



Heritage Bible Church

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Rev. Brian Rice, Pastor

Rev. Henry Hazard, Pastor Emeritus

Weekly Services

Sunday School - 9:15 AM

Worship Service - 10:30 AM

Wednesday Night Community Group:

Meal - 6:15 PM Study - 6:30 PM

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heritagebiblechurch.net



Heritage Bible Church - Panama City

Guest Speaker - Alvin Anderson September 1st

We will have missionary to Honduras, Alvin Anderson speaking to us on September 1st during the morning service. Join us to hear an update on the work he has been doing. We will also be taking up a love offering for him if you are interested in giving.



Sunday, September 1

Join us for food and fun at the Rices (3022 Malone Dr, Panama City). Heritage will provide the meat and drinks, bring a side and/or dessert to share. The doors/pool will open at 4, dinner will be at 5:30.

FROM THE PASTOR

The Pursuit of God

New Series Starts Sunday, September 8 @ 6PM

"The whole course of the life is upset by failure to put God where He belongs. We exalt ourselves instead of God and the curse follows." A.W. Tozer penned these words in *The Pursuit of God* as a reflection of man's lack of reckoning our Holy God as Holy. There exists a false mindset that some things are holy and others are not. We ought to do everything from sleep to preach the gospel for the glory of God; every aspect of our lives ought to be set apart for Him (holy). As we wrestle reckoning God as Holy for the next 10 weeks, I pray we will each cry out to God, and look to a fuller, more holy life. Here's a brief overview of some topics we will cover.

One of the biggest problems in the Church is that we do not pursue God first, we allow our seeking of God to be done by our teachers and not ourselves. Programs and methods often fill our time but don't satisfy the desire God has placed within each believer to truly experience Him as the organizers hoped they would. We often place religious acts into a box and end up with shallow worship and experiences with God. I personally have experienced many of these dry spells in my walk with Christ, exchanging busyness with fullness with Him, what about you? That every believer would be and remain at the sweet spot of their soul truly thirsting and panting after God (Psalm 42). Without this base of truly seeking and longing for God there is no way in which we can stay "on track" in the other areas of our life.

We get in the way of experiencing God to the fullest, because of the sin of ourselves, our selfishness, etc. that dwells within us. God has fully redeemed us, but so often "we are satisfied to rest in our judicial possessions and for the most part we bother ourselves very little about the absence of personal experience." God desires a fuller life, yet we do not yearn for it. Because we are fallen we focus on ourselves and taking care of us. We must truly give up everything and hold everything in a cupped hand, protected as a good steward but free to be used by God as He pleases. "We are often hindered from giving up our treasures to the Lord out of fear for their safety... But we need have no such fears. Our Lord came not to destroy but to save. Everything is safe which we commit to Him, and nothing is really safe which is not so committed." By holding onto and protecting that which we have, it not only takes our eyes off God, it shows we do not truly trust Him, and it keeps us pursuing creation and not creator.

Another problem we encounter is the failure to reckon the spiritual world is part of the real world, and therefore we minimize God. This is tough when our eyes see the physical world with its fallen state and it undermines our faith that the physical realities do not necessarily represent the spiritual realities of what is going on. "The Bible assumes as a self-evident fact that men can know God with at least the same degree of immediacy as they know any other person or thing that comes within the field of their experience." God is present, God is here, but is He manifested in our lives? We often don't see His presence as a real reality, so we don't seek it, and it doesn't become real/manifested. May the Lord open the eyes of my/our hearts to perceive this as truth, and know Him as well as anything else we experience.

This is the heart of the entire study, and I would encourage you all to join us for this 10 week study, beginning Sunday, September 8 at 6PM. I wait with eager anticipation of what the Holy Spirit will reveal to each of us, and how He will empower us as we pursue God and lives of deeper holiness.



The Pursuit of God

Starts Sunday, September 8 at 6 PM

This 10 week study will follow A.W. Tozer's book The Pursuit of God in which we will pursue the aspect of God's holiness in our lives, and prayerfully seek Him for renewal and transformation.



