

MARS HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

March 25, 2020



Mini Newsletter



1418 NC Hwy 57
Hillsborough, NC 27278

marshillbaptistchurch.org

919-732-2041

Email: marshill1418@gmail.com

Scripture Memory Challenge

Acts 4:11-12 (ESV)

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

OUR PRAYER REQUESTS

MEMBERS OF MHBC & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Daniel Berry
John and Gloria Best
Mary Carolyn Bishop
Brandon Davis
Hunter Frazier
Bettie Harrison
Marty Melvin
Nick Mincey
Heidi Oliver
Evelyn Perry
Rusty Wagoner
Bob Wilson
Roy Wilson

FRIENDS OF MHBC

Gene and Judy Akin
Ericka and Jack Davis
Carolina Garrett
John Garrett
Jacob Jones
James Jordan*
Leila Morris
Beth Oliver
Reed Parker
Doug Phillips
Hank Rhoden
Sharon Rhoden
Adam Rosy
Elsie Stanford
Kathy Wilkerson
The Family of Jim Stone*
The Family of Colleen St.
John*

The Family of Daniel King*
The Family of Neal
Robinson*
The Family of Tom Sharpe
The Family of Estelle Boyd
The Family of Joyce
Robinson
The Family of Dave Oltz
The Family of Keith
Dorset
The Family of Sheila
McGhee
The Family of Anna Lee
Gross

MISSIONARIES

Baptist Missionaries
Melanie Edwards
Harley Grafton
Matt Foshee & Family Utah
Sam & Melody Harrell
Peggy T. Johnson
David Platt

PLACES & EVENTS

War on Terrorism

OTHERS

Good News Club
Lost persons you know
Care Givers-esp.
Family Members
OCIM
Our Elected Officials
Our Police and Law
Enforcement Officers
-Chapel Hill

MILITARY

Our Service Men &
Women

In Memory of Anna Lee Gross

Almost 2 weeks ago Allison and I were walking the halls of the church when I received the call that one of our beloved members had passed away suddenly in her sleep. Anna Lee was a person that impacted your life regardless of whether you met her just once or knew her for an entire lifetime. She had a beauty in her soul and a love in her heart that spilled out on everyone she met. It was my privilege to be her pastor and friend for almost 9 years and I wanted to say just a few words concerning her life, her love, and her faith.

Many times when I prepare messages about someone's life there is a process of organizing my thoughts, finding what I would like to say, and searching for the right Scriptures to read. This can sometimes take a while to find the right Scripture.

For Anna Lee, it was very easy to pick a Scripture for when I read this passage I cannot help but think about Anna Lee. It is a passage that is not usually read when someone has passed but I believe it fits Anna Lee beautifully because of the Words of Jesus fit Anna Lee so well.

Mark 12:41-44 - (41) Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. (42) Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a penny. (43) So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; (44) for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

The big lesson of this passage is the praise that Jesus gave to the one who gave everything they had to Him. The contrast that is shown is from so many people giving just a little out of the abundance of their wealth while another gave everything from the scarcity of their belongings. Whenever I think of Anna Lee I think of someone who put in everything she had, to her family, her church, her church family, and to Savior Jesus Christ. She was truly one who gave her all to Jesus Christ in every aspect of her life.

She didn't just give, she gave her all.

On Sunday mornings I would come to the church early and as I was making my way to the sanctuary Anna Lee would be right outside the doors taking cobwebs down before Sunday School, beautifying the church.

I remember her giving candy canes out at church at Christmas time, to the delight of all who received them, and Valentine's hearts with Scripture on them. Probably one of the times that I saw her express the most joy was serving snacks at Vacation Bible School and being thrilled to see children come into the church.

Anna Lee lived out the love of Christ in her service and willingness to give. I know many times when we were talking about purchasing something in a church business meeting or on a Wednesday night she would raise her hand and say she was willing to give an extra dollar if that would help. There was not anything she didn't want to support

She loved her church and her church family deeply. She expressed it to all of us through the little things she did for each of us.

