

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

July, 2019

Cleansing! Needed for Eternal Life

CLEANSING

Merriam Webster states that “cleansing” means: to rid of impurities, remove toxins from the body, to make someone or something clean. Isn’t that what God wants for us? I know this is what God wants for us. That’s why there are so many Bible verses discussing the heart, because God’s word is clear that the condition of your heart is critical in our walk with the Lord. The 1st verse that comes to my mind is Psalm 24:3-4, “Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart.” Psalm 119:1 says, “Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.” Oh and this one from Matthew 23:25-27, “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside will also be clean. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean.”

I know I could go on and on, with verse after verse, so I would like to share some thoughts of my own. When I first started to write this article, about two months ago, I thought of something that happened with me when I was much younger; and in my mind I think it relates to this article, and what is really meant by our cleansing.

Have you ever tasted spoiled milk? Well..... I did and it’s not good. I didn’t know it had expired, and I started to drink it, but I knew at that first sip that it was bad. So I did the only logical thing that a young lazy kid would do. I put it back in the fridge and drank from the new gallon of milk that was

not expired. I told my mom about the spoiled milk and she said she would take care of it. Now, there wasn’t much left in that gallon of spoiled milk, but there was some. I don’t remember if it was the next day, or the day after, I had poured some milk on my cereal from that new gallon, and guess what it tasted like? Yep, you got it!! Spoiled milk. “Ma why does this milk taste spoiled,” I asked. She told me, “we can’t afford to be wasting food,” so she poured the little bit of spoiled milk into the gallon of good milk. So just that little bit of spoiled milk, mixed in with the almost full gallon of new milk, spoiled it.

That’s how I feel about Cleansing; just a small amount of anything unclean or impure will mix with all that is good, clean and pure, and it can spoil all of it. What would be the point of cleansing if we are just going to get dirty again? In my mind that would be like giving a pig a bath and expecting it to stay clean. We have to stay cleansed so we can be like that church in Ephesus, “Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.”

Ephesians 5:25b-27

Having to write this article made me think about my own cleansing and the reason for doing it. I didn’t think I was a bad person, but (and there is always a but) after coming to this church and hearing the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth (my little sense of humor), I felt something inside when the pastor had asked if anyone was interested in being baptized. He said to let him know because there were a few others interested. So I thought about it and let the pastor know that I wanted to be baptized also. Well as

(Continued on next page)

the time drew closer, and the pastor had told us about the verses we should look at for a good understanding and the true reason for doing it, I kept getting things in my head that were telling me what I had to change, because if I didn't, then the baptism would just be nothing more than a dunking in some water with no reason for it.

Now, I would love to tell you that as soon as I came up out of the water, a dove came down and a voice said, "this is my child whom I love and am well pleased," but there were a lot of witnesses that had seen the whole thing, and would know that I was lying; and I am pretty sure there is a lot of Scripture that tells us not to lie. Anyway, after that day, I know the Holy Spirit has been with me, because I still get that voice that tells me what to do, and how to do it the right way. I don't look at cleansing as a one and done thing. This is an ongoing thing that should be happening 24-7.

Every day, I ask the Holy Spirit to be with me, and guide me throughout the day, to do what is right for His purpose, and His will to keep me clean, so I can continue to do His work. Now I can tell you this, there are times when He tells me, "You shouldn't have done that," or "You shouldn't have said that." And I must say, I am grateful to hear this, so I can continue to do the right things. And it also tells me He is still cleansing me. I know I am not very good at explaining things, but I think you get my point, which is, we all need to be cleansed and to stay clean. John wrote in 1 John 3:9, "No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them: they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God."

Whenever I write an article, I try to read as much Scripture as I can about the topic, so I might get inspired and be able to write something. As I was searching and reading, I started to feel overwhelmed, because there is

so much Scripture that relates to cleansing. I felt like I read half of the Bible in a couple of months and there was still a lot more, because one thing lead to another, and then another. Where will it stop; when will it end? IT DOESN'T!! It's like the never ending story, all about cleansing. So I would like to leave you with a few Scriptures that stood out to me:

It is God's will that you should be sanctified. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 4:3, 7-8

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:3-7

I have one more that I thought would end this well:

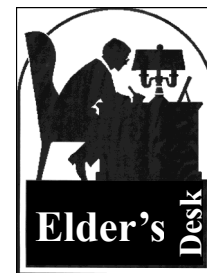
May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

No Cleansing. No Eternal Life!
Know Cleansing. Know Eternal Life!

Your humble servant in Christ,

Ted Gehman



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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?

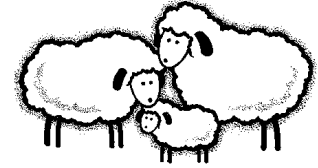
Join with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

Grow in the Word!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Kid's Rock available
for children ages five to nine

Nursery Services Provided



Fun for Seniors

2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon

Saturday, July 13th, 11:30 a.m.

at 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 June 5, 2019

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

Prayer and Devotion: “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us; He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love; not that we loved God, but that he love us and sent his Son into the world as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friend, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us”... “And so we know and rely on the love God as for us. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, “I love God” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother” 1 John 4:7-12, 16-21

Ministry Reports

Treasurer: Budgeted Bank Balance \$1,429.38 Giving for May \$7,750 Expenses for May \$8,089.13

Worship & Prayer: There was a meeting held May 19. Ministry leader Effie welcomed new people to the Worship team. Several improvements were discussed such as a new drum and cymbal set, a shield to surround the drum set and use of ear monitors for vocalists and instrumentalists. The expenses for these items were compared to the budget and it appears there is sufficient money in budget to purchase these items to improve the worship service.

