

“Calamity Will Come Upon Him Suddenly”
Proverbs 6:1-15; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

“The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.” (Psalm 37:21). “Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence (laziness) the house leaks.” (Ecclesiastes 10:18). “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23-24)

● **2 Thessalonians 3:7-12:**

- Christians should example and imitate hard work.
 - Some circumstances will require you to work “night and day” to overcome.
 - A Christian doesn’t desire to be a burden to anyone else. That is, someone works harder than me to fix my circumstances.
 - Some behaviors are so engrained that great suffering is required for them to repent of and confess those sins.
 - Hard work and the desire to be self-sufficient from the help of others (not God) is not something that should have to be celebrated to be pursued.
- Calamity comes from a life of irresponsibility/bad stewardship: Proverbs 6:1-5 (cf. Proverbs 20:16; 27:13)
- *“But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer, or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.” (1 Peter 4:15-16)*
 - These verses are warning us from taking on someone else’s debt or guaranteeing to cover someone else’s future debt.
 - We must engage all of our foolishness and sin urgently (Proverbs 6:3-5; cf. Ecclesiastes 5:4-6).
 - We do this by confession, repentance, and hard work.
 - The misuse of money can destroy relationships.
- Calamity comes from a life of laziness: Proverbs 6:6-11 (cf. Proverbs 30:24-25)
- *“What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?” (Romans 6:1-2)*
 - Laziness takes hold of us slowly. It works through the power of immediate gratification and comfort.
 - Laziness never thinks about the future, just the here and now.
- Calamity comes from a life of, and association with, wicked speech and deception: Proverbs 6:12-15 (Proverbs 26:28; 29:5)
- *“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.” (Ephesians 4:29)*
 - There is a great wickedness in deceiving to keep from having to be responsible or to have to work. It is often done through bringing strife and sowing division.

Announcements:

★**VOLUNTEERS:** We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Slides Team. If you have any questions about this or are interested in serving on this team, please see Elder Jake or Shanelle.

★**WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE/CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Andy's Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange/Christmas Party is THIS Sunday, December 21st, at 5:30pm, at his house. Andy will be providing the main course for dinner (either turkey or ham). If you plan on attending, please bring a side dish or dessert to share with everyone. If you plan on participating in the White Elephant Gift Exchange, please bring one wrapped gift with a value of \$15. Plan on sticking around after the Gift Exchange to play games and fellowship with one another!

★**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** Our Christmas "Eve" service will be on Christmas Eve *Eve* this year. Please plan on joining us for this service on Tuesday, December 23rd, at 6:30pm. There will be no Children's Ministry offered for this service. This is a great opportunity to invite unsaved neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family to join you to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed. *We will NOT be having church NEXT Thursday, December 25th, on Christmas Day!*

★**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY:** Our annual New Year's Eve Party will be on Wednesday, December 31st, starting at 6pm, at Andy's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). Please bring your favorite appetizer, snack, fingerfood, or dessert to share, as well as your favorite board or card game to play. EVERYONE is invited to join us for this great time of fun, food, and fellowship! There is a sign-up list on the table in the Entryway, please sign up if you plan on attending and what food item you plan on bringing with you!

★*For all other announcements, please see the December Newsletter!*

Prayer Night:

Romans 1:7

[7] "To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

- They would be confident of God's love for them individually.
- They would live in God's grace and peace, fully confident in their position in Christ.

Romans 1:8–10

[8] "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. [9] For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I mention you [10] always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you."

- They would be faithful in prayer and the gospel.
- Their faith would be impactful to others around them.

Romans 10:1

[1] "Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."

- They would have a growing zeal for evangelism.
- Their zeal would be contagious to other Christians.

Romans 15:5–6

[5] "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, [6] that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- They would see God as their source of endurance and encouragement.
- They would be zealous for God's glory.