By coming by the church during the week and asking to come to the prayer room so she could pray. Through kisses on the cheek, through being one of the first to show up on Sunday morning or Wednesday night. I can't tell you how many times I had gone to visit Anna Lee and before I left she had to give me her tithe to give to the church.

You know, her love for others and love for Christ was not just felt here within these walls. Anna Lee was busy at home writing in her own hand, messages and making scrolls and hearts as well that told of the love of God.

I bet everyone at Mars Hill has at least one or two hearts and a couple of scrolls. These messages were Anna Lee telling others about God's love and she would not just take them to church, but distribute them all around Hillsborough. Letting other people know that God loved them and that salvation can be found through faith in Christ

She was a believer who lived out her faith in the world in which she lived and you know, it made an impact. I remember at a church service one morning we had a visitor who had received one of those scrolls and wanted to tell how it impacted her life. It was a believer for another church but he was so moved by the act that he wanted to tell us what it meant to him.

Whenever you were around Anna Lee you felt special, you felt loved, and you knew she was genuinely glad to see you. She lived out in her life the command of Christ, to love your neighbor as yourself and because of her my life was a little brighter.

Though I know she is now in heaven, my life is a little less bright knowing she is no longer with us. So I would like to leave you with some things that have helped me and I hope will help you, in or time of loss

In the past 12 months, we have had to say goodbye to near and dear friends in our lives. To be honest, over the past year, we have had to say goodbye to precious souls that have shaped and directed our lives. These are saints of God that I know Anna Lee is rejoicing with right now.

Through those times of grief, there are things that have helped me through, so to everyone I offer these reminders to help us through.

The first is this, Cry.

The Bible says in Ecclesiastes that there is a time to weep. I don't know who came up with the idea that crying is bad or a sign of weakness. What a blatant lie that is! Christ Himself, God's own Son wept. Friends, many times we need to cry. I don't know who said this but it is so true, "Crying is how your body speaks when your mouth can't explain the pain you feel." Loss causes pain that can't be explained, and tears offer us a way of saying it without words

I have shed many tears over the past year. In the coming months, I will shed many more. The truth is that's okay. The loss of friends, and family, and loved ones leave a pain that tears help soothe.

Second, Remember.

When going through grief it is good to bring to mind those memories that remind you of all the good times shared together.

I'll never forget the times during the Thanksgiving Service when Anna Lee announced that she needed to get home and cook because the family was coming. Memories like that bring a smile to my face and warmth to my heart. Though it might be painful and cause tears to form, remember those good times together and rejoice in them.

Finally, Rest in God.

Psalms 55:22 says this. "Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved."

We must be vigilant to rely on God and look to Him for peace and for help. In times like these when life is like an unexpected storm, we need a firm foundation on which to rely.

Because I know that is exactly what Anna Lee would say. I know this because of the many scrolls that she wrote. For anyone who might not be familiar with the scrolls that Anna Lee wrote, these were handwritten messages filled with Scripture that she used to tell others about God. She would roll them up and distribute them at church and all over Hillsborough. I have one that I would like to share an excerpt with you.

Gifts from God's Treasure Chest

I have written some of God's gifts from His treasure chest. I have some wonderful events that I would like so much to share with you. Things that we all take for granted, would you like to hear what's in God's Treasure Chest in His House of Prayer? Close your eyes and picture this wonderful Treasure Chest full of thousands of gifts and listen to what God has to say to you and me.

Now in the book of Galatians, there is written the gifts of the Spirit, and Jesus gave us three more treasures out of His chest. The book of Timothy reveals them in chapter number 1 verse 7, "For God has not given us the Spirit of fear, but the power of His love and a sound mind. Isn't that just wonderful, just think you can add these gifts to your tree of life like I am doing? Here's another treasure that Jesus gives us; in the book of Job chapter number 5 verses 19 through 27: God says I shall deliver you in six troubles: Yes! In the seventh, there shall no evil touch you: In famine, he shall redeem you from death; and in war from the power of the word, you shall be hid from the scourge of the tongue, neither shall you be afraid of the destruction when it comes.

