

## ~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

### God Makes Us to Be Like Him

We need to come to the purpose of why we have scripture to begin with. (John 5: 39) The Lord shows us His love in many ways, including a beautiful planet filled with the smallest of insects to the biggest of mountains, the promise of His care and protection, and an offer of eternal life with Him. But have you ever considered that God also shows His care through the transformation of His children? The Bible tells us that He is in the process of conforming believers to the image of Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:29). In the beginning, God's design was to make humanity in His image (Gen. 1:26). But the plan seemed disrupted when Adam and Eve succumbed to temptation. Of all the privileges they forfeited—Eden's perfect environment, harmony in relationships, and a pain-free life—**the greatest loss was their likeness to the Creator**. A sinful man and woman do not look much like a holy God. Because of our "fleshly" nature, we don't closely resemble Him either. God wasn't surprised by this turn of events. His plan went on just as He'd always intended, in that He still provided salvation for mankind. Through Jesus Christ's sacrifice, our sins are forgiven by the blood of the Lamb we are made holy and blameless in the sight of God. The Holy Spirit enters each new believer's life and begins molding and shaping us into Christ-likeness. I don't know of any earthly father that isn't pleased when he sees his son(s) mimicking dad's better qualities/characteristics. Much in the same way, God is pleased by a person who resembles Him. He is glorified when we put Scripture into practice and act like Him, talk like Him, and live like Him. What could bless the Lord's heart more than for you to bear His likeness to those around you? It's not enough to know scripture. We must allow His Word to transform our thinking (Romans 12:1). The more we allow this transformation to take place, the more we look like Him! It's an inevitable part of the entire process. As we progress through

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## Thank you for worshiping with us today! Prayer Requests ♥

- ♥Please continue to keep Edwina Summers in your prayers.
- ♥Dianne Tonkery has requested prayers for a friend of hers, Patty Martin. Patty had her second hip replacement on the same hip this past Friday and is in need of prayers. She has been in a lot of pain.
- ♥Prayers would be appreciated for our Nursery School as we start classes on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ♥Continue to keep Keith Kisner and Joan Matheny in your prayers.
- ♥Tanya Robe is home recovering from her recent surgery. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

### News & Notes

☺ **College Students** - We will be collecting snack items for our college students to send them care packages from their church family. There is a sign up sheet on the back table in the auditorium. Please leave your items in the "Caring Corner" in the front foyer by September 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please see Pam Jackson, Dianne Tonkery or Marsha Sparks. The kids love getting a package from their home congregation.

☺ **Relay for Life & Ronald McDonald House** - Please save your soda cans for Relay for Life. You can leave them in the "Caring Corner" and Linda Huber will take them to recycle. Also, please save the tabs for Ronald McDonald House. There is a basket in the "Caring Corner" for them to be placed.

### Upcoming Events

♦ **Sunset International Bible Institute Classes** will begin this Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. Topic of study will be "Theology of Missions" by Richard Rogers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

♦ **Area Wide Sing** - We will be hosting the Area Wide Sing on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars now for this event. We will be in charge of providing refreshments. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the hall if you would like to help provide food. We hope everyone will be able to attend. Please see Tim Jackson or Cecil Holbert for more information.

♦ **Baby Shower** - There will be a Baby Shower in honor of JoAnna Kirk on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following the morning service. She is having a girl. If you have questions, please see Pam Jackson.

♦ **Church Picnic** - The annual Church Picnic will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the farm of Cecil & Kelly Holbert. This is will be starting at 4:00 PM. Bring your favorite picnic dish and come join the food, fun & fellowship! Everyone welcome!

♦ **Baby Shower** - Mary Ann Lipscomb would like to invite all ladies to a baby shower in honor of her new great-granddaughter, Thea Nicole, on September 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM in the lower fellowship hall. The baby's mother's name is