

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

266 POOL STREET - P.O. BOX 331 - BIDDEFORD, ME 04005

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

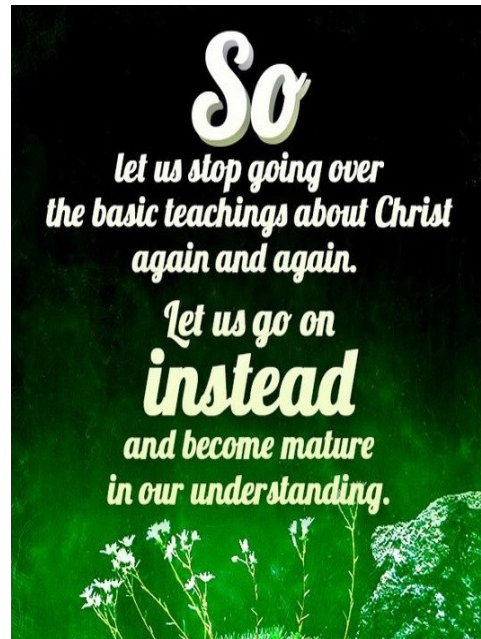
GOD IS FAITHFUL

ARTICLE BY DENNIS GODIN

If there is one thing my past has been used for by me over the years, is to echo the lies (self-talk) that so often become barriers to my spiritual growth. Last week, I hope in some way, God reminded us that He is fully aware of the battle between the flesh (sinful nature) and the Spirit within, that "these are contrary to one another".(Galatians 5:17).

Knowing that, He promises those in Christ that "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son" will cleanse "us from all sin" (1st John 1:7). God is so faithful towards us...towards me! That faithfulness is not simply offered after we fall short, but prior to it as well.

When it comes to God's people, "the church of God which is at Corinth" (1:1) was a really good example of God's patience with those who are now "a new creation" (2nd Corinthians 5:17). There were contentions between brothers (1st Corinthians 1:11), along with other issues that resulted in Paul saying these words, "And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ" (1st Corinthians 3:1). The concerns, and often stern words, are vividly apparent as you read through this letter. In the midst of these personal growth obstacles, cre-



ated by their arrogance, as one commentator put it, is this faithful promise from God.

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1st Corinthians 10:13

This promise is on the heels of this verse, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall" (1st Corinthians 10:12). There is no new temptation! If we were to reflect back in this chapter, we read of some examples of sinful behavior, acts that took place hundreds of years before, but none of them were any different from what those in Corinth were faced with,

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

MID-WEEK STUDY

TUESDAY 7-8 P.M.
(BIDDEFORD)

Elders

Brad Shaw (207)878-4124
Tony Lemay (207)651-3369
Dennis Godin (207)651-3588

Deacons

John Carter (207)229-8516
Matt Sampson (207)251-3030

Ministry Leaders & Staff

Education - Antonio Balsamo
(207)286-0514
Worship - Abe Damuth
(207)608-1784
Grounds - Mark Foley
(207)284-3816
Building - Joe Romano
(207)281-3929
Fin./Benev. - John Carter
(207)229-8516
Fellowship - Matt Sampson
(207)251-3030
Secretary - Mike Wickwar
(207) 432-2272

Ladies Ministry

Debbie Godin (207)286-4821
Barbara Lemay (207)850-0084

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

AS EACH PART DOES ITS WORK

How important is encouragement to you? Note someone you have not seen in worship lately and give them a call or send them a card. Who knows, your words of encouragement could make an eternal difference.

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" - Acts 16:30

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:14, 17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31; Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37; Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; 10:22; Heb 5:9; Rev 2:10

† † † † † † † † † † † † †

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

~ Acts 4:12 ~

Ladies Corner

Our next Ladies meeting will be during the congregational breakfast on February 10th.

Thank You,

Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 40 Contribution: \$ 1623.50

GOD IS FAITHFUL (CONTINUED)

especially with the idolatry that was going on. The simplicity of sin is simple and common to all, finding its roots in man's "own desires" (James 1:14). God knowing that very thing, promises His children of two things. First, He will not allow "you to be tempted beyond what you are able." Second, that He will provide a "way of escape" concerning that trial. One may ask, "Which is it, will He give us strength to go through it or show us a way out of it?" I believe the answer is yes. Like with any escape route, there is a journey that must be traveled before the escape happens. God's promise is that He will provided both the strength and the escape route for us to faithfully travel.

