



CENTRAL
CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

PASTOR'S NOTE

For the next few weeks we will be taking a look at our **walk** as Christians, as disciples of Jesus Christ. Yesterday's message was the beginning point, looking at how our life must be consistent and cohesive in our walk. In the coming weeks we will look at some more specific areas where our walk probably needs some attention. We all are in need of a "tune-up" from time to time, and this is what I am praying these

messages will be for all of us. Please pray for me as I prepare each week, that the Lord will direct these messages.

In talking with people, reading a lot of studies from Christians who spend their life observing and surveying the world, and praying about what we should be doing about what is coming next, I am more convinced than ever that we need to be positioning ourselves for a mini-revival, of sorts. People who are not currently affiliated with **church** are going to be looking for a sense of stability, connection, and community. We should be planning for this, now. We should be preparing and putting in place all that we can in order to have a voice in their life when they begin looking around and wondering, "What next?" We should be looking at this time in the life of Central as an opportunity to **restart** as a church community. We must adapt to the new reality and make sure as a church that we are speaking in a way that people who don't know Jesus will be willing to hear us. Moving into the future, I believe that church life is going to be different forever, and if we want to remain relevant and vibrant it will be more important than ever to be willing to leave behind the methods of the past and look for new methods to share the gospel.

I am working with the Advisory Board on a project to upgrade and enhance our audio and video systems. This is an area that we have neglected in the past. However, we can no longer afford to do so. One of the major changes happening right now is the influence of the online experience for people who are seeking a church. We are limited by our current system, which is by almost any definition obsolete and inadequate. While it has served us well to this point, we are in desperate need of updating in this area. Upgrading this area of our church will also enhance the experience of those who choose to attend our services in person, it will provide more flexibility to use tools that we currently can't use, and should allow for better expansion in the future. Despite the difficulty that the pandemic has brought into our lives, the Lord has provided a financial blessing to Central through 2020, and it appears that we should have the financial means to complete this project in the coming weeks once the Advisory Board approves it.

I don't know about you, but I gave up making New Year's resolutions many years ago. I rarely, if ever, managed to carry through with them. It seemed like a useless waste of my time and energy to make resolutions that I was never going to fulfill. I thought about this again this year, and wondered if I was just lazy. Then, this morning, I saw a report that said 80 percent of New Year's resolutions are broken by early February! At least if I am lazy I am in good company, as most Americans appear to likewise be lazy. The main reason why people fail to fulfill their own resolutions is that they set unrealistic goals. For example, if I need to lose some weight it is better to break the total into small steps that are more easily tracked and met. I also need to determine **how** I am going to achieve the goal. In this example, am I going to add in exercise to a diet that restricts my calorie intake?

I have a small goal for you to consider moving forward into 2021. Not a New Year's resolution, just a small step that could bring about a good change in your outlook on life. If you are already spending time every day reading and thinking about God's word, great. If not, would you be willing to spend 3-5 minutes per day to begin reading God's word? Psalm 119:11 (ESV) ~ *I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.* If you want to receive a reminder and a suggested passage, let me know!

Pastor Alan

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

We have been seen by many; our behavior has been closely watched; it was thus that we preached our morning sermon. It is of no use, my son, to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere we walk.

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MISSIONARY SPOTLIGHT

Our missionary spotlight for this week is [Neil & Mandi Morgan](#)



To visit either of our mission's departments, click their logo above.

Volunteer Schedule

January 10, 2021

A/V Tech ~ Brett Daire

Security ~ Adrian Smith

Greeters ~ Greg & Laura Griffie

Please remember to make arrangements for someone to fulfill your role if you are unable to do so.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mid-Week Bible Study ~ Book of Genesis
 - Wednesday, January 6th ~ 11:00-11:30 AM on Facebook Live
- Fig Leaf Saturday
 - Saturday, January 9th from 1:00-3:00 PM
 - This will be a work day instead of a distribution day
- Deacon Ministry Team Meeting ~ Zoom
 - Monday, January 11th from 7:30-8:00 PM
- Annual Business Meeting ~ Zoom
 - Sunday, January 17th from 7:00-8:00 PM
- Advisory Board Meeting ~ Zoom
 - Thursday, January 21st from 6:30-8:00 PM



BIBLE CHALLENGES

Bible Reading Challenge: Ephesians 4:1-16

Bible Memorization Challenge: Ephesians 4:1 (ESV) ~ *I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called...*

SERMON ARCHIVE

Latest Message: [A Proper Walk](#)

You can access all of our archived messages by clicking this [link](#).

CENTRAL FAMILY

Here's how you, the Central Church family, can help spread the news on social media about our church:

- If you have Facebook—find and 'Like' **and** 'Follow' the [page](#) (if you want to get **really** bold, invite friends and family to Central's page, especially those in need of the gospel)
 - When something new and engaging (Sunday live stream, Wednesday Bible study, upcoming events, etc.) appears Central's page—SHARE it to your own timeline
- If you have a Twitter account—find and 'Follow' [Central's Twitter feed](#)
 - When something new and engaging (Sunday live stream, Wednesday Bible study, upcoming events, etc.) appears on Central's Twitter feed—retweet it!

FIG LEAF NEEDS

We can really use some new, unopened socks and underwear for both men and women, boys and girls. Don't forget, we will be needing to resupply our stock after each opening weekend. So, get the word out to friends and family that we will be taking donations of gently used clothing. Our biggest need is clothing for teen boys! ***With the change in weather, we will also be needing more winter clothing, especially coats!***