



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Family Matters

November 3, 2019

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Minister

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Deacons

George Clark
Greg Dowdy
Mike Green
Joe Kight
Charlie Kluesner
Doug Lester
Brian Mitchell
Todd Newman
Kenny Simmons

Lessons for Today

Sunday AM

Brian Mitchell
"Cultivating
Commitment"
Ephesians 6:1-4

Sunday PM

Brian Mitchell
"Kindness"
Colossians 3:9-13

Loyalty Is A Choice

Few people have heard of Ittai. If you had asked me yesterday about him, I would have drawn a blank. It probably doesn't help much to point out that he was a Philistine mercenary living when David was king of Israel, or that he was from Gath, the city of Goliath (*it's possible he was in the Philistine army when David killed Goliath*). Yet, despite being a foreign soldier hired to serve in David's army, we can learn a valuable lesson from Ittai.

The setting is when Absalom, David's son, had conspired a coup to take over as king of Israel. It got to the point where David had to run for his life. Fleeing with him were his family and his officials in Jerusalem. Among those protecting him in his escape were 600 Gittites led by Ittai.

At this point David encouraged Ittai to go back and stay with Absalom. He reasoned, *"You are a foreigner, an exile from your homeland. You came only yesterday. And today shall I make you wander about with us, when I do not know where I am going? Go back, and take your countrymen. May kindness and faithfulness be with you"* (**2 Samuel 15:20**).

Most mercenaries would have jumped at the chance. If you are fighting for money you certainly don't want to be on the losing side! The only thing that mercenaries are loyal to is money. The cause doesn't matter. Mercenaries fight for the people who will pay them the most.

But Ittai was not like most mercenaries. There was something more important to him than money. Ittai chose to be loyal to David regardless of the circumstances. His answer to David is classic: *"... wherever my lord the king may be, whether it means life or death, there will your servant be"* (**2 Samuel 15:21**).

Ittai chose to be loyal to David. He was under no obligation to stay. He had nothing to expect as a reward by staying. They were fleeing for their lives when he made his choice. Yet, he chose to be loyal to David. As it turned out, Absalom's coup failed and David remained king. David remembered Ittai's loyalty and made him commander over one third of David's army (**2 Samuel 18:2**).

We are living in a time when loyalty is not common. Just think about how loyal employers/employees are these days, or the commitment to marriage, or to our financial obligations. It doesn't take much for us to cut our losses and run.

How strong is your loyalty to God? Have you chosen to be loyal to your King *"whether it means life or death,"* reward or failure? There are Christians who are like mercenaries, serving the one who will pay the most. But God is looking for people who choose to be loyal and committed (**1 Cor. 15:58**) because they love Him.

Joe Chesser
Fruitland Church of Christ

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:00 am
Worship: 10:00 am
Evening: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Bible Class: 101
Sunday AM: 167
Sunday PM: 58
Wednesday PM: 89
Contribution: \$5298
Budget: \$4100

Think on This...

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:11-12

Serving This Week

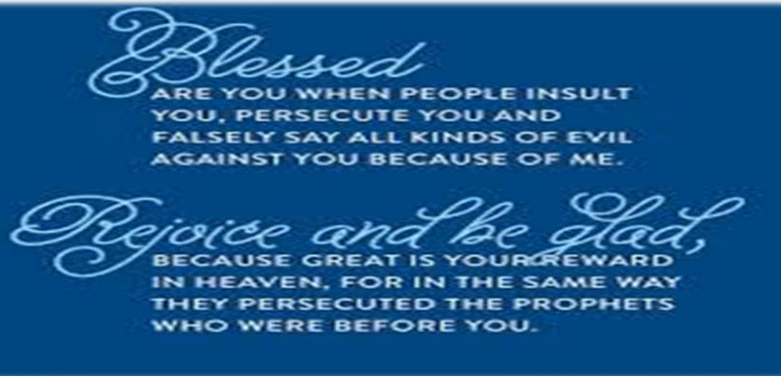
Announcements: Joe Kight
Greeters: Gary & Marcia Ridenour
Ushers: Sid Naramore/Mike Green
PowerPoint: Lane Crowden
Lead Singing: Greg Dowdy
Head Lord's Table: Phil Singleton
Scripture: Dylan Seabaugh
Prayers:
AM: Allen Hedge/Chris Pugh
PM: Randy Seabaugh/Scott Watson
Wednesday Singing: Dale Gilliland
Wednesday Devo: Phil Singleton
Wednesday Prayer: Gary Neese
Elder Chair: Randy Seabaugh
Communion to Shut-Ins: Randy Seabaugh

Daily Bible Reading

November 3: Luke 19-21
November 4: Luke 22-24
November 5: John 1-3
November 6: John 4-6
November 7: John 7-9
November 8: John 10-12
November 9: John 13-15

Continuing Prayer Needs

June Black	Dorothy Loyd
Jacob Blagg	Mike Mills
Ruby