Jesus is my light; let Him be yours too, in this present world, and it will lead you and me down that road to righteousness, that road leads directly to the "Great House of God." I'm not saying that your journey will be easy, because it isn't. It is a hard road to travel, but, look what's at the end of that rainbow, picture Jesus waiting at the post of the door for you and me with open arms and He is going to say to each and every one of us when He hands us our golden crowns when our journey is over

"Well done child and welcome home"

May the Lord Bless you and keep you

The Lord make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you;

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace

Love Jesus and Anna Lee

Hugs and Kisses

GIVE ONLINE

FAST . EASY . CONVENIENT .



**Forgotten your Offering Envelopes or Checkbook? Not a problem!
Online Giving is now available!**

If you would like to give to the church online, go to the church's website at **marshallbaptistchurch.org** and look for the **green** "Give Online" button on the right-hand side.

Good News! Even though we are not able to meet for services, we can still worship our Lord together!

Mars Hill will be launching a Sermon video series! You can find the video channel on Youtube or on the church's Facebook page at **facebook.com/MarsHillBC**

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful."

John 14:27

5 Minute Theology

The Immutability of God

What is the immutability of God?

Simply put the immutability of God is an attribute that "God is unchanging in his character, will, and covenant promises." The God that we serve today is the same God that David, Moses, and Daniel served. God is unchanging through the passing of time, events, circumstances, or happenings in this world.

Where is God's Immutability Taught in the Bible?

Malachi 3:6 - "For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

Numbers 23:19 - God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Ezekiel 24:14 - I am the LORD. I have spoken; it shall come to pass; I will do it. I will not go back; I will not spare; I will not relent; according to your ways and your deeds you will be judged, declares the Lord GOD."

James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness nor shadow of turning."

The "shadow of turning" refers to our perspective on the sun: it is eclipsed it moves and it casts its shadow. The sun rises and sets, appears and disappears every day; it comes out of one tropic and enters into another at certain seasons of the year. But with God, who, spiritually speaking, is light itself, there is no darkness at all; there is no change with Him, nor anything like it.

God is unchangeable in His nature, perfections, purposes, promises, and gifts. He, being holy, cannot turn to that which is evil; nor can He, who is the fountain of light, be the cause of darkness. Since every good and perfect gift comes from Him, evil cannot proceed from Him, nor can He tempt any to it (James 1:13). The Bible is clear that God does not change His mind, His will, or His nature.

What Does God's Immutability Mean For Me Today?

God's Immutability means He is unaffected by the chaos and calamity of our world. No matter how bad an outbreak of a virus might get or how awful a war might become, God is never in danger of being dethroned or out of control. He alone is above all. Therefore in crisis, we know that God is unchanging in His power and might and can always go to Him in times of trouble.

Hebrews 6:19 says this "We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain." This, of course, is talking about Jesus Christ and His work upon the cross and the salvation provided in the resurrection. He provides and "unchanging and unmoving" anchor for our souls to cling to. Though all of life might change and calamity hits we have an unmoving and unchanging anchor in God.

Also, the immutability of God shows His perfection. If anything changes, it must change for the better or the worse, because a change that makes no difference is not a change.

For change to take place, either something that is needed is added, which is a change for the better; or something that is needed is lost, which is a change for the worse. But, since God is perfect, He does not need anything. Therefore, He cannot change for the better. If God were to lose something, He would no longer be perfect; therefore, He cannot change for the worse.

This means that the one we serve is absolutely perfect in every aspect of His being, there is nothing lacking in God and His wisdom, knowledge, and power is perfect. In Him, nothing is lacking. Those are comforting words in times where we are not quite sure what will be on the store shelves daily.

