on our website.		

PRAYERS

- For Nathan, working to raise monies for his missionary year that starts this September.
- For Jade's family, on the recent death of her aunt.
- For Brian Felushko, scheduled for back surgery on July 13th
- For Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- For Bobbie Knight. Bobbie Knight, IDOC # 113912, PWCC - 2 C, 1451 Fore Rd, Pocatello 83204.
- For Gary, Rob, Kyle & Andy as they lead our congregation.
- For Ryan Burns, Jordan Allbritten, and Thomas Mullinaux, serving in the armed forces.
- For our widows: Myrna, Ella, Miriam, Louise, Sallye, & Carolyn.

LEADERSHIP

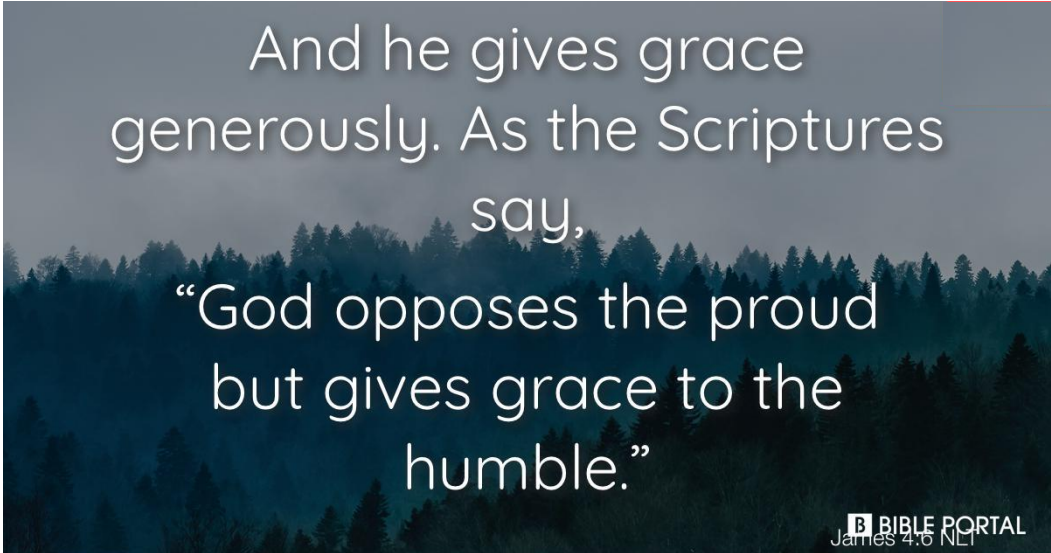
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Doug Barber – Worship.....		208-589-3674
Aaron Kays – Building & Grounds.....		505-879-4624
Daniál King – Benevolence		208-970-5078
Les & Teresa Pope – Special Programs		208-524-0238

The Church of Christ in Idaho Falls

WELCOME !!

We're a bible-based congregation of Christians meeting in Idaho Falls to praise and worship the one God and to support and encourage each other. All are welcome! Please join us in our worship services and classes.



Meditation for July 2, 2023

According to the varying needs of each person, so does each person think of God. It is not necessary that you think of God as others think of Him, but it is necessary that you think of Him as supplying what you personally need. The weak need God's strength. The strong need God's tenderness. The tempted and fallen need God's saving grace. The righteous need God's pity for sinners. The lonely need God as a friend. The fighters for righteousness need a leader in God. You may think of God in any way you wish. We usually do not turn to God until we need Him.

The Psalms

We will find that the psalms may be read at many different levels, depending on the problems we face. They may function as deterrents to keep us out of trouble, as guides to help us through our problems, as reminders of the one who actually delivers us, or as beacons of hope to encourage us in perplexing or painful situations. Through the psalms we share in the hopes and failures of the entire human race. Yet as we read them, we are also ushered into the very presence of our loving and merciful God.

Healing the Brokenness

Psalm 51:16-19

We are entirely ready to have God remove all our defects of character. If we have sincerely tried to change, we have probably found enough pain inside ourselves to break our hearts. Facing the fact that brokenness is part of the human condition can be crushing. But we have arrived at this point, it is probably a sign that we are ready for God to change us.

As a young man, King David wasn't ready for God to change his character because he didn't recognize that it had defects. He prayed, "Don't let me suffer the fate of sinners. ... I am not like that; I live with integrity. So redeem me and show me mercy" (Psalm 26:9-11). He approached God on the basis of his own merit.

It wasn't until later in his life when he was confronted with his sins of adultery and murder that he was able to say, "For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me" (Psalm 51:5). He also said, "You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. . . . The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God" (Psalm 51:16-17).

Jesus taught that "God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted" (Matthew 5:4). God isn't looking for evidence of how good we are or how hard we try. He wants us to mourn over our sins and admit our brokenness. Then he will not ignore our needs but will forgive us, comfort us, and cleanse us.

Admit Your Sins

Psalm 51:5-9

If we fail to admit and confess our sins, they will continue to burden us with destructive guilt and rob us of joy. We need to learn to confess and forsake our sins immediately. Then we need to seek God's wisdom as to how we can make amends for the wrongs we have done to others. We won't be able to progress in the recovery process or reach out to others until we seek forgiveness for our past failures. Some people may not readily forgive us, but we can be sure God will.