So how does this fit into our present discussion on spiritual growth? As Christians, we should be so thankful for God's mercy continuously revealed to us through Christ daily. At the same time, God wants us to know that we can look for His faithfulness prior to sin as well. He knows what temptations we face (Hebrews 4:15) and yearns for us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us" (Hebrews 12:1). We can do that, in part, by seeking God's faithfulness and trusting Him to know our limits and provide relief. Praise be to God.

Dennis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're on Facebook– Biddeford church of Christ is on Facebook! There is a profile, which is public, and there is a closed group, for current Biddeford church family only, where we can share photos, prayer requests, announcements, etc. The public cannot see posts in the BCOC FB group. Only members can.

Men Leading in Worship - The men who serve in worship are asked to meet in the cry room or, if it is in use, a classroom promptly at 10:30 to confirm assignments and go to God in prayer.

Building Lights - If you are the last person leaving the building, please be sure to turn off all the lights, check that all windows are shut, and the doors are locked.

Bulletin /- Prayer List - If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Mike Wickwar at 432-2272 or email him at mickwick@yahoo.com by Friday of each week. Anything given after Friday may not make it into that Sunday's bulletin.

Reminder: Please turn off your cell phone or place it on vibrate during Bible study and worship.

We care what you think - If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, feel free to write them down on a piece of paper, then sign it and place it in the box. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

Monthly Bulletins– One per family, please. If you would like another copy, you can find it on our website, biddefordchurchofchrist.com. You can also listen to sermons on the website.

Updating the Prayer List - Please review the prayer list. If there is a prayer request initiated by you, it is important you contact Mike Wickwar with updates. Thank you.

Upcoming Events - Please check your calendars

Life Groups– February 4th and February 18th.

Congregational Breakfast - February 10th at 8:30 am.

Pot Luck - February 11th

Singing Nights - Tuesday February 27th (7 p.m. Biddeford)

Happy Birthday! Joe Romano February 6

Gabby Little February 7

Debbie Godin February 10

Carolyn Balsamo February 15

Brenda Horowitz February 20

Lisa Sampson February 28

Happy Anniversary! John & Lisa Carter February 6

Address For TJ Balsamo

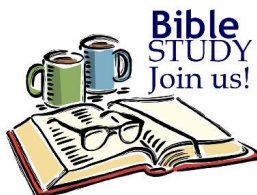
RCT BALSAMO, ANTONIO L
1st RTBN, ALPHA CO, PLT 1021
PO BOX 16125
MCRD PARRIS ISLAND, SC 29905

Preach The Gospel at all Times;

When Necessary Use Words!!!

MID-WEEK BIBLE CLASSES

Biddeford
Tuesdays
7:00-8:00 p.m.



YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT!

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR TODAY

Song 701 *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

Announcements—Shepherd

Opening Prayer - John Carter

Song 313 *The Old Rugged Cross*

Song 87 *Sing Amen*

Lord's Supper - Angel Velez, Erik Cote,
Rufilo Lawrance

Song 979 *I Am A Poor Wayfaring Stranger*

Contribution

Song 860 *There Is A Habitation*

Prayer - Mike Wickwar

Song 15 *Step By Step*

Scripture Reading - Abraham Damuth
Psalm 121:7-8

Lesson - Dennis Godin

God's Faithfulness

Lesson Text: 1 Corinthians 10:13

Song 969 *Don't You Want To Go To That Land*

Closing Prayer—Shepherd



Song Leader: James Butler

Greeter: Linda Barnes

Communion Prep: Brenda Butler

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

Lord's Supper - Joe Romano, James
Butler, Clifford Parker

Prayer - Matthew Sampson

Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano

Greeter - Gabriele Little

Communion Prep - Barbara Lemay

WELCOME VISITORS



We here at the Biddeford church of Christ pray your visit with us today is enjoyable and uplifting. Please stay around after services so that we can get to know you better. We all strive to put Christ first in our lives and make the Bible our principle guide for living.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.BIDDEFORDCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM
