

Pastor's column

Being liked by others



Mike L. Parker

It is human nature to desire the approval of other people...to be liked. This unseen badge of recognition is so desirable that it dominates our modern social media experience. Individuals judge their self-worth by how many likes they are able to accumulate for even the most trivial of postings. The attention it generates can be intoxicating, creating an even

greater need for the approval of others - both friends, family, and strangers. At the core of this whirlwind of activity is a deep rooted sense of insecurity.

This appetite for approval never says enough. It is like an obese child and a box of chocolates, one piece will never satisfy. In fact the child will voraciously consume the whole box, but his craving will only lead to greater indulgences. The worst of it all is when the need for approval is transferred from Instagram, Facebook, and Snapchat to real life. The real life interaction between those we seek approval from can lead to poor, misguided decisions that can have undesirable consequences.

God warns us in His word not to let the approval of man dominate our lives, but rather that we live life in such a way that we realize His gracious approval. This approval by God leads to an abundance of favor, from both God and man. Jesus knew this reality, but during his three years of ministry he also knew that ultimately his Father's approval was all that mattered. You see, man's approval is fleeting. People will line the streets with palm branches in your honor, and sing Hosanna in the highest one day and later on nail you to a cross.

Are you and I seeking the approval of man or are we seeking the approval of God? With God's approval we can know joy, peace, and love. Contrarily, seeking the approval of others will only fester the sore of insecurity. Let us turn our insecurities into the security that only comes through our confident relationship with God through Christ.

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. Galatians 1:10

Pastor Mike



Women On Mission delivered about 50 Christmas gifts to Pinehill on December 17 for the residents there. Thank you BBC for your generosity.



I said to the man at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may go forth into the unknown." And the man replied, "Put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light, safer than a known way."

- A New Year's message from Britain's King George to his embattled people at the beginning of WWII.

Associational news



Sunday School Leadership Training

Pinecrest Baptist Church will host this free event on January 9, 6:30–8:00pm. A light meal will be provided. There will be breakout sessions for all Sunday School leaders—adults, youth, children.

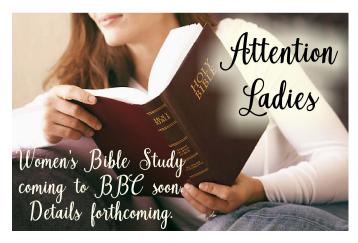
Introducing Christian Doctrine— A Two Part Series

Ready to learn the fundamental of the Christian faith? Want to know more about god, the Holy Spirit, Atonement, the End Times? Then this is the course for you. Houston Baptist Bible Institute's Kenny Peters will teach this two-part series of courses over two nine-week sessions using the book *Introducing Christian Doctrine* by Millard Erickson. Classes will meet at Houston Baptist Center on Tuesdays from 6:00–9:00pm, January 21–March 17. Fee is \$75 which includes cost of book. For more information and to register call Houston Baptist Association at 273-4127 or email Kenny Peters at kenny@pinecrestbc.com

For more associational activities and events, visit www.houstonbaptist.org.



A photo from the Senior Adult Christmas Brunch on December 7 hosted by the GEMS. To see more pictures from December, visit our Facebook page.





<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THU</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
			1	2	3	4
Janu	ary 2	2020				
Epiphany	6	7	8	9	10	4:00pm Seasoned Saints leave for AJ's Seafood, Albany
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21 10:00am Women On Mission 6:30pm GEMS	22	National Ple Day	24	25
26 5:30pm Church Council 6:00pm	27 National	28	28	30	31	

Conference





Birthdays

1-1	Bubba Hunter
1-2	Jimmy Barlow
	Steven Lamberth
	Connie Raper
	Rebecca Worley
1-3	Noah Woodard
1-4	Dianne Thompso

- n Ryan Godfrey
- 1-5 John Holt Bailee Thompson
- 1-7 Peggy Woodruff
- Nicholas James 1-9 Joe Kent Angie Roberts Jacob Brimm 1-11

