

The Connection

07 AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

HOW TO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

WRITTEN BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

“You are the light of the world,” Jesus tells His disciples (Matt 5:14). “Let your light shine before others” (Matt 5:16). This command from our Lord is especially relevant in our dark society. We have been called out of darkness to walk in the light (Eph 5:8). We are to behave differently.

How can we stand out “in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation” (Phil 2:15)? What sets us apart as God’s people? There are, of course, several biblical answers, but the apostle Paul highlights an important way for us to “shine as lights in the world” (Phil 2:15). He commands, “Do all things without grumbling or disputing” (Phil 2:14). This is the way to be “blameless and innocent” (Phil 2:15) in this dark world. Our society is full of complainers with contentious attitudes. Just listen to your coworkers, neighbours, and relatives. You can see their griping on social media too. But this is where Christ’s followers stand in stark contrast. We show the world that we are children of God by refusing to grumble and argue. Our speech is gracious and edifying (Eph 4:29). Paul makes it clear that the command has no exceptions—“Do **all things** without grumbling and disputing.”

So don’t hide your light under a bushel (Matt 5:15) by blending in with the wicked world’s complaining spirit. Show others the difference the Gospel makes by rejoicing always (Phil 4:4) and resting at peace in God’s sovereign control over all things (Phil 4:6-7).

Paul wrote these words in the fourth year of his imprisonment. He certainly understood loss of freedom and unfair treatment. If anyone had an excuse to complain about his situation, it was Paul. But he understood how this sin affected others and brought shame on the name of Christ.

How will you respond this week when things don’t go your way? And what will others learn about you and your faith by observing your reactions?



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM

The main service (including congregational singing) will take place in the auditorium. Overflow will be in the gym (no singing allowed). If you desire to watch the service from your home, please go to the front page of our website and click the link that will join you to our [live service](#) or the [recording of it to follow.](#)

09 AUGUST 2020

- CALL TO WORSHIP
- "I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD"
- PRAYER
- "I WILL PRAISE HIM!"
- "SATISFIED"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- "FILL MY CUP, LORD"
- MESSAGE: "FREEDOM TO BE FLEXIBLE"
ROMANS 14 & 1 CORINTHIANS 8-10
PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "THE PERFECT WISDOM OF OUR GOD"
- PRAYER

PLEASE NOTE:

Beginning next Sunday, August 16, we will resume having two morning worship times, 9:30 or 11 am, to accommodate more people who desire to be in the auditorium. Live stream, for those who are home, and the service in the gym (no singing allowed) will still be available simultaneously.

Also, next Sunday, we will be observing the Lord's Supper. Details for this service will be available in next week's newsletter.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY 7 PM

This service takes place in the auditorium. In addition, you may also participate in a Zoom group that will follow the same format at the same time (Please email kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com for a Zoom invitation). For our Bible study we will discuss the following questions that relate to the Sunday morning sermon:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR 1 CORINTHIANS 8-10

1. How can knowledge work against love and edification? (1 Cor 8:1-3)
2. How can Christian liberty (free conscience) be abused? (1 Cor 8:7-13)
3. How can Christian liberty be used for the sake of the Gospel? (1 Cor 9:19-23)
4. What was Paul's main goal in his interactions with others? (1 Cor 9:19-23; 10:31-33)
5. If an idol is nothing, why was it sinful to eat in an idol's temple? (1 Cor 10:14-22)
6. What personal freedoms might you have forego in order to minister to others?
7. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." In what ways are Christ and Paul examples of putting others first?

SUMMER MINISTRY OF AN MBC COLLEGE STUDENT

This summer, I was privileged to have the opportunity to serve as a counselor with Grandview Camp in the white mountains of Arizona. From the beginning we knew the summer would look different because of Covid-19. Looking back on the four weeks of camp we were privileged to have, we feel incredibly blessed.

As a counselor this summer, I had the opportunity to minister in a number of ways. First of all, before camp even got started, a number of us who arrived early got to work on buildings, including cleaning and painting projects around the camp. After being stuck at home for months, the chance to do some work and invest in the future of the camp was refreshing. Throughout our weeks of program camp, we spent half an hour every morning learning about our identity in Christ as we studied and memorized the book of Colossians. As a group, we talked about what each camper had learned, spent some time in prayer for each other, and dug deeper into the text together. Right before we went to sleep each night, I shared a devotion for the cabin. I really tried to use this time to show them the reality, the power, and the saving grace of Christ in my own life. Throughout the weeks, I had the opportunity to share the gospel with some of the campers during the afternoon free time. These conversations helped remind me of the simplicity of the truths of Scripture, and the power of God to change lives through His Word. As a counselor, I often got to lead a time of reflection and prayer following the evening services. It was exciting to observe the campers and see how God was working in their hearts.

This fall, I plan to return to Faith Baptist Bible College and continue my BA in Pastoral Training. I will have the privilege of serving as a room leader with the guys in the dorm. Furthermore, I plan to continue to serve with the teens at my local church, Ankeny Baptist.

The counselors and staff at Grandview are completely supported by the donations of churches and individuals who believe in the ministry. As a Faith student, working as full time staff at a Christian camp, any donation given to me will be matched by Faith Baptist Bible College. I ask that Meadowlands would keep my campers from this summer, as well as my future studies, and ministry in prayer. I also ask that Meadowlands would prayerfully consider supporting me and the work God has done this summer through the Grandview staff and counselors.



Eric Knustson is a member of Meadowlands and will be returning to Faith Baptist Bible College in Iowa for his third year of studies.

If you would like to support Eric with a tax deductible donation, please mark a giving envelope or an e-transfer clearly for "Eric Knustson."

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Linda Morgan, MBC ladies' retreat (2017) speaker, has terminal cancer. Please pray for her and her family.
- Daniel Robinson's mom has Covid, and is in a care home suffering with dementia.
- Jen Michalycia's grandparents both have Covid.
- Laura Cook's sister, Lee, is going through chemo treatments for breast cancer.
- Nell Popowich is recovering at home.
- Dale Bevan has ongoing health needs.
- Scott Young's mom is ill at Good Samaritan Southgate Care facility.
- Gertrude Ruttich, Gabriele Henze's mom, is at home, being cared for by the Henzes. She is very weak.

DEACON NOMINATIONS END SEPTEMBER 27

CURRENT DEACONS:

Robert Lummerding, Paul Stephens, Anthony Neumann, Chris Lee, Brian Hunter, Manuele Russo, Willem Piennar, Jeffrey Parcon, Jeff McConnell

Nomination forms and ballot box are located in the church foyer on the credenza by the front doors.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC IN MBC GYM SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 9-1

By appointment only. Please visit blood.ca or call 1-888-2 DONATE

Guidelines for in-person gatherings may be found on our website.

Need to contact us?



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Pastor Kevin Williams

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Pastor Mark Richmond

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GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

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