

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

March, 2019

The Transforming Righteousness in Christ

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Do you ever talk to yourself? I think I'm fairly safe in saying most people do. It's when you answer yourself they say it can be risky (and according to Nelson, when you start to argue with yourself it's dangerous.)

Well, I'm having an ongoing conversation with myself as I'm writing this article that I want to share with you. It started with me asking myself, is being righteous or having righteousness, one in the same? As I thought about it and started to answer myself, I decided to look up their meaning and how they related to each other. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary **righteousness is a noun** meaning "the quality of being morally right or justifiable" while **righteous is an adjective** meaning, "acting in accord with divine or moral law, free from guilt or sin". Remembering back to my elementary school days I learned a noun is a word (other than a pronoun) used to identify any person, place, or thing, while an adjective is a word related to a noun to modify or describe it. I have come to this conclusion, that they are not the same, yet they are very much connected.

Righteousness was and is a gift of God, given to all of us who believe, through Jesus Christ that day at Calvary when He died on the cross for all, and giving us the gift of salvation. In Romans 5:16-17 (NIV), it states, ¹⁶*Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.* ¹⁷*For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace*

and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!"

Another Scripture that came to my mind, when thinking about righteousness, is what Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:20-21(KJV), ²⁰*Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.* ²¹*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

Stay with me now in this conversation, as this is where my mind is really starting to roll. In thinking about **Righteousness** being a noun, "a gift from God," and the text in 2 Corinthians, "that we might be the righteousness of God in Him," I went back to the definition as given, "the quality of being morally right or justifiable". This leads me to thinking about the quality of God. We all know what quality means, "it's the standard of something as measured against other thing(s) of a similar kind; the degree of excellence of something." So now you might know where my mind is going... Genesis 1:26 (KJV) ²⁶*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." So, I say to myself, God and sin cannot co-exist, therefore, sin cannot co-exist in our lives.*

The Scripture says in Romans 3:21-24, ²¹*But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.* ²²*This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,* ²³*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,* ²⁴*and all are justified freely by his*

(Continued on next page)

grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

⁹1 John 1:9 (NIV) *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

But how do we live without sin, so many ask? Through the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives that Jesus spoke about in John 14. Invite the Holy Spirit into your life, to live within you, to guide you every day in every step of your life in a godly manner, and not in the ways of the world.

Some people think righteous living has more to do with behavioral modification than that of a heart and mind transformation. They're wrong; it's the other way around. Romans 12:2 (NIV) *“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”* When your heart and mind has been transformed through Christ, then you will begin to have a transformed behavior.

So I have talked about what righteousness is and how we get it. So now the question that comes to my mind is, how can we pursue righteousness? To pursue righteousness means to turn to Christ and His perfect and righteous ways. Through obedience in His ways, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, God is preparing us for eternal life with Him—aligning us with God's righteousness through Christ. We can rest in the fact that God sovereignly works everything for the good of His people, including restoring us through the righteousness of His Son. Our righteousness began in Christ and is completed in Christ. Follow Him and pursue righteousness daily.

In closing, I decided to do a search in the Word for all

the Scriptures that have the word **righteousness** in them. I came up with 213 passages; here are few of the many insights about God's righteousness from His Word that spoke to me. I'm leaving this conversation now to let God's Word speak to you.

Righteousness is to be sought

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) ¹³*“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

Righteousness is taught

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV) ¹⁴*“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

Righteousness comes by faith

Romans 1:16-18 (NIV) ¹⁶*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”*

Righteousness comes by the Spirit

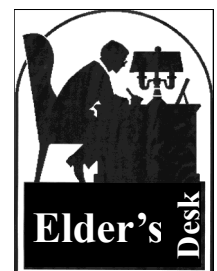
Ephesians 5:8-9 (KJV) ⁸*“For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: ⁹(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)”*

Righteousness has blessings

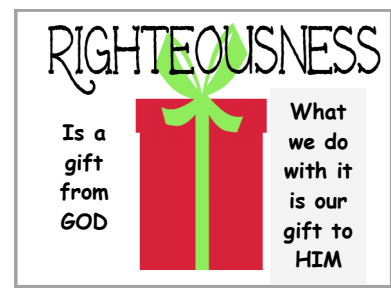
Matthew 5:6,10 (NIV) ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ¹⁰*“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

In His service,
Phyllis Clark

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23:3



Connect	Published by: Sunny Place Church of God 901 E Oak St, Addison IL 60101 Church Office (630) 530-1830 Editor: Lynn Drury
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TLC

Together Loving Christ

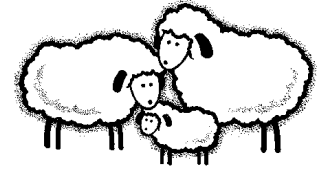
Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

Join with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

Grow in the Word!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Kid's Rock available
for children ages five to nine
Nursery Services Provided



2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon

Saturday, March 9th, 11:30 am
Sunny Place Church

Come be our guest for food,
great speakers and activities.
Free event for Seniors 55 & up.
Register now at 630/398-2314.

Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Elders Minutes of Meeting held February 6, 2019

Attended by Pastor Pete Weber, Phyllis Clark, Tim Kasza, Ted Gehman, Glenda Kasza, Sam Jacob, and Nona Koivula

Prayer and Devotion “To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder. Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers – not because you must, because you are willing as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.” 1 Peter 5:1a, 2-4

Election of Officers: Sam Jacob, president, Tim Kasza, vice president, Nona Koivula, secretary.