- 1-12 Martha Noles
- 1-14 Elaine Phelps Brian Thompson
- 1-15 Andy Dorsett Paula Smith DarylAnn Thompson
- 1-17 Taylor Cavanah
- 1-19 John-John Averill Tres Bodrey
- 1-23 Laitlyn Averill
- 1-25 Mary Lamberth 1-27 Keith Evans
- Janice Haymons 1-28 Angie Peavy Janet Willis

- Lori Roberts 1-29
- 1-30 Clayton Brimm **Christy Dunmon** Jenn Averill Will Wilkes
- 2-1 Hilda Brackett
- 2-2 Judy Brock Myrtle Fountain **Brent Howell West** Michael Huckaby Gary Weeks, Jr.

Please pray for these folks on their birthday.

Weekly Schedule

SU	ND	AY	•	

Sunday School	10AM
Worship	11AM
Worship & Energize	. 6PM

WEDNESDAY

Prayer/Bible Study.... 6PM

Nursery and. Children's Church for Sunday 11AM Worship.

December Volunteers (Please arrange coverage if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day.)				
Date	Nursery AM	Children's Church	Deacon of the Week	Offering Bearers
Jan. 5	Brenda Lockerman	Jenn/John John Averill	Joe Kent	Steven Lamberth George Massey
Jan. 12	Sharon Powell, Sue Thompson, Rhonda Youngblood	Vicki Lamberth Robin Peavy	Arthur Roney	Mark Smith Quint Smith
Jan. 19	Laura/Keith Lamberth	Kim/Randy Keene	Joe Kent	Denny Rogers Buck Thompson
Jan. 26	Mandy/Paula Smith	Ansley/Cal Scarborough	Arthur Roney	Joe Kent Matt Youngblood

December Sunday School Stats

Senior adults
FBIC
CIA
Young Adults
Youth
Older children
Young children 6
Older preschoolers
Younger preschoolers
Nursery
Other
TOTAL

November Financial \$ummary

November receipts
General offerings 6,528.00
Other <u>6.86</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS 6,534.86
November disbursements
General expenses
World Hunger
Local mission/evangelism
Houston Baptist Association 299.05
Cooperative Program
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 7 727 19

Year To Date Summary

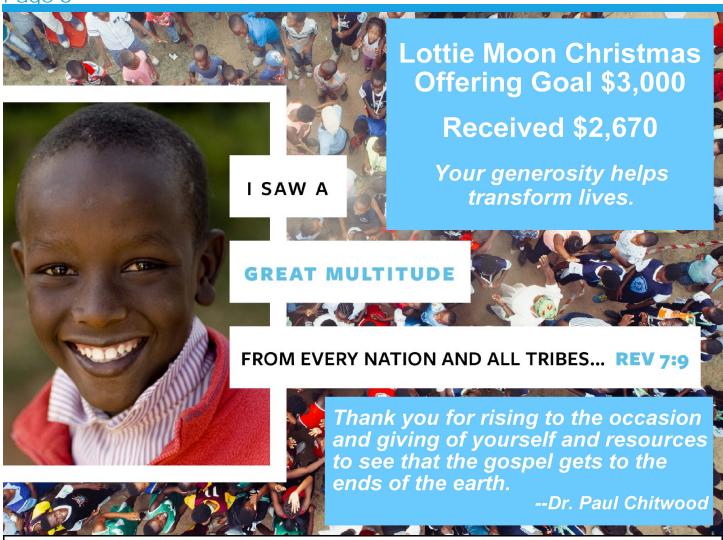
	Actual	Buagetea	Difference
Receipts	101,485.50	104,280	-2,794.50
Disbursements	92,323.27	104,280	-11,956.73







January is Sanctity of Human Life Month



Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to brendalockerman@windstream.net or call 478-433-2791.

Byromville Baptist Church

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