

Prayer Requests

- ◆ Matthew Godin - Germany Deployment then Warrant Officer training.
- ◆ Brian Blake - Cancer.
- ◆ Mike Wickwar his brother's health issues; Sandra - heart surgery, Bob - Cancer.
- ◆ Keasha Marescot Mom Barbara - Dementia
- ◆ Joey Godin stomach issues
- ◆ Gabby Little personal & family health issue
- ◆ Brad & Brenda Happiness in new home.
- ◆ Linda Barnes Ongoing Health Issues
- ◆ Marion Goodwin Ongoing health issues
- ◆ Godin Family health, SIL Alzheimers
- ◆ Mary McVicar chronic kidney disease
- ◆ Glory Parker family health, traveling
- ◆ Lisa Carter's Friends Jenn & Jayne battling health and life issues
- ◆ Sampson Family health & family healing
- ◆ Our Congregation

Elders

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
Youth.....Angel Velez.....(207)730-9889
Worship.....Abe Damuth.....(207)608-1784
BuildingJoe Romano.....(207)281-3929
GroundsLenny Spano.....(207)569-8800
Fellowship.....Matt Sampson....(207)251-3030
Finance.....John Carter.....(207)229-8516
Benevolence...John Carter.....(207)229-8516
Secretary.....Mike Wickwar.....(207)432-2272

Ladies Ministry

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

Order of Worship

Song 509 *I Will Sing The Wondrous Story*

Announcements Angel Velez

Opening Prayer: Shepherd

Song 480 *Blessed Assurance*

Song 350 *When My Love To Christ Grows Weak*

Lord's Supper: John Marescot, Lenny Spano, David Lawrance

Song 479 *Peace, Perfect Peace*

Contribution

Song 31 *Be Still And Know*

Prayer: Joe Romano

Song 123 *The Steadfast Love of the Lord*

Scripture Reading: TJ Balsamo

Text: **Psalm 32:1-5**

Lesson: Dennis Godin

Why Would He?

Lesson Text: *Hebrews 12:3-11*

Song 458 *Redeemed*

Closing Prayer: Tony Lemay

Song Leader: Antonio Balsamo

Greeter: Brenda Butler

Communion Prep: Jessica Damuth

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 45

Contribution: \$1,403.00

*Live the Gospel at all times;
When opportunity is there...
Share the hope you have!*

**THE BIDDEFORD
CHURCH OF CHRIST
WELCOMES YOU!**



Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV

OCTOBER 13, 2019

Biddeford Church of Christ

266 Pool Street, Biddeford ME 04005

Biddefordchurchofchrist.com

(207) 284-7123

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.

This Week's Events

Today 10/13

Pot Luck

Tuesday 10/15

Bible Study

Saturday 10/19

Work Day Breakfast (rain date)

Birthdays

Luke Lawrance 10/18

Anniversaries

Dennis & Debbie Godin 10/18

Thank You For your Service

Matthew Godin

Sam Higgins Jr.

Taylor Carter

Next Week's Service Schedule

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Shepherd

Lord's Supper - Matt Sampson, Erik

Cote, James Butler

Prayer - Angel Velez

Scripture Reading - Jon Erickson

Greeter - Jessica Damuth

Communion Prep - Brenda Butler

Why Would He?

I believe I mentioned the following earlier in the year but felt it prudent to once again visit the idea. What idea you ask? It has to do with a song we sing so often with joy and enthusiasm that is linked to our theme verse for this year. It goes like this, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning, great is Thy faithfulness." It is hard to imagine that the song we sing with such joy is, in reality, not such a joyous song; but rather, a lament.

The word lament means *a passionate expression of grief or sorrow*. Jeremiah, as he gazes upon the remnant of God's people faced with such adversity and heartache due to their disobedience, pens these words as though he was grasping for something so difficult to see. Matthew Henry writes, "When we are in distress we should, for the encouragement of our faith and hope, observe what makes for us as well as what makes against us. Things are bad but they might have been worse, and therefore there is hope that they may be better." David knew all too well of God's discipline, "*For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me, my vitality was turned into the drought of summer*" (Psalm 32:4). In a world that sees discipline through humanistic lenses, such action, if by a god, shows the opposite of what Jeremiah pens; that is, no loving, merciful and faithful god would ever do such a thing. So, some may be left with a question, "Why would He do such a thing to His chosen?"

*My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord,
nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For
whom the Lord loves He chastens and scourges every son whom He receives.*

Hebrews 12:5-6

I am compelled to share the ETRV once again and I ask that you give it pause when you read it, "*My child, don't think it is worth nothing when the Lord punishes you, and don't stop trying when the Lord corrects you.*" These words could have been spoken to the children of Israel by Jeremiah in Lamentations as they were confronted with the consequences of their choices. It is so easy to throw the towel in when

faced with enormous difficulty. It is true that we can take great comfort in knowing that God is a forgiving God, but He is also in the business of transformation. His love for us demands such radical and at times difficult involvement. The writer of Hebrews reasons, "*we have had human fathers who corrected us*" (Hebrews 12:9), so it makes sense that God will as well. We know all too well, "*no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful*" (Hebrews 12:11). This reality is seen in the words of Jeremiah, "*I am a man who has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath*" (Lamentations 3:1). The history of God's people within our bibles, the history of my own selfish life at times, has revealed a Father so passionately in love with His creation, with me, that He would do anything to help them learn; thus, that is the reason for discipline.

...afterward it yields the peaceable fruits of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Hebrews 12:11

So, why does a merciful God, who loves us so much, discipline us when we stray? The answer is simple, He wants what is best for us...for me! He knows that if we allow Him to work in our lives, train us in this life, that the result will be "peaceable fruits of righteousness." God wants our best and will do what is needed to bring it about. So, I guess we are left with another question; that is, what am I going to do when He disciplines me?

Dennis

Sermon Notes
