



Forest Hills EFC
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
Loves Park, IL 61111

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROCKFORD, IL
PERMIT NO. 52

March Newsletter

Forest Hills EFC Calendar

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 AWANA/FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-8 6:30 pm Bible Study	2	3	4 8:00 am Men Pray
5 Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	6 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm CE MTG	7	8 AWANA/FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-8 6:30 pm Bible Study	9 11:30 am Elders MTG	10	11 8:00 am Men Pray
12 Daylight Saving Time starts 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	13 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	14 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	15 AWANA/FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-8 6:30 pm Bible Study	16 7:00 pm Council MTG	17	18 8:00 am Men Pray
19 8:00 am Child Evangelism Fellowship - Glenda Dukey - Missions Moment 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	20 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	21	22 AWANA/FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-8 6:30 pm Bible Study	23	24	25 8:00 am Men Pray
26 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	27 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	28	29 AWANA Awards Night AWANA/FAMILY NIGHT 5:45-8 6:30 pm Bible Study	30 12:00 pm Goldenagers	31	



**March
2017**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
Loves Park, IL 61111**

WWW.FHEFC.ORG

Email: office@fhefc.org

Phone: 815-877-1919



If we have missed your birthday or someone else's, please contact the office to inform us.

March 1	Wendy Boehme Larissa Lownsdale
March 3	Jon Leinbaugh Lavon Rowell
March 9	Betty Bouma
March 13	Sandra Hanson Arletta Locascio
March 16	Debbie Gangel
March 18	Peggy Clow
March 19	Becky Stubbs
March 21	Amanda Evans
March 24	Kira Sayler
March 26	Marie Lane
March 29	David Tregay
March 30	Emily Meyerdirk Charles Vertin
March 31	Lori Morse

Do You See God's Broken Heart

by Betty Burnell

We are always quick to see and point out the famous verse ... "Let he who has not sinned cast the first stone." John 8:7

But do we ever read on and remember what Jesus says to the one who was caught red handed in the sin. He specifically says to her ... "Go and sin no more." John 8:11

Jesus wants to incorporate change in us ... He isn't satisfied with us staying in our miserable state of habitual sin ... He wants us to love Him so much for His gracious patience and mercy that we no longer want to break His heart and make Him cry which we do every time we directly disobey His commands. So we ask God to change us from the inside out. Painful process ...yes ... but worth it ... Heck yea!!! And in the process, we are always dealing with the same gracious, merciful, patient God. He sees our hearts ... He knows whether you truly grieve over your sinfulness or just have a flippant Jesus will forgive me anyways attitude.

For all the torturous stripes Jesus bore for us before being placed on the cross proven to be one of the most painful deaths possible ... Don't we owe Him more than a half a** try at staying away from sin.

James 4:17 "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them."

Every time we know the right thing to do and then proceed with our wrong way agenda ... we break God's heart and it's like putting Jesus on that cross over and over again. Its like slapping HIM in the face and saying "thanks for the forgiveness" and by the way I don't plan to do any better the next time either. If you could only see the Saviors heart ... If you could see Him crying rivers of tears on your behalf. If you could only see how much He loves and cares for you. You will never know anyone who will care more. He died, so you could have a chance to live decent on earth and gain entry to heaven upon death.

Don't we owe our incredible Savior the effort towards living how He would want us to live? Better to give it your all and fail than to give up and never try at all.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Morning

9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:25 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesdays

5:45-6:15 p.m. Meal
6:30 - 8:00 AWANA
6:30 Adult Bible Study

The Fear of the Lord

As we have been studying the Book of Judges, I have had a renewed sense of the importance of understanding what it means to fear the Lord. So many want to explain away what this means, but Gideon has helped me remember that there are legitimate reasons to fear the Lord. The primary one being God is Holy.

We are too prone to explain away the hard truths of God and the Gospel resulting in a watered down Gospel and meaning for our lives. When we remember God's Holiness, it reminds us there is a healthy fear that when rightly assigned and worked out makes our lives better not worse. God's Holiness is a description of how He is perfect, sinless, righteous, just and worthy of our worship. I like R.C. Sproul's contention that God's Holiness is the overarching characteristic of God that defines and governs all His other attributes.

Because God is Holy, He is perfectly just and righteous in all He does. Because God is Holy, no man can see His face and live (Exodus 33:20). In your Bible reading, take note how everyone reacts when they encounter God or one of His angels. Note Gideon's words and the Lord's reassurance after the Angel of the Lord speaks to him:

²² When Gideon saw that he was the angel of the LORD, he said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." ²³ The LORD said to him, "Peace to you, do not fear; you shall not die." Judges 6:22-23

The good news is when we fear the Lord as we ought, it frees us from fear of men. This was Jesus' point in encouraging His disciples not to fear men or what they can do to them.

²⁶ "Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷ "What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. ²⁸ "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:26-28

There are numerous admonitions in the Scriptures about the value of fearing the Lord. Here is a list of the benefits of fearing the Lord just from the Psalms:

Psalm 19:9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.

Psalm 22:23 You who fear the LORD, praise Him; All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel.

Psalm 25:14 The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.

Psalm 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?

Psalm 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

Psalm 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope for His lovingkindness,

Psalm 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, And rescues them.

Psalm 34:11 Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Psalm 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear And will trust in the LORD.

Psalm 102:15 So the nations will fear the name of the LORD And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

Psalm 103:17 But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children,

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*; His praise endures forever.

It might be good for us to rediscover a healthy fear of the Lord. How might this change our attitudes not only towards God but one another?

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch

Contacting Pastor Mitch

Call or Text
(815) 391-3133

Email: mitch@mitchss.com

Blog: IHGG.NET