

Morning Worship

January 10, 2016

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Chorus # 224	"Holy Ground"	Tim/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Hymn # 541	"Why Do I Sing About Jesus"	Tim/People
Responsive Reading # 670		Allan/People
Chorus # 215	"Majesty"	Tim/People
Hymn # 3	"Worthy of Worship"	Tim/People
Offering Prayer		John Lewis
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Marcia Hart
Hymn # 210	"My Jesus, I Love Thee"	Tim/People
Anthem	"Praise and Glory Medley"	Worship Choir
Children's Worship		(Children are dismissed)
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message		Allan Lane
Hymn # 309	"Lord, I'm Coming Home"	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Chorus of # 571	"Let Others See Jesus in You"	Tim/People

Make New Commitments

Philippians 3:13-14, Colossians 3:12-17

The New Year is off and running. The Bible offers a way of living in the New Year which could significantly change your life. Let's look at four commitments that God in His Word encourages us to make. By following God's advice, these four commitments could become a gate way to a better life. Commit yourself to ...

1)... Forget your failures .

2000 years ago one the first Christian leaders, Paul gave this advice (Philippians 3:13-14). That advice from God's Word has stood the test of time. God is here among us in order that we not live our lives imprisoned by our past. All of us have failed in some way in our lives over the last year. Probably we won't see our failures recorded for history on television but they are recorded in our hearts and minds. For many of us our failures are painful memories. Maybe for you it is a memory of how you failed in a relationship. You made the wrong decisions, said and did the wrong things and the relationship ended.

God's Word is saying that we must not allow ourselves to be bogged down by our past failures. Dwelling on our past stops us from moving forward into the future that God has for us. The start of a New Year is a good time for you to rise to that challenge. To say to yourself, "I am going to, with help of God, forget my past. I am going to stop torturing myself about what I did or didn't do." This New Year is a good time to stop being chained to your past failures. God is saying here in His Word that he doesn't want you to go through your life branding yourself as a failure.

On the Cross Christ died so that He could forgive. When we become Christians on purpose that forgiveness becomes a reality in our lives. When we have received

Christ's forgiveness it allows us to forgive ourselves and forget our failures. Do you need to do that? Do you need to accept Jesus forgiveness and then forgive yourself?

2)... Give up your grudges .

Listen to these words from the book of Colossians. In them you'll hear the second challenge I believe God wants you to rise to if you want to make 2016 a significant turning point in your life (Colossians 3:13).

Did you catch that challenge? God in those words is challenging you directly and personally to give up your grudges. That is what He means when He says forgive each other whatever grievances you may have against one another.

What's a grudge? A grudge is a deep ongoing resentment that we cultivate in our hearts against someone else. A grudge is an unforgiving spirit that leads to unforgiving attitudes and unforgiving actions. Now I know you know what I am talking about. Harboring a grudge is about nursing a dislike for someone. What you need to know is that grudges are dangerous because they are destructive. Grudges destroy marriages. Grudges break up families. Grudges ruin friendships. Grudges split churches. One of the scandals of the Church is the grudges that some Christians hold against one another. Today if you know you are holding a grudge against someone then God has something to say to you. He says "give it up." Grudges are not just destructive, they are also self-destructive. When you hold a grudge against someone you will hurt yourself as much and perhaps more than you will hurt the person you are holding it against.

Back in 2001 there was a tragic example of just how destructive grudges can be. A man was killed by a parcel bomb. Then within a week a married couple in that area committed suicide. It turned out that the couple who had committed suicide had sent the bomb because of a grudge that the man had against his intended victim that stretched all the way back to school. Ultimately that man's grudge destroyed the lives of him and his wife.

Make no mistake about it, if you keep harboring a grudge then it will eventually destroy you, if not physically, certainly emotionally and spiritually. It will make you a bitter and twisted person (Job 21:25). Do you really want that to be your epitaph?

Remember the parable that Jesus told about the servant who was forgiven a huge debt by the king and then refused to forgive someone else a tiny amount. Jesus said his unforgiving spirit landed him in prison. Max Lucado makes this interesting comment in one his books. He says, "Unforgiving servants always end up in prison - a prison of anger, guilt, and depression."

God Word says don't sentence yourself to prison. Set yourself free. Give up your grudges "forgive each other whatever grievances you may have against one another." According to God's Word the way to give up a grudge is to forgive a grievance.

God isn't asking you to ignore whatever the person has done to you. He isn't asking you to pretend it didn't happen. He doesn't ask you to condone it or to pretend it didn't matter. What God asks you to do is to forgive the grievance. Go ahead and acknowledge how wrong and painful something was but also decide to forgive the person who did the wrong to you.

Perhaps there are people here today who need to give up their grudges and forgive the grievance they have against someone else. Forgive the grievance you have against your parents for what they did or didn't do. Forgive your children for the same reason. Forgive a partner for emotional or physical abuse. Give up the grudge you have against someone at work because of the way they have treated you. Give up the grudge that stems from an argument you had with someone. Give up grudges you have against other people in this congregation.

