

Prayer Is The Key
Dr. Paul Chappell

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:16-18

Jesus did not just randomly appear in Bethlehem at a generic moment in time. His arrival was the culmination of a plan that dated back to before the creation of the world. The exact time and place of His birth, along with a number of other details of what He would do during His life were written down and recorded hundreds or even thousands of years earlier. The plan was already in place, and it was perfect. Corrie ten Boom said, "Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life."

We celebrate love when we celebrate Christmas. We exchange gifts with those who are special to us as an expression of how we feel about them. God gave His Son because of how He felt about the world. It's important for us to understand that love is not just something God *does*; it is a vital and integral part of His nature and character—it is who He truly *is*. John wrote, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him" (1 John 4:16). The birth of Jesus was the expression of God's love in a powerful and tangible way and the value of the gift communicates the great scope of God's love for us.

God's love should be active and present in our lives and the way we treat others, just as His love is in His treatment of us.

Sermon Notes

Let us rejoice

As the Word says, let us be glad and rejoice over each day. It is the Lord who has made it and planned it for us. He is faithful and takes care that today we will not be tempted and tried beyond our ability to bear. He will make the temptation and the way of escape so that we can bear it. (1 Corinthians 10:13) We also know that today all things will work together for our good. (Romans 8:28) Today the good works are being prepared for us, and we will have abundant grace and strength to walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10) We must learn to number our days and live as if each day were our last. Today could be the only day, the last day we have, to show all goodness and love to each other. Today we are to glorify Jesus' name in everything we say and do and let the sun of our love rise over the evil and the good. It is today that we shall endure, suffer, and bear everything with joy, fully believing that God is in control. Today we shall be bold and not lose courage, but rather look to the things that are not seen, because then our tribulations will be light and temporary and will work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)



December 11, 2022

*Welcome to Harvest
Baptist Church*

If you are visiting with us for the first time, we hope that you have already received a warm welcome by our Church Family. Our prayer is that the singing, teaching and preaching of the Word of God will meet a need in your heart and life.

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH

Reverend K. Preston Gray, Pastor
535 N. Sarival Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85338
***** 602-361-8025 *****
www.hbcgoodyear.org
Men's Prayer Meeting 9:00 am
Morning Worship 10:00 am
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
Wednesday Prayer & Bible
Study 7:00 pm

Harvest Baptist Church
'Where church still feels like church'

Worship Service

Welcome To Harvest Baptist Church

Psalms 95:1

Joy To The World - 137

Angels We Have Heard On High - 133

Go To Tell It On The Mountain - 134

Welcome & Announcements

Instrumental Special

Born To Die - 139

Prayer

Special Music

Message: Pastor

Invitation

Closing Prayer

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

please pray for... **Hannah Bennett**, our missionary to
 South Africa



Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.
 John 4:35

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES
 are available for use during the church services. Please see Robert in the sound booth if you wish to use this equipment.

Events and Opportunities

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our church members who give of their time, energy and talents to keep our church looking nice.

Saturday December 31 - 9:00 AM

Visitation Ministry



Ladies Bible Study
 Every Tuesday
 10-11 AM in the
 missionary quarters.

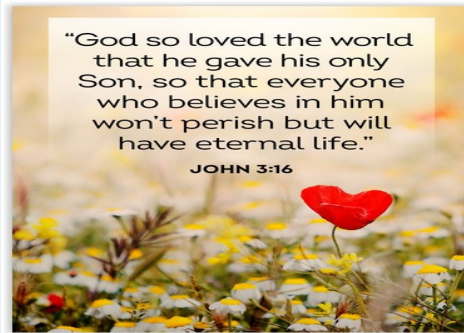
Chili Supper Wed. Dec. 21st at 6 PM

Sign up in the foyer

Rodger Brumbaugh's father passed away Thursday, November 24th. **Condolences to: Rodger and Jan Brumbaugh**
 2651 N. 141 Lane Goodyear, AZ 85395
Services will be held at Christ Presbyterian Church in Goodyear, Arizona, December 17 at 11:00 AM

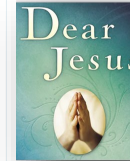
"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life."

JOHN 3:16



OFFERING UPDATE

	For The Week of 12/4/2022 - 12/10/2022	Month Total December
General	9,018.00	9,018.00
Missions	765.00	765.00
TOTAL	9,783.00	9,783.00
Native American Missions, Inc.	000.00	00
Christmas Offering	1,000.00	1,000.00



I have prepared this day with the most tender concern and attention to detail. Instead of approaching the day as a blank page you need to fill up, try living it in a response mode; being on the lookout for all that I am doing.

This is the way I want to live - discovering what You are doing, and responding to the opportunities You place before me. I know this is the most joyful and productive way to live. Nonetheless, the part of me that likes being in control resists this manner of living. Please teach me the art of living responsively.

Beloved, because I am your Creator, I am the Initiator of your very life. Your first cry as an infant was a response to the life I provided. Many people think they can live independently of Me, but that is an illusion. I sustain everything by My powerful Word! When I cease sustaining someone's life, that person dies. So, living responsively is a matter of aligning yourself with ultimate reality: My sovereignty over the universe. The fact is that I am sovereign over every aspect of your life, and I increase your sense of security, to the extent that you trust in My perfect love. Thus, the art of living responsively rests upon a foundation of trust - in My absolute goodness, My infinite wisdom, My loving Presence.

To build on this trust foundation, you need to be perceptive: seeing things from My perspective as well as yours. Search for what I am doing in the big picture as well as in the details of your day. Living this way requires concentration, because the world is rigged to distract you from Me. However, the times when you do succeed in living responsively will be the best in your life: You will feel fully alive and richly connected with Me at such times. This is a foretaste of what awaits you in heaven, where you will respond to Me perfectly - throughout eternity!

Hebrews 1:3 Matthew 10:29-31 Psalm 13:5

This is the day that
THE LORD
 HAS MADE.
 I WILL REJOICE AND BE
glad in it.
 -PSALM 118:24