

manded to pray for all that be in authority. (No matter what party they represent.)

1 Timothy 2:1 - 4 (KJV) ¹I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; ²For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. ³For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Our nation stands at a very critical point in our history. Every election in the history of our nation has been important. This year is no different. My prayer is that you and I can prayerfully vote for righteous men to make righteous decisions.

Proverbs 29:2 (KJV) ²When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

I believe that God's hand is on America and that we need to seek the Lord. Our actions must be in line with the scriptures, because the scriptures are what move the hand of God. God is not through with America, and the truth is we need to do a better job in our Congress and Whitehouse. Whether our candidates be Democrat or Republican, our values should never change. I encourage you to vote according to principle and allow the Bible to establish that principle.

I believe America's finest hour is yet to come. (Because I believe revival is right around the corner.)

The following verse has been important to me in my Christian walk because I believe it speaks of America. When you look at the landscape of the world, The United States of America and Israel are key players. (So do

not forget that and do not forget your faith at the polls.)

Matthew 21:43 (KJV) ⁴³Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

Arguably, the USA has been a very important Nation in the hands of God to spread the message of Jesus Christ around the world. Whether it be by missionary, printed material, or bibles by groups such as The American Bible Society or The Gideon's International; or by shortwave radio, television, or the internet, The USA has been a leader.

We must rejoice in this opportunity that God has given us to live in this great nation. It is great because of core values being founded on the Judeo-Christian faiths.

By the time you receive this newsletter, there will be less than 30 days until the election. Will you join me in prayer for our nation every day through Election Day?

What a joy and privilege it has been to speak into your life this month through our newsletter. We are going to extend an opportunity for you to sign up others if you would wish for them to receive our newsletter. The forms will be forthcoming.

I hope your October will be Holy Spirit filled and that God would give you the desire of your heart. Remember this: your life is His testimony!

Until next month.....

You are blessed to be a blessing,
Pastor Chris Kirkendall

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Faith Christian Center Connect

Volume 10

October 2008

Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.



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This month I want to focus our attention on the upcoming election. With the economy being on the front of people's mind, and the war against terror taking so much of our man power and money, the stress conditions are high leading up to Election Day: November 4, 2008.

It is important as Christians to understand that we do not stop being American during an election so our opportunities to vote and campaign are our personal choices. Important though is the understanding that we are Christian. As a Christian our conduct is governed first and foremost by the Holy Bible; the Word of God.

Consider the scriptures and thoughts that I will share with you this month as you prayerfully commit to vote for the person that God would have you support.

Psalms 33:12 (KJV) ¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

As you can see from this scripture, God is able to put his blessing on an entire nation. As a nation chooses God, His blessing rest upon that nation and that nation stands tall above all other nations. Stop for a minute and consider the history of America. Time will not allow for me to give a history lesson, but if I may share with you the language on an important document in our history: The Mayflower Compact you will see that pioneers that founded this wonderful nation (history proves there has not been a greater in the history of the world) did so with the thought of having God's blessing reside upon this nation.

The Mayflower Compact:

In the name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the Grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, e&. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia; do by these presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one of another, covenant and com-

What a joy it is to come to you this month of October. As you can tell our publication is a little late this month seeing that we had hurricane Ike to contend with. However most of us have been able to move forward with cleanup and all the other things that follow a hurricane.

We must continue to keep the Texas upper Gulf Coast in our prayers. A lot of devastation took place and the recovery process in these areas is forthcoming and longsuffering. Please hold them in prayer daily. Catastrophic Events is one of our primary prayer focuses here at Faith Christian Cen-

At a Glance

Sunday

Adult Sunday School 9:15am
Youth Sunday School 9:15am
Sunday Service 10:30am

Monday

Session 4 ISOM 6:30pm

Wednesday

Wednesday Service 7:00pm

Thursday

Prayer Meeting 7:00pm

2nd & 4th Thursdays

bine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid; And by Virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame, such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions and Offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the General good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In Witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the eleventh of November, in the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, King James of England, France and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Domini, 1620.

As you can see, the vision for America was set. Unfortunately, humanist who wish to govern themselves into wealth and history books have attempted to rewrite the American history. However, we are smarter than that.

We know that God honors those that honor him. When a person votes, he is voting his deepest core values. Unfortunately our society is trying to go secular and influence our children beginning at a young age in school. Therefore we see morality often compromised and we observe a secular society that votes only for their "rights" and greed usually takes over.

Consider this proverb penned by the wisest man in all the world, King Solomon.

Proverbs 15:27 (KJV) ²⁷He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

That sounds like Congress doesn't it. It is a fact that you can't talk about politics. This topic brings about more hard feelings than I have ever seen. Best friends can be divided over their picks for President.

Please, do not allow this to happen to us as Christians. We are com-

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Doing The Same Old Thing: In A Brand New Way!

Just a Note

Faith Christian Center Worship Department

September has come and gone, and I know for many of us- we are just glad to still be standing. Hurricanes, school and job re-openings, and rebuilding efforts have got us running to and fro; in fact, I am surprised that you have slowed yourself enough to read my article (I am thankful, by the way). I won't be long this month, just wanted to reiterate something from September's article.

