

# Second Street Church of Christ



February 21, 2016

## Faith and Optimism

### MINISTER

Adam Cozort

662-663-0231

### Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126  
Belmont, Ms. 38827

### SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am  
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am  
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm  
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

***Endeavoring to keep  
the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:3***

When your cup runs over, is it a blessing, or a mess? Is your glass half full or half empty? Do you make difficulties out of your opportunities, or opportunities out of your difficulties? Are you the kind that complains about the noise when opportunity knocks? Do you claim to be an optimist who doubts that being one really helps?

I was reading Psalm 23 this week, and it occurred to me that King David was a true optimist. "I am never in need...green pastures...peaceful waters...paths of righteousness...my cup overflows...even though I walk through the dark valley of death, because you are with me, I fear no harm...your rod and staff give me courage." His faith in God enabled him to overcome obstacles that would derail our faith. His faith in God allowed him to see winning possibilities in horrible circumstances. Remember how he faced a lion, a bear, a giant, and a mentally unstable king? Remember how he faced the death of a child, and rebellion within his own family? His faith empowered him to live with optimism and assurance of victory.

When faced with setbacks and difficulties, our reactions reveal whether we are people of faith and optimism, or people of pessimism and defeat. There are three basic differences in the way optimists and pessimists react.

The first is that the optimist sees a setback as temporary, while the pessimist sees it as permanent. When David's infant child died, he saw it only as a temporary separation. Even after praying and fasting that the child would not die, his faith in God never wavered. He could not bring the child back, but he said, "I will go to him" (2 Sam. 12:23). Even death is not permanent for those with faith in God.

The second difference is that the optimist sees difficulties as specific, while the pessimist sees them as pervasive. David's sin with Bathsheba was not allowed to destroy his whole life and eternity. He messed up big time, but he dealt with it as the specific sin it was, repented, and went on to live as a man with the heart of God. His failure with Bathsheba did not cause his whole life to be a failure.

The third difference is that optimists view events as external, while pessimists interpret events as personal. King Saul's repeated attempts to kill David was seen by David as rebellion against God, not him personally. *Continued on page 3.....*

# Announcements

**Welcome Visitors!!** You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

**The sign-up sheet** to host a singing and fellowship night is posted on the board in the foyer.

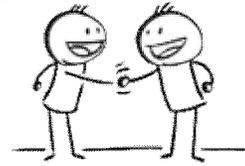
Trays for February

Janey Dees

Trays for March

Michelle Holcomb

Welcome!



We are Glad  
You are Here!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Songs We Sang:

No.	No.
No.	No.
No.	No.

My favorite song we sang is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

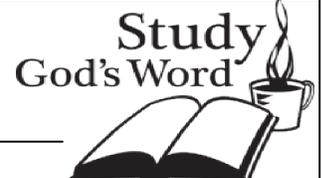
Count How Many Times You Hear These Words:

**Justify or Justified**

Draw a picture from today's lesson.

**Bible Verses or Notes:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# **“JUSTIFIED”**

*A study of justification from Romans 3-5*

## **INTRODUCTION**

- ◆ *Justify/Justified*
  - ◆ From the Greek root *dikaios*, meaning “righteous.”
  - ◆ It means “to make, declare, or show one to be righteous.”
- ◆ *It is a term used in reference to our salvation and our relationship with God.*
- ◆ *It is not by the law. (3:20)*
- ◆ *It is not by works. (4:2)*
- ◆ *Then, how is man justified before God?*

### ***Justified by Grace - Romans 3:24***

- ◆ *Ephesians 2:4-8*
- ◆ *Romans 5:15-17*

### ***Justified by Blood - Romans 5:9***

- ◆ *Colossians 1:13-14*
- ◆ *1 Peter 1:18-19*

### ***Justified by Faith - Romans 5:1-2***

- ◆ *Romans 3:27-31*
- ◆ *Romans 4:13-22*

## **CONCLUSION**

- ◆ *We are not justified by grace, or blood, or faith individually – but by the combination of all three working together to make our salvation possible.*
- ◆ *It is by the grace of God that salvation is extended.*
- ◆ *It is by the blood of Christ that salvation is possible.*
- ◆ *It is by the actions of faith that salvation is accepted.*

## **ARE YOU JUSTIFIED?**

He would not raise his hand against Saul because he still saw him as the Lord’s anointed. Difficulties are most often simply external circumstances, not personal attacks.

Learn from David to live by faith and optimism. Look upon the inevitable setbacks that you face as being temporary, specific, and external.

*Joe Chesser  
Fruitland Church of Christ  
Fruitland, MO*

*Bulletin Digest*

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

**Bible Study**      **9:00am**  
**Worship**        **10:00am**  
**Evening**         **5:00pm**

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

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*I was glad when they said unto me, Let  
us go into the house of the LORD.*

**Psalms 122:1**

The process for becoming a Christian  
is the same as it was over 2000 years  
ago! To become a Christian, one must:

*Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17*

*Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6*

*Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3*

*Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10*

*Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38*

*Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10*

None of these alone will make you a  
Christian. These commands are from  
God and must be obeyed from the  
heart to become a Christian.

### Prayer List



Paula Wanner	Matthew Horton
Norma Taylor	Joey Pierce
Craig Pierce	Troy Yarbrough
Pete Wooten	Brenda Leatherwood
Becky Raper	Barbara Blackman
Phillip Pharr	Kristy Phillips
Cathy Alexander	Marilyn Pharr
Gerald Nunley	Lauren Chase
Barbara Livingston	Flora Wanner
John Tate	Lou Dodson
Mary Gilley	Jeanie Ivy
Cathy Harrison	Rex Crossan

### *February Birthdays*

**Edna Gibson 2/3**  
**Jonathan Cozort 2/7**  
**Ashley Tidwell 2/8**  
**Wallace Williams 2/11**  
**Alan Williams 2/11**  
**Larry Harris 2/16**  
**Wendell Vandagriff 2/19**



### *February Anniversaries*

**Jim & Faye 2/28**

### Sympathy

*Amy Adams family*  
*Smith family*