Be Restored to Joy

Psalm 51:10-13

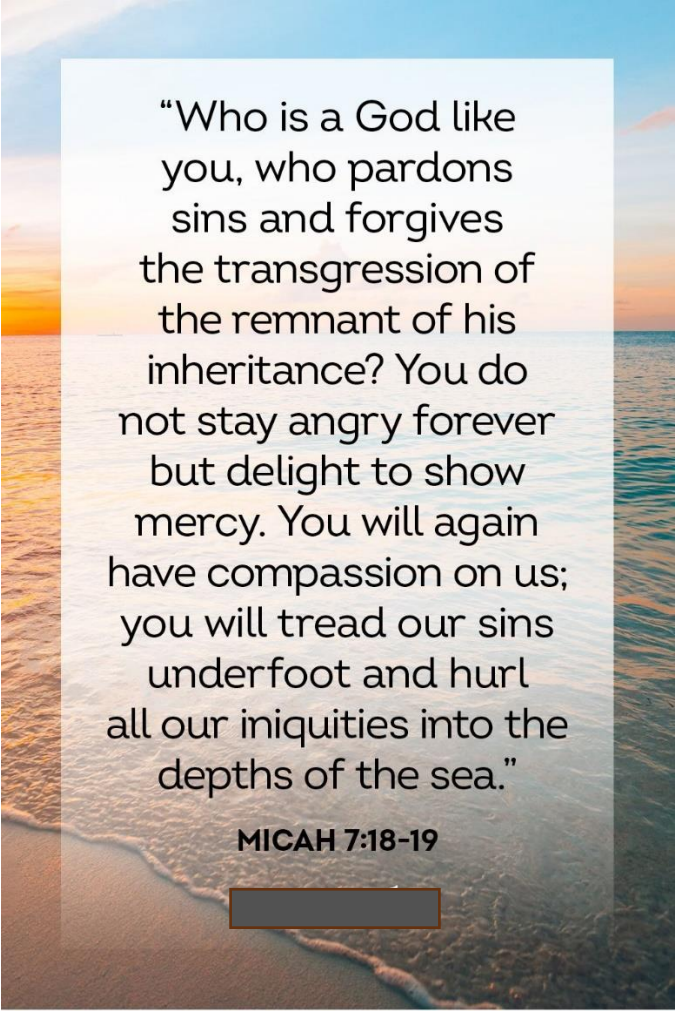
David had already seen what happened when God removed his Spirit from King Saul—it was the beginning of his bitter downfall (1 Samuel 15-19). David wrote this psalm of repentance after he committed adultery with Bathsheba and then arranged for her husband's death (2 Samuel 11-12). On the surface, David's sins were far worse than Saul's. Why did God forgive David and offer him restoration? David was humble and broken about his sin. He admitted it and asked for God's help and forgiveness. If we try to hide or deny our sins, we are in grave danger of judgment. But if we are sensitive to our sins and humbly seek God's forgiveness, there is hope for us, no matter how great our past sins. God will remove any taint of guilt and restore our joy.

God's Power of Deliverance

We can count on the fact that God is all-powerful, and he always chooses to act at the best possible time. God is sovereign over every situation. The psalmists testify repeatedly that God is able to overcome the despair and pain in life and that he is always in control. This kind of faith didn't come easily to them. They struggled with this truth, often questioning God's presence in their lives, just as we do. But in the end, their questions were always replaced by praises that affirmed the fact of God's powerful presence.

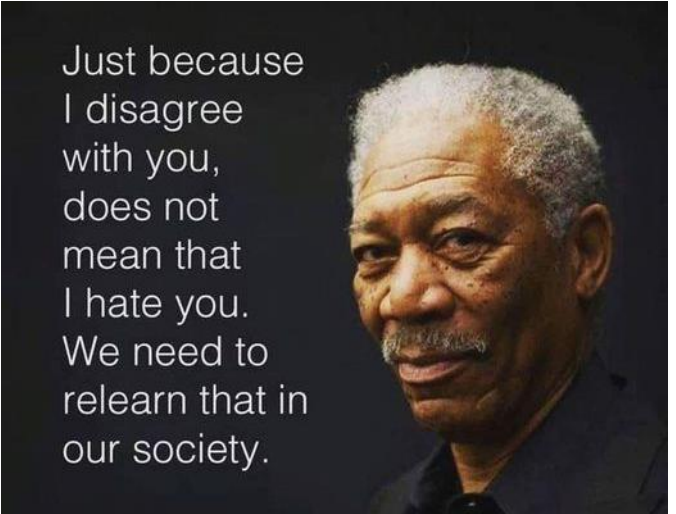
The Necessity of Forgiveness

Many of the psalms are intense prayers asking God for forgiveness. What the psalmists discovered was that they could be open and honest before God about their failures, emotions, and weaknesses, because God had promised to forgive them. As we experience God's forgiveness, we move away from our dependencies and feelings of alienation and guilt and into an intimate and loving relationship with God. God's antidote to our past failures—no matter how terrible our sins—is always forgiveness!



“Who is a God like
you, who pardons
sins and forgives
the transgression of
the remnant of his
inheritance? You do
not stay angry forever
but delight to show
mercy. You will again
have compassion on us;
you will tread our sins
underfoot and hurl
all our iniquities into the
depths of the sea.”

MICAH 7:18-19



Just because
I disagree
with you,
does not
mean that
I hate you.
We need to
relearn that in
our society.