



LET'S VISIT

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BELIEVING IN OURSELVES

In John chapter 10, Jesus is telling us that he is the Good Shepherd. In the middle of that lesson, he says that he has come that we might have life and have it more abundantly. If we are going to live life abundantly, we must believe in God, but we must also believe in ourselves.

In our world there are so many who are filled with self-doubt. But Jesus wants us to believe in ourselves. Often you find Jesus expressing belief in those he met. One day a sinful woman stood in the presence of Jesus. She had been brought there for condemnation. He spoke words of encouragement to her, not condemnation. He said, "Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more." You can read the story in John chapter 8. Jesus said, "No matter what your past has been, I still believe in you."

Reading the gospels, we are impressed by Jesus' belief in people. We come away impressed with his willingness to trust them.. Over and over He lifted people to a new sense of self-respect. He raised them to new heights of believing in themselves. Remember, Jesus told that worried Father that all things are possible to him that believes. That truth applies to any person in any situation. William James is recognized as the father of American psychology. He put it this way: *"In any project the one important factor is your belief. Without belief there can be no successful outcome. That is fundamental."*

We must visualize ourselves as succeeding. Do you believe in yourself? If not, then you have a serious handicap to overcome. However, you can learn to believe in yourself. Create a mental picture of yourself as succeeding. There is an old story of an outcast beggar. He was sitting across the street from an artist's studio. The artist saw him and quickly began to paint his portrait. When he finished, he

called the beggar over to look at it. The beggar at first did not recognize himself. He kept asking who it was and the artist just smiled. He kept looking at the portrait. At last, recognition began to dawn. He asked, "Is that me, can it be me?" The artist replied, that is the man I see in you." Then the beggar made a wonderful reply, "if that is the man you see, that is the man I will be."

Sooner or later, we become the person we see ourselves to be. If you develop faith in yourself, eventually your faith will recreate you. If your mind is obsessed by thoughts of insecurity and inadequacy, it is because you have allowed these thoughts to dominate your thinking over a period of time.

You must be willing to be yourself. One of the quickest ways to depreciate yourself is to become awestruck by other people and try to copy them. We can be ourselves better than we can be anybody else. When we try to be somebody else, we end up frustrated and defeated. Within each of us is a finer person waiting to be set free. You and I do not need to be someone else. We just need to be all that God made us to be.

We must have a right relationship with God. This is the most important part of living the abundant life and believing in ourselves. An English scientist once said that everywhere in England, deep within the soil were the seeds of tropical plants. He said they had

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In Search of the Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSHV 45 -Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There

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*We Must
Invite Them
To Come*

For The Pantry. . .

May 31 – Ramen Noodles



**May 24, 2026
\$ 2,300.00**

The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"

Believing In Ourselves – Continued from page 1

laid there dormant for years. They were waiting for just one thing, the proper climate.

If the climate of England were changed into a tropical climate, those seeds would spring up into lush foliage. When certain Egyptian tombs were opened, wheat was discovered in them.. These were ancient tombs. For thousands of years, the wheat had remained in the dry darkness of these tombs. When it was brought out and planted, it grew. All it needed was to be put into a proper relationship with the earth, the air and the sun.

When we come into a right relationship with God, then we flourish, blossom and grow. Remember what Paul said in Philippians 4:13? He wrote, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me". Repeat those words over and over. Let those words become fixed in your mind. Let them be so fixed that doubts and fears are driven out.

There is another passage from Paul to remember. This is in Romans 8:31. He wrote there, "If God be for us, who can be against us". Nothing can defeat us when God is within us. Believe in God. Believe in yourself. Then, life can be abundant.

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On The Lighter Side. . .



A Settin' Hen

A settin' hen is miserable. She goes around with her feathers ruffled. Her disposition is reflected by her grumpy "cluck-cluck". She doesn't want to be bothered. She just sets all day long. If you bother her she just pecks you. This makes a "settin' hen" miserable. The cause of her misery is simple. It can be explained in two words – no production. You see, a "settin' hen" never lays.

Unproductive Christians are also miserable. To them, service is a duty, and going to worship is drudgery. Their unhappiness is reflected in their complaining. Their misery is shown in their excuses. Too often they don't know that the cause of their misery is their own lack of productivity. They are doing so little that they have lost their enthusiasm for the work.

Have you found Christian service a burden? Don't lay the blame on others, but take a look at yourself. The joy of service is only for those who are serving. The joy of Bible Study and Worship is for those who attend and help in those activities.

-Merle Bryant (1972)



Friends and Family Day

Sunday June 7, 2026

Make your plans to be here and invite your friends and family to come and join us!



Covered Dish Lunch

Following the morning worship!

Hospitality group 3 will be in charge of this luncheon. The members of this group are: LaJuan Baugh, Sheri Burgay, Liela Klein, Lieza Klein, Tiffanne Klein, Trish Lout and Brittany Ortiz.



We had an enjoyable time of fellowship this past Wednesday night in sharing a meal together and then spending the time singing. Plan to join us for the next one!

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Leslie Adams (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; Peggy Baylor (Tim Bradshaw's mother) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Pat & William Ford (cousins to Martha Bradshaw) Dot Grant (Friend of Debra Pate) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Albert Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's father) Karen McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher) Doug "Goob" Milford (cousin of Amanda Molloy) Gene Perkins (Tim Perkins aunt) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; Stephen Wiggins (preacher at San Augustine) Max Windham (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026

- September 13, 2026 – "Back To Church Sunday"
- December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
- December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

Communion Preparation - June
Manny & Brittany Ortiz



Across The Preacher's Desk

Turn on the television, read the news reports and you will know that we are living in perilous times. To be sure, our world seems to be in a constant state of strife and conflict. There is strife between nations, there is strife in our own nation, there is strife between families. It exists, it is a reality. It seems that our world is a world in chaos. We live in a constant state of frustration and hustle and bustle.

It seems that in a world like ours, the words of the Psalmist are sane advice. He writes, "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10). Perhaps our problem is that we do not take that advice. The chaotic state of the world is largely the result of men and women wanting to do things their way instead of doing things God's way. We are often quick to place the blame on God for our misfortunes, when, most if not all of them are due to the abuse of our God-given faculties.

In a wonderful way, God is able to bring good out of evil, this is the verdict of history. The remedy for a better state of affairs is for the world to turn to God for its inspiration and guidance. Have you ever thought what a transformation there would be in a sorely perplexed and troubled world if we would only allow God to reign in our hearts and lives and direct our thoughts and actions? Stop, take a deep breath, be still and know that God is in control and let him control your life.

it's something to think about.....thp

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
Will you?**