Finally, God's immutability reminds us of the stability we have in God. Think about it, everything we come into contact with in this life changes. Our bodies change, our government changes, the law changes but God remains the same. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That is something difficult to contemplate because there is nothing in this universe like God! This means that God is sovereign, almighty, and in control of everything. He is not controlled or affected by the passing of time rather He is the one that affects all things. What a comfort to know that our Heavenly Father is affected in these crazy times and that we can run to Him, the Rock that is the sure foundation of our lives that will never be moved or shaken.

Psalms 61:1-2 - (1) Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer; (2) from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

Hymn Stories **Brighten The Corner**

The year was 1913. Homer Rodeheaver makes his way to the platform in the tabernacle at Columbus, Ohio. The crowd of five thousand anticipates the excitement yet to come. To begin this evening of meeting with God, Homer has chosen a new song written because of a car accident.

Ina Ogdon had plans to speak that summer of 1912 at Chautauqua, a Methodist camp in western New York. Just days before her departure, her father was injured in an automobile accident. Choosing to care for her father, the potential audience of 10,000 became an audience of one.

Through her despair and disappointment, she was finally able to make up her mind that no matter what, she would learn to brighten the corner where God had placed her. She prayed that God would give her a way to encourage others to face life's problems with the right attitude.

The answer was a poem.

Homer stands in the Billy Sunday tabernacle in Ohio with a trombone in hand. At the first notes, the dust rises from the sawdust floor as thousands jump to their feet. Then, the air fills with the musical sounds and words of Ina Ogdon's song from a poem written that fateful summer of 1912.

For the next 22 years, "Brighten the Corner" would open every Billy Sunday meeting and become the theme song for the Sunday campaigns. Mrs. Ogdon thought she would reach thousands that summer; but instead, she has reached millions. More than 25 million copies of her song have been printed. Billy and Homer gave the song to over 100 million in the 200 tabernacles they built across America. This proves once again, what Dr. Al Smith once said "God's ways aren't always our ways, but they're the best ways."

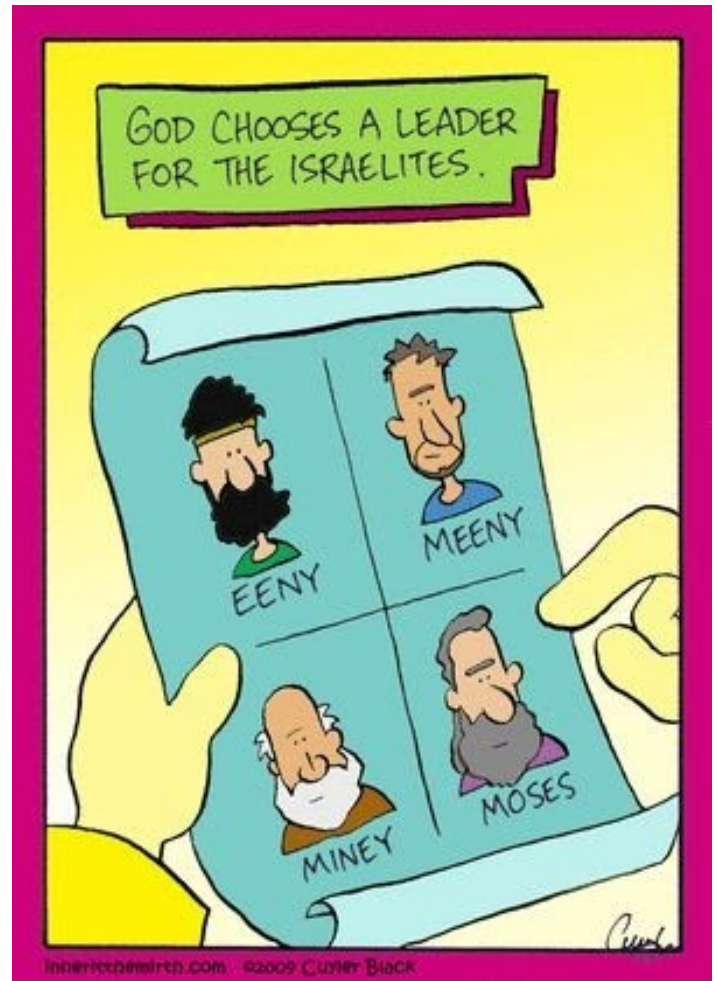
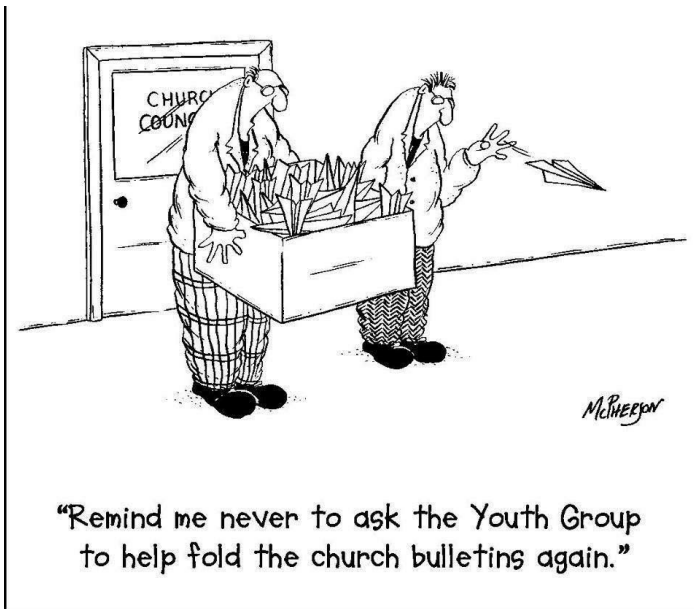
Brighten the Corner
Lyrics: Ina Mae Duley Ogdon (1872-1964)
Music: Charles Hutchinson Gabriel (1856-1932)

Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do,
Do not wait to shed your light afar,
To the many duties ever near you now be true,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Just above are clouded skies that you may help to clear,
Let not narrow self your way debar,
Tho' into one heart alone may fall your song of cheer,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Refrain
Brighten the corner where you are!
Brighten the corner where you are!
Someone far from harbor you may guide across the bar,
Brighten the corner where you are

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good
works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
Matthew 5:16



No matter what you are facing, remember Deuteronomy 20:4 "The LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory!"

A Prayer

Almighty God, I come before you today to bring You the praise and honor that you are due. You are the One True God who rules this world and everything in it. You deserve our praise and all glory belongs to You and You alone. By Your grace and mercy, I am sustained each moment and for that I thank you.

Lord as I approach Your throne today I am filled with many emotions. Fear, doubt, anxiety, and worry overcome me often because of this virus that has affected our entire world. Daily I hear about more deaths occurring and more cases that have been diagnosed. I look at the shelves of the grocery stores and the vacancies of our parking lots and ask myself will this ever end?

I come before You Heavenly Father because I know that You are the answer to all my fears and One Who can calm me in the midst of the calamity the world is facing right now. Help me to cast the burden of my worries and fears upon You and to rest in the promise of Your Word that You are always by my side and that You are in control.

I also ask that You would help the many in this world that are feeling the brunt of this outbreak. To each healthcare worker putting their own safety at risk to help the sick and those battling this illness, I ask that You by Your mighty Hand would protect them and keep not only them but their families healthy and well.

For all those that have contracted this virus, I would ask that You would place upon them Your healing hand. Please give them strength and healing. Father our hearts break each time another death is announced and our hearts long for an end to this sickness. Please help those in the midst of this sickness to regain their health and be well.

For all of our students who long for the social interaction of school again who are struggling with the new reality of learning from home, I ask that You would allow them the focus they need to learn and encouragement to help them through this time away from friends.

For all of the parents struggling with bills, with this new reality of children being home constantly, and the uncertainty that this crisis brings I pray that you would bring peace and comfort to their hearts and minds as each day passes.

For all those that are struggling, I pray that You would wrap Your loving arms around us. God I don't have the words to convey all the struggles and fears that I am going through right now, but You know them and I trust that You are in control and will answer each pray.

