



Steady in Turbulent Times

By Pastor Jason Triplett

My wife and I live in a land ruled by teenagers. We have three kids in high school now. We knew it was coming eventually when we had four kids in five years. We knew

there'd be a time when the volume of adolescent hormones in our house would be a sea we'd have to learn to navigate.

One aspect of raising teenagers is driver's ed. Three of our four teenagers have driver's licenses; the remaining one will be taking driver's education this year in school. So, if my math is right, by the end of the next school year four of our five kids will be licensed drivers. (And they wonder why I worry about them!)

It seems our times are becoming more turbulent each year. COVID-19, a rough political landscape along with national concerns about race, gender and equality seem to mark almost two years of rising concerns over a great deal of issues. There are folks worried about their financial picture, children's mental health, abortion, family issues. Social media and internet communication seem to make it all worse. The worries abound and it feels like the rocking of the boat isn't going to stop anytime soon.

In the roller coaster of existence, (or in our hormone-filled, mood-swinging, new normal) how do we keep steady? For this I will pull advice from our High School driver's ed. instructor. It's all about our eyes.

Here are three guidelines for remaining steady in turbulent times, (*High School Driver's Ed. Edition*)

Aim High: Young drivers are taught to look ahead, not down. We can best follow the intended path of travel by looking to the horizon instead of looking at the hood of the car. Spiritually we find a similar principle. When we keep our eyes focused ahead instead of the fact that we might be knee deep in muck, we can better follow the path of travel and not lose hope in our current situation. The potential for change is constant,

but if all we see is the difficulty, we may have trouble moving past it.

Keep Your Eyes Moving: Teen drivers are learning to concentrate on selecting details in the traffic scene instead of dwelling on one thing too long. Spiritually if we focus just on one aspect of the current situation, good or bad, we can overlook other important things as we travel along. Difficult times take a lot of focus as we do all we can to ease the struggle. We can forget there are great things happening elsewhere. We need to keep our eyes moving to not lose hope.

Get the Big Picture: High School drivers are being trained to search the whole scene when they operate a car. Skilled drivers can gain a snapshot of what's happening around them at a glance to react safely and appropriately. In our spiritual lives with Christ, we need perspective. Stepping back, taking an inventory, getting someone's perspective, or getting away for a while could help us gain perspective. Christ's eyes see everything. He has the greatest perspective, and our viewpoint becomes more like His when we become adept at stepping back.

In general, life is just hard. There are sublime joys to be experienced coupled with deep disappointments and sorrow. God is above it all and is completely good. When we are skillful at controlling our eyes, especially in times of trouble, our outlook can remain steady even as things around us may be on a collision course.

Psalm 119:15–16 (ESV) *"I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word."*

BAPTISM & POTLUCK THIS SUNDAY!



NOON @the Refuge
17249 Miller Lane, Rushville
Bring a Lawn Chair and a Dish to Share!

CHURCH IN THE PARK!



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The HELP Center is asking for Monetary Donations to provide school supplies to children in need. You may donate here (designate on check memo) , or Online via the Church Center App or RCC Website. We are also collecting supplies for SID5 classrooms from this list.

Dry Erase Markers Clorox Wipes Kleenex
Baby Wipes Post-it Notes Glue Sticks



Back to
School

JULY OFFERINGS:

July 4 -	\$ 6020.67
July 11 -	\$ 615.67
July 18 -	\$ 1208.55
July 25 -	\$ 4838.17

THE SEARCH CONTINUES...

Please continue to pray
with us as we search for an
Additional Minister to serve
with RCC.

Thanks! The RCC Elders

YOUTH GROUP

**Fall Kick-
off**
Sept 12th



TO CONTACT PASTOR JASON
(309)331-0200 (talk/text)
jasontriplett99@gmail.com

TO SUBMIT NEWS CONTACT
Mindy Crum (217)473-3473
Or Email to RushvilleCC@gmail.com

Prayers & Praises

Updated: 8/4/2021

School is starting— Pray for our students, staff & administrators!

Unity in Schuyler County



Leaders of our country & military

Family of Joe Blakeman

Family of Larry Drennen

Family of Jason Briney

Brian Ralston health

Jill Smith Gooding

Roy Lung (Kay Billingsley's son) heart valve

Sylvia DeCroix is on Hospice

Barb Wright - Life transitions

Ann Crook health

Nathan Ralston

Garrett Collins - Cancer

10 year old James Pax (Thelma's cousin's grandson) has Stage 4 Cancer

Rick Ashcraft - Cancer

Janet Detrick - Cancer

Alisha's grandmother - Cancer

Thelma - health

Kailey Orwig - deployed to South Korea

Abigail Norton - deployed to Africa

Church Building Need

Liz Wood - Cancer

Dan Norton - stroke recovery

Update from the Barton's! Hello again friends! The twins are steadily growing, as I make my daily "commute" from the Ronald McDonald House to the NICU upstairs and hold the girls and help with their care times. But then yesterday, our girl Jireh graduated to room air! She's breathing completely unassisted and has been doing great! She also weighs 4 pounds 7 ounces now!



Unfortunately Anna has had a rougher go of it after transitioning from the Cpap machine to high flow oxygen and then today started having increasing heart rate drops and dips in her oxygen saturation. This, along with some other signs prompted the doctors to investigate a possible infection in her bowel. It was a rough day for her having to get poked so many times for tests and then having an IV placed in a vein in her scalp (mommy didn't like that one especially!). Thankfully, there is no indication of infection in the blood but they have suspended her feedings to give her tummy a rest. Please pray that her bowel issues will resolve, that she will have fewer heart rate drops and can begin her feedings again soon and get back to just eating and growing!



Thank you again for continuing to pray for us during this challenging time we are facing. Your prayers definitely lighten our burdens!

Megan and Michael and girls

Prayer Requests can be submitted and updated through the online Prayer card. Find it at rushvillechurchofchrist.com