Alliance Women Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, September 14, 10 AM -12 PM

Join the Alliance Women for a time of prayer for our missionaries and our community. Bring a dish to share.



Men on a MISSION

Tuesday, September 24 at 6 PM

We are relaunching our men's ministry to intentionally pursue God, Biblical community, and the mission that God has called every man to. All men 13 and older are invited to join this twice a month meeting (2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month). We will have food, fellowship, study of His Word, and prayer for one another. Suggested cost for meal \$5/person

Church Yard Sale



Saturday, September 28

We will have a church yard sale as a fundraiser for the next Peru trip. If you have anything you would like to donate to be sold, we will be taking donations between the 22nd and 27th.



Our Alliance Women ministry will be taking over the Operation Christmas Child ministry this year. We plan to collect supplies throughout the rest of this year and have a shoebox packing

party on November 16th. Each month we will be collecting different types of items. You can place donations in the box in the foyer.

September - Personal Care Items:

- combs or hairbrushes
- toothbrushes (NO toothpaste)
- washcloth
- bar soap
- colorful bandaids
- reusable plastic containers
- cups; plates; blunt edge utensils
- small flashlights
- compact mirrors
- bows and hair clips

Check the operation Christmas child website for more ideas



Join us for our September work days on the 7th and 21st, 8-11 AM.

Future Dates: Oct 5 & 19, Nov 2 & 23, and Dec 7

*So if the Son
sets you free,
you will be
free indeed.*

John 8:36 ESV

Set Free

**2019
Southern District
Women's Retreat**

October 18 - 20
Springville Camp and Conference
Center - Odenville, AL

Join us for the annual Southern District Women's Retreat this October! It will be a great time to get away from the busyness of life and spend time with sisters in Christ from around the Southeast.

Registration is \$130 (double room) before October 1st. If you are interested in the zipline or giant swing, waivers are available on the foyer table.

For more information, you can grab a brochure from the foyer table.
Sign up on the sheet on the foyer table.

FACTS & FIGURES

Finances for Aug

For Aug 1 to Aug 31

General Operating Fund (GOF) Monthly Budget:	\$ 18,200.00
GOF Tithes and Offerings Received (4 Sundays):	\$ 12,722.02
General Operating Fund Weekly Budget:	\$ 4,200.00
GOF Avg. Weekly Tithes and Offerings (4 Sundays):	\$ 3,180.55

For Year to Date 2019 (based on 8 months and 34 Sundays):

GOF Year to Date (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (monthly basis):	\$ 145,600.00
GOF (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (weekly basis):	\$ 142,800.00
GOF YTD Tithes and Offerings Receipts-	\$ 129,437.19
GOF YTD Other Receipts:	\$ 1,561.00
GOF Year to Date Disbursements and Transfers to Other Funds:	\$(132,341.28)
GOF Receipts vs GOF Disbursements and Transfers to Other Funds:	\$ (1,243.09)
GOF Balance as of Aug 31 (257% of monthly budget):	\$ 46,780.49
Average Weekly Tithes and Offerings Received (34 Sundays):	\$ 3,498.31
YTD Avg Weekly GOF Disbursements & Transfers:	\$ (3,892.39)
Missions YTD Income: Receipts (\$7,794) + 24% of Tithes & Offerings (\$31,064.93):	\$ 38,858.93
Missions YTD Disbursements and \$200 transfer to Missions Peru Trip	\$ (40,089.42)
Missions Fund Balance:	\$ 5,217.92
Missions Peru Trip Balance:	\$ 315.45
Building Fund YTD Receipts: (Including \$1,550 In Memory of Gifts)	\$ 2,800.05
Building Fund Disbursements: (Downpayment Deposit on Replacement Shed:	\$ (799.20)
Building Fund Balance:	\$ 18,756.66
Bridge Fund Balance:	\$ 6,235.00
Hurricane Relief Fund Balance: Disbursements: (14,345.81)	\$ 3,869.71