God says that deep-seated resentment you have against that person has to go. What better time to make that difficult decision to forgive than the start of a new year? Don't go telling God you can't forgive, because what you really mean when you say that is that you won't forgive. If Christ can forgive you your sin despite it involving the pain of the cross then surely you can give up your grievance whatever the cost? The question is will you do it?

3)... Restore your relationships .

On the office computer a little windows pops up that asks to run a check to see if the system is working properly. God in His Word issues a very similar invitation. His invitation is not to check to see if our computer software is working properly but check whether our personal relationships are working properly. The Lord issues that challenge in Romans 12:18. The important phrase there is, as far as it depends on you. God, by using that phrase, is personally challenging each of us to do all we can to restore our relationships. The Lord wants you to do everything you can to restore any relationships that have gone wrong in your life. Some relationships might have gone wrong because of what other people have done and you might well not want that relationship restored. God recognizes that. That is why He starts by saying "If it's possible."

But let's be honest. Some of our relationships have gone wrong because of what we have done. When God's Word says "as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone" it is saying if you have caused a rift in a relationship then you have a responsibility to do everything you can to restore it. Everything includes the one thing we all probably find most difficult, asking for forgiveness.

It is often hardest to say "I am sorry" to the people we are closest to. Many marriages are not all they should be or could be simply because someone won't say "I was wrong, I am sorry, will you forgive me." Perhaps there is someone here today who is married who needs to ask forgiveness from remarks or actions that have wounded our partners over the years.

Maybe God is saying to some of you that now is the right time to restore relationships you have ruined. Sincerely say that you are sorry for those angry words or those selfish and unthoughtful actions.

Keith Drury in one of his books touches on this whole subject of restoring relationships when talking about restitution. This is what he says: "restitution deals with more than property. It is also going back and making things right for hurtful things I've said or done. It's far easier for me to tell you some story than to tell you of the difficult and painful times I've had to ask my wife, my boys, my boss, friends and secretary to forgive me. Restitution is asking forgiveness for harsh words, quick tongue, or cutting remarks. It is asking forgiveness from a brother you hurt, a mother you caused heartache to, or a former spouse which you maligned. Restitution is confessing and seeking forgiveness from an old business partner, neighbor, or roommate. It is admitting my past errors in relationships and humbly seeking forgiveness from the one I've hurt. And it's harder to make personal restitution than property restitution."

Will you rise to that challenge and make a commitment to restore your broken relationships in this New Year?

4)... Turn away from transgressions .

One of the leading confederate generals during the American Civil War was General Pettigrew. After the war was over and the slaves had been set free many slaves decided to stay with their former master and continue to do what they were told. Surprisingly, General Pettigrew was one who tried to persuade the former slaves to

break away and live in freedom. They were set free but they chose to continue living as slaves.

The New Testament says that is exactly how many Christians choose to live. Christ died to set them free, the Holy Spirit has given them the power to be free, but just like those former slaves they still choose to obey their old master, sin (Romans 6:2).

When God says "Do not let sin control the way you live, do not give in to its lustful desires," He is issuing the challenge to turn your back on your transgressions. Christian writers used to talk about something called besetting sins. What they meant by besetting sins were particular sins that an individual Christian was prone to committing time and time again. When we are saved we give up certain sins easily. But there are other sins we commit that we know are wrong yet we are continually tempted to fall back into the old habits. Those are our besetting sins. Many of us end up choosing to give in to our besetting sins and end up living double lives.

Is your spiritual life crippled because you have learned to live with a besetting sin? Do you have a quick temper that you constantly give into? Or a caustic tongue that loves to assassinate other people's characters or wound their feelings? Have you learned to live with that critical judgmental attitude you know is wrong? Is there a sexual sin that you keep on giving in to? Have you been going too far with your boyfriend or girlfriend?

Have you been secretly logging on to pornography sites on the Internet time and time again?

God here in his word challenges you to turn your back on that sin whatever it is. To stop letting it control the way you live. Stop giving in to it. He wants you to stop obeying your old master.

Let's be clear about this: Jesus death broke the power of sin. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to resist sin. That means that you don't have to go into this New Year still being defeated by the same old sin. You can have the victory over it. God says you are no longer a slave to sin so don't live like one or act like one.

Conclusion

It all boils down to this: Will this New Year be just a calendar changing event for you or are you willing to rise to these challenges from God's word and make these commitments and so make it a life changing event?

Are you willing to make these four commitments for 2016? Will you commit yourself to forget your failures? Will you commit yourself to give up your grudges? Will you commit yourself to restore your relationships? Will you commit yourself to turning your back on your transgressions?

Rise to the Challenge!

Attend a Listening Session

After the loss of Bro. Clyde, the leadership of our association felt this was a good time to hear from the people in our association and to express our expectations from the association as well as from a Director of Missions. To me, the listening sessions will do this as well as serve two purposes:

1. An opportunity to define/affirm the association's role in the life of the local church.
2. A vision/sketch of God's person to lead us in fulfilling that role.