Christian Education & Fellowship: Pastor Pete reported that the Adult Education class on Sunday mornings will be studying the book, The Peacemaker, by Ken Sande, author. The Fellowship ministry plans a BBQ on Sunday, June 23 following the Sweet Hour of Prayer.

Pastoral Care & Encouragement: To assist Eva, Glenda and Laura will be helping with the Encouragement Ministry. Sam said that pastoral care continues.

Outreach & Missions: Phyllis reported that Missions Festival was successful. There are 7 people planning to volunteer at the NICE Foundation in Highland IL June 9 to 12. She reported the trip to Hope Hill has been cancelled due to the change in their program; the residential program has been suspended. Our Living Link Missionaries Steven and Peggy Beverly will present an “On Mission for God” conference at our church Saturday, Aug. 24. Other Churches of God in the region will be invited.

Stewardship & Support Services: Volunteers are needed for the next workday at church on June 22. People can meet at 9am and stay as long as possible. There is always work to be done. Tim reminded us of the Work Camp August 1, 2 and 3. He said volunteers will be needed for all three days.

New and Old Business

- The NAC and General Assembly for Church of God will be held in Orlando FL June 27 to 30. Pastor Pete and Carla will depart June 24 and return July 1.
- Sam Jacob will attend also. John Gryparis will deliver the sermon on Sunday, June 30.

The next Elders Meeting will be July 10, 2019



Kid's

Connection

Cleansing

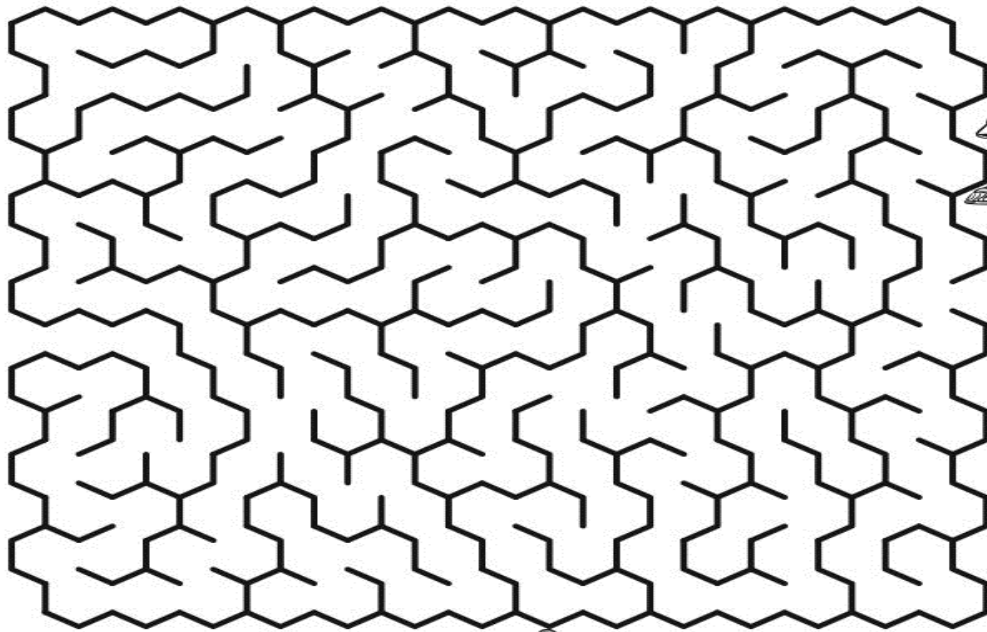
JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

Help Jesus cleanse the temple.



FINISH

START



Save The Dates!!!

**Sunny Place Church of God
Invites you to the OMG Conference
(On Mission for God)
With the Beverlys
Missionaries to Sri Lanka
Saturday, August 24th, 8am - 4pm
at Sunny Place Church**



Church Work Camp

Thursday, Friday and Saturday
August 1st, 2nd and 3rd

We're inviting * Y O U *





Fourth Fest

Thursday, July 4th
2:00 p.m. at Pastor Weber's home

Please bring a small dish to share.
Invite family and friends.
All are welcome!



Afternoon of Prayer

Sunday, July 21st
Immediately after Worship Service

Light Lunch Following
at 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School Line-Up

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

“The Peacemaker”

Adult
Bible
Study

Learn to apply the
peacemaking principles
of God's Word.

Led by
Pastor Pete



Children's Classes

Led by Carla Weber

Nursery services are provided

Thursday Evenings

7:00 p.m.
at Sunny Place



“The Lessons of the Kings”

A Study of the four books of
the Kings.

Led by Pastor Pete



July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4  Fourth Fest @ Pastor Pete's 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Home	5	6
7  Holy Communion	8	9	10 Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	11 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	12	13 2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Sunny Place
14 Missions, Outreach & Evangelism Meeting after Worship Service	15	16	17	18 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	19	20
21 Afternoon of Prayer, Light Lunch following after Worship Service	22	23	24	25 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	26  Fish Fry Night Out 6:30 p.m. Elgin	27
28	29	30	31 			