Let me thank You right now God, for hearing my prayer and I know in Your goodness and mercy an answer is coming. Let me thank you in advance for the blessings You are to bring. For it is in Jesus' name I pray these things. Amen.

A 7-DAY CORONAVIRUS PRAYER GUIDE



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pray for those who are sick, and their families, that the Lord would heal and comfort them.

PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Pray for those on the frontlines treating those who are sick, that the Lord would protect and strengthen them.



PRAY FOR THE VULNERABLE

Pray for those who are especially vulnerable to disease, that the sickness would pass over them and that they would rely on others for help.

PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Pray for those who have lost work, that God would provide through their families and communities.



PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Pray for national and local government leaders, that they would have wisdom to do what is best for all.

PRAY FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Pray for students who are out of school, and their families, that the Lord would give them patience and discipline.



PRAY FOR CHURCHES

Pray for churches and ministry leaders, that they would know how to best show the love of Christ in this time.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful."

JOHN 14:27

Easter Bible Quiz (Easy Difficulty)

1) When Jesus died, which of the following things did NOT happen?

(Matthew 27:51-53)

- there was a flood that covered the earth
- the veil of the temple was torn
- there was an earthquake
- the dead came to life

2) Who asked Pilate for Jesus' corpse and put it in his own tomb?

(Matthew 27:57-58)

- Mary Magdalene
- Joseph of Arimathea
- Paul
- Zebedee

3) What was placed in front of the door of the tomb to close it?

(Matthew 27:60)

- a stone
- a fence
- a blanket
- a wall

4) On what day was Jesus' resurrection?

(Matthew 27:63)

- the tenth day
- the same day as his crucifixion
- the third day
- the fourteenth day

5) What moved the object in front of the tomb door?

(Matthew 28:2)

- the earthquake
- the object moved itself
- the 12 Apostles
- an angel

6) Who did not see the empty tomb?

(John 20:1-3)

- Mary Magdalene
- Peter
- John the Beloved
- Joseph

7) What was found in the tomb?

(John 20:6-7)

- a vase full of water
- a sparrow
- a growing lily
- Jesus' burial clothes

8) Who did Mary Magdalene think Jesus was when she first saw Him after He had risen?

(John 20:15)

- Pontius Pilate
- one of the Twelve Apostles
- the gardener

Easter Bible Quiz (Easy Difficulty)

8) Who did Mary Magdalene think Jesus was when she first saw Him after He had risen?

(John 20:15)

- Pontius Pilate
- one of the Twelve Apostles
- the gardener
- a shepherd

9) Which of these things did Jesus NOT say to Mary?

(John 20:16-17)

- "Touch me not"
- "Blessed art thou among women"
- "Go to my brethren"
- "Mary"

10) Which of the Twelve Apostles did not believe that Jesus was risen?

(John 20:24)

- Simon Peter
- Andrew
- Thomas
- John the Beloved

Answers to Easter Bible Quiz (Easy Difficulty)

- 1) When Jesus died, which of the following things did NOT happen? (Matthew 27:51-53) : **there was a flood that covered the earth.**
- 2) Who asked Pilate for Jesus' corpse and put it in his own tomb? (Matthew 27:57-58): **Joseph of Arimathaea**
- 3) What was placed in front of the door of the tomb to close it? (Matthew 27:60): **a stone**
- 4) On what day was Jesus' resurrection? (Matthew 27:63): **the third day**
- 5) What moved the object in front of the tomb door? (Matthew 28:2): **an angel**
- 6) Who did not see the empty tomb? (John 20:1-3): **Joseph**
- 7) What was found in the tomb? (John 20:6-7): **Jesus' burial clothes**
- 8) Who did Mary Magdalene think Jesus was when she first saw Him after He had risen? (John 20:15): **the gardener**
- 9) Which of these things did Jesus NOT say to Mary? (John 20:16-17): **"Blessed art thou among women"**
- 10) Which of the Twelve Apostles did not believe that Jesus was risen? (John 20:24): **Thomas**