September's article talked about giving our "best" to the Lord, and making sure we're not "robbing" Him of what He deserves. (I'm not typing in a condemning tone!). The Lord has proven Himself so faithful, so good to us (especially after minimal damages due to Ike) - why wouldn't we want to give Him our very best, as we enter the House of the Lord?

This month I want to focus in on I Corinthians 10:31 which says, "***Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.***"

Let me paraphrase it for you in JK Version of the Bible: "Doesn't matter what you are doing, you could even be eating, brushing your teeth, attending church services, do your absolute VERY best, as if you were reporting directly to the Lord."

I have taken this Scripture to heart, especially since the beginning of the year when the vision was cast to go from "good to great in 2008". To me, the slogan wasn't a cute little jingle that was a nice way to kick off the New Year. It resonated with who I am, with my spirit man.

Genesis 4: 2a-7a: "Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well,

will you not be accepted?"

What was the difference between Cain and Abel's offerings to the Lord? Was it that the Lord just liked Abel more than Cain? No.

-Grab your Bible- **Romans 2:11**

Abel's offering was the **absolute best**: the firstborn. Cain's offering was **just mediocre** (and wasn't what God originally required: a blood sacrifice- a whole different newsletter article).

Talk about a hard lesson in learning obedience. So it has been my pursuit, personally (as well as, Worship Leader at Faith Christian Center) - to make sure of four things:

1. My offering of worship is what God originally required of me.
2. It is the **absolute BEST** that I can possibly give.
3. The offering of worship at Faith Christian Center is what God originally intended for our church (aka: the vision of our church)
4. It is the **absolute BEST** offering we can possibly give.

Sometimes, it doesn't always work out- It didn't for Abel if you keep reading in Genesis 4. He paid a price for presenting his best to the Lord, but it was worth it.

So this month, I just want to remind you that God is worth the sacrifice- but not just any sacrifice- the best, the first fruits of, not just our money, but our time, our mind, our hearts- our lives.

Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Justin Kirkendall
Worship Pastor
Justin Kirkendall
Worship Pastor

Promises

Do you believe that God can be depended on to honor his promises? Abraham did, Romans 4:20-21. Pastor Chris has preached on this recently and I have really been thinking about the word PROMISE and what it means in our lives. I think all of us rely on the promises of other people in our daily lives. We believe advertisements on TV will work just as the ad suggests or if you order a 4 piece chicken strip meal, that there is really 4 pieces in there-not 3.... Companies promise to stand behind their product with the phrase "satisfaction Guaranteed." Now you can admit to believing some of these promises, maybe not all. If we can believe the promises of a fallible human, how much more can we trust the promises of God, who never fails.

Things have been a little crazy around some of your homes lately. but God is still God. He has not changed and he will take care of you. God's word is absolute truth, so what he says is the way it is, the way it goes and that is that!!! If we are a child of the most High God, should we live and work with the same trustworthiness and reliability? Good question, I will answer you..... Yes we should. When we give our word (at school or at home) we need to fulfill it. When we make a commitment we need to honor it. Are we not just so blessed because our God never goes back on his word. Faith Christian Center youth, you are blessed and I encourage you to get into the word and read about the PROMISES of God.

*God Bless,
Jamie Cullen*

Weathering the Storm

The past month has been a trying time for most. We need to keep in prayer those that have still not recovered. Times like these bring questions. Did God promise a carefree life?

John 16:33 (New International Version) 33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Jesus didn't promise us an easy life, but gave us hope, that through him we can overcome. Paul had a peculiar statement that when he was weak, that he was strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (New International Version) 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast

all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

It takes a storm like Ike to show us how well our houses are built. We never really know until the houses are tried. Does a 100 mph wind rip it apart? Does a small tree cut it in half? The siding on the outside of a home can make it look brand new and well built, but we don't really know until the siding is blown off and we see if the house is still standing straight. Jesus told us about well built houses.

Luke 6:47-49 (New International Version) 47 I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. 49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

Jesus didn't say that if we built our house on the rock, that storms wouldn't come. He said that our houses would weather the storm. We don't really know how pure gold is until it is melted down and the impurities rise. When we are tried, that is when we find out what we are made of. When Ike struck, where did we turn for comfort? Was FEMA our first call, or did we get on our knees, thank Jesus, and ask him to get us through the storm? When you haven't slept for many hours, you don't have air conditioning, there's a long line for gas, and someone cuts in line, that's when we see how well our house is built.

Here's the good news in the storm. Even if your spiritual house was torn down by the storm, this allows us to start fresh and lay a good foundation of Jesus Christ. If we just re-roof a house that was built poorly, it can still blow down in the next storm, but if we build a new strong foundation, it will weather the next storm.

Now for those that feel that you lost a lot of physical possessions during the storm. A hurricane, fire, or any other disaster cannot take anything away from you. We don't own anything. We are just stewards of what God has given us. We don't own it. God gives us the ability to make wealth, but it is still what God has given us. All this is temporary anyway. I haven't seen any u-hauls behind any hearses lately. Be of good cheer, Jesus has overcome the world and goes to prepare a place for us! I think it will be better than a FEMA trailer.

*In Christ
Brian Neumann*