

# Loosening the Grip

by Jerry Ascher

This world is not my home, I'm just a-passing through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.

In recent weeks, I've been reminded of these words to this familiar simple chorus. Our fallen human nature is tempted to think that we have it pretty good in this life, and we certainly do. Perhaps that is the reason we hold onto our possessions and relationships so tightly. We look at the priorities the world places on those things, and we try to emulate its every move. But when adversity comes, it should simply be a reminder of the words found in Hebrews 11 where those saints of old "confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." With each change, the world should lose its allure even more. God uses adversity to prepare us for when we die, even as we continue to live. This is what Paul refers to as "pressing toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." God will help us through all the changes in life as we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of our faith. What our Savior endured to make a way for us to be with Him forever pales in comparison to what we will be called upon to endure in this life. And so, we can stay faithful and hopeful, even when all around us seems to be crumbling to pieces. May God give each of us the grace we need to live for our Savior in faithful obedience to Him until our faith becomes sight and we behold Him just as He is.

And the hope of heaven's glories thrills me so,
Where I'll live with Christ forevermore I know.
That is why the things of earth I loosely hold;
I've eternal riches better far than gold.

John W. Peterson

#### SUNDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 9:30 OR 11 AM

In-person services take place in the auditorium only. The gym will no longer be available for viewing services. <u>Livestream is available.</u>

- "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"
- "I Run to Christ"
- "My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone"
- Prayer
- "By Faith"
- "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"
- Message: "The Mighty Power of God" Exodus 7-10 Pastor Kevin Williams
- "Behold Our God"

#### ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

9:30

Judges: God's Faithfulness to Disobedient People Pastor Jerry | Room 207

11:00

College & Career

Jeff McConnell | Room 221

Young Couples: 20s & 30s

Will Breckenridge | Room 207

Epistle to the Philippians

Manuele Russo | **Gym Foyer** 

## CHILDREN'S/TEEN MINISTRIES

9:30

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

11:00

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

**Ages 4-5** Room 209

Grades 1-2 Room 212

Grades 3-4 Room 211

Grades 5-6 Room 309

Teens Room 308

**06 March**, **4-8 pm** (Sign up by this Sunday!)



- Do you want to learn how to share your faith with others?
- Do you have a passion for evangelism but need help taking the next step?
- Join us to learn how to better communicate the Gospel to others.
- Supper included.

SUNDAY, 06 MARCH, 4-8 PM

# Church Membership Class

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

A basic introduction to the mission and ministries of Meadowlands Baptist
Church and how you can get involved.
Supper included.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board or contact the church office by 27 February.

# MISSIONARY UPDATES



Jeremie & Amy Roy

#### **Committing to Spain**

After much meditation and further conversations, we have decided to commit as missionaries to Spain. Our current plan is to start with a seasoned missionary, who works in church planting and theological education, and do so for one year so as to establish ourselves in the culture and country. This missionary has a profound understanding of the Spanish culture, and we hope to learn (or re-learn for Amy) culture from him. The city where we have been invited to serve for the first year is called Petrer, which is adjoins another city called Elda. This is near where both Amy and I have lived. We plan on joining the local church with that veteran pastor missionary, who also is tent-making, in which I will have teaching and preaching opportunities, and possibly the opportunity to do Bible studies.

We need to raise more support since the cost of living in Spain is higher, and since we also already were under supported. We plan on moving to Spain as soon as possible. We hope that by September or October, we could be in Spain.

#### February Building Update:

The plans for our building work began years ago when the disabilities authority in Malta did a study of our building and gave us a number of areas that needed to be addressed to improve accessibility in accordance with new guidelines. We broke ground in August 2017, and with some stops and starts, our church property has undergone significant revision.

We are excited that the church building project is progressing day by day. We have seen God's goodness displayed to us throughout the entirety of this work. With workers onsite every day, we hope to be in a position to use our upstairs auditorium by Easter, though some of the outside work will need to



Josh & Erica Burrill, Malta

wait until the dry season. All of this is dependent upon the Lord's further supply as we have nearly reached the end of what we have. Please pray that we can carry forward the momentum of the workers who have committed themselves to us without having to pause the work. We are almost there! - and the result will be a quality job which will be a good testimony to the community as we continue spread the gospel in our corner of the world.

If you would like to give toward the Malta Building Fund, gifts can be given through Meadowlands and designated to "Malta Building Project."

### Coming Up:

**Tuesday, 01 March:** Adult Fellowship Group Bible Study (1 Peter) at the home of Paul & Estelie Fries. Space is limited, so sign up on the church bulletin board if you'd like to participate.

**Sunday, 06 March:** The Lord's Supper will be observed in the morning services.

**Sunday, 13 March:** Anniversary Sunday Wednesday Prayer & Bible
Study/Teens Bible Study/Kids 4
Truth

7 pm

#### 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.

#### **Contact Us:**

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