How do you view the association and the purpose it plays in the local church? Here is one definition: "An association is a family of churches partnering together to encourage, strengthen, and extend God's work beyond their own fields."

How does being part of St. Joseph Baptist Association benefit our church? Here are six possible ways:

1. Provide opportunities for missions, ministry, growth, and evangelism.

2. Provide fellowship among churches and leaders.
3. Provide leadership training and resources.
4. Provide communication for denominational and community ministries.
5. Provide resources for churches and ministers seeking church staff ministry positions to be filled.
6. Serve as an accountability partner in church life and practice.

So, how is the association doing in these areas? Now is the time to express your concerns while we are without a missionary. Hopefully, we can address some needs and clarify our purpose before a new director is chosen.

What must you do to prepare for these sessions? Prayer is always the best place to start. If you aren't already praying for our association (especially Bro. Paul, Muriel, and Cyndee), add them to your daily prayer list. Include the leadership of our association, including President Greg Dixon as he prepares to guide these listening sessions. Pray for a spirit of unity. Pray for discernment and insight as we share our concerns, ideas, and vision for reaching unbelievers in Northwest Missouri and the uttermost parts of the world.

Commit to attend at least one of these sessions. The one for our region will be Thursday, January 21, 6:30 pm at Green Valley Baptist Church. There will also be a daytime meeting January 25, 10 am at Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church. It is important that your voice is heard. You are the key to Saint Joseph Baptist Association fulfilling the purpose of Matthew 28:18-20 -- "Building UP Great Commission Churches."

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, January 10, 2016

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, January 13

Prayer Warriors..... 10:00 am

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study 6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 14

R Team.....6:30 pm

Financial Statements are Ready

Linda Dotson, our recording secretary, has prepared the financial statements for 2015. If there are any questions let us know. We will be glad to help.

Sunday, January 17, 2016

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Isaac Waters, Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Steven Buckley

Luncheon and—Business Meeting at Noon

No Evening Service.....

Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 19

SJBA Listening Session....6:30 pm FBC Gower

Wednesday, January 20

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 21

Food Pantry Day

SJBA Listening Session....6:30 pm Green Valley

Up-Coming Events.....

January 13 — Prayer Warriors

January 17, 2016 — Collection for Food Pantry

— Fellowship Dinner and Business Meeting

January 18, 2016 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 19 — SJBA Listening Session 6:30 pm FBC Gower

January 21 — Food Pantry at Patee Park Baptist Church

— SJBA Listening Session 6:30 pm Green Valley

January 31 — January Bible Study— 2 Corinthians, at Noon

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

Sunday Nights

We will have Sunday Evening Service here tonight. Watch the weekly schedule to know when we will meet during the month of January.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will meet this Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Prayer matters!

Luncheon and—Business Meeting Sunday, January 17, at Noon

Please plan to attend and fellowship with us as we share a meal and also conduct the business of the church.

Prayer Warriors

Wednesday, January 13 at 10 am

Please join us for this time of
Missions Study and

Intercessory Prayer.

SJBA Listening Sessions

Plan to attend a listening session for the Association. These are helpful in the search for a new Associational Missionary. The one for our region is January 21 at Green Valley Baptist, 6:30 pm.

Happy Birthday!!

Come celebrate—

-Lois Smith's 90th Birthday

-Saturday, January 23, 2016

-2-5pm

**-San Jose Steakhouse
(4015 South Belt Highway)**

Stop by and have cake and visit with Lois.

RSVP—Brenda 816-752-1890

Tammy 816-387-1203

Or Message through Facebook.

Food Pantry

January 17, is our collection day for Patee Park Food Pantry. You may donate monetarily or you may place your canned or boxed goods in the hallway basket any time.

Diversicare Nursing Home

January 24, 2016 at 2:30 pm

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

For the Record

Sunday School.....	50
Visitors.....	6
Total.....	56
Contacts Made.....	2
Morning Worship.....	64
Children's Worship	18
Sunday Night	N/A
Wednesday Night	13

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget..... \$ 2,040.52
Offering Received... \$ 3,119.00

Offering Received by Mail:

Eric and Shelly Thompson

January Counting Team:

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

January Van Driver:

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

January Member Birthdays:

01... Carol Helean
01... Marcia Hart
16... Sue Higgins
19... Juanita Haskins
22....Eric Thompson
24....Aubrey McCamy
25... Gary Higgins
27... Gary Yarbrough
28... Donna Dunn
29... Sharon Waters

January Anniversaries

Allan and Ellen Lane
Married January 2, 1983

Philip and Kelsey Lane
Married January 3, 2009

Prayer Requests ...

Kevin Duty Kenny Duty
Madeline Swink Bobby Griswold
Susan Patten Debbie Sands
Brenda Burgess Judy Anderson
Carolyn Houts Roscoe Lane
Keon McKahan Dorothy Post
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