Ministry Team Assignments: Nona was assigned the elder with Worship and Prayer; Tim Kasza with Christian Education & Fellowship, Ted Gehman with Stewardship & Support, Sam Jacob with Pastoral Care & Encouragement, Phyllis Clark with Outreach & Missions.

Ministry Reports

Treasurer: Budgeted Bank Balance \$612.42 Giving for January \$6,220 Expenses for January \$11,864.18 Glenda is researching an economical method for credit card tithes and offerings.

Worship & Prayer: Effie has planned a Worship Service Hymn sing upon request on Feb. 24. There will be a ministry team meeting Sunday, March 3.

Christian Education & Fellowship: There is a need for people to volunteer to serve in the nursery when we have infants at church. Please see Carla to volunteer.

Pastoral Care & Encouragement : Cards and flowers are being sent to our congregation. Sam reported that there are more counseling needs than the usual number. :

Missions, Outreach & Evangelism: Senior luncheons are attracting more seniors from the community. There were 60 guests and volunteers at the last luncheon. Phyllis is researching the opportunity for Laundry Love in our community.

Stewardship & Support Services: There will be a workday at church on Saturday Feb. 23.

New and Old Business

- 360 Leadership Conference, Sat. April 13, at Life Builders Church in Decatur.
- Elders Retreat Saturday, March 30th

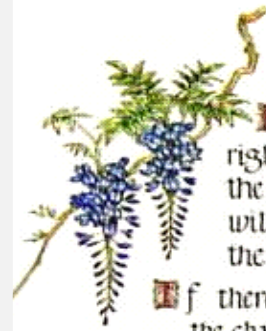
Next Elders meeting: March 6th



Kid's

Connection

RIGHTEOUSNESS



If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character.

If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation.

When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

Chinese Proverb



Sunny Place Sewing Sisters

Saturday, March 23rd, 9am to 1pm
Creating diapers for children In Nicaragua
for the NICE Foundation



After coffee and bagels, we'll dive into creating 20 inch x 20 inch flannel diapers for infant's mothers. Please bring flannel if you wish. Sewing machines are available.

We'll sing and make joyous music unto the Lord.

Please let Nona know your Plans to participate.



Experience Asia this Spring

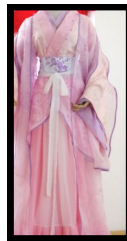
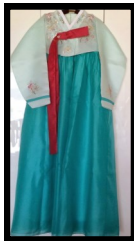
Explore the Far East

Saturday, April 27th, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

In celebration of the 9th Anniversary of the Women's Fellowship



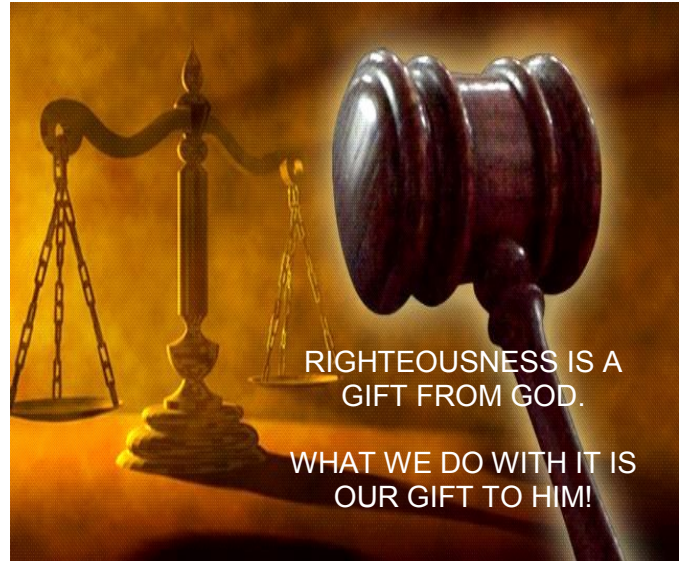
Wear your favorite Asian dress or costume.
Create your much loved Asian food, and share it
With Your Sunny Place sisters. Add this to your
April Calendar. The Sowell family will hostess.





**Family Game Day
at the Church
And Pot Luck Lunch
Sunday, March 31st
12:30 p.m.**

Please join us for an afternoon of fun,
good food and fellowship.
Please bring your favorite game and a
dish to share.



RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A
GIFT FROM GOD.

WHAT WE DO WITH IT IS
OUR GIFT TO HIM!

**Afternoon of Prayer
Light Lunch following
Sunday, March 17th
12:30 p.m.
at Sunny Place Church**


Sunday School Line-Up
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Adult
Bible
Study

**“Disciplemaker’s
Living Guide”**

Part II of teaching on
discipleship,
Starting the 2nd
Sunday in January

Led by
Pastor Pete



Children’s Classes

Led by Carla Weber

Nursery services are provided

**Thursday Evenings
7:00 p.m.
at Sunny Place**







**“Power to be
Witnesses”**

A Bible Study
Through Luke’s letter of
the Book of Acts

Led by Pastor Pete



March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3  Holy Communion Worship & Prayer Meeting after Service at Sunny Place	4	5	6 Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	7 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	8	9 2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Sunny Place
10  SET YOUR CLOCKS Ahead! Missions, Outreach & Evangelism Meeting 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	11	12	13	14 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	15	16
17  Afternoon of Prayer, Light lunch following 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	18	19	20  1st Day of Spring	21 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	22	23 Sewing for the NICE Foundation 9-1:00 p.m. at Sunny Place
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Family Game Day After Service at Sunny Place				Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place		Elder's Retreat at Cantigny 9-5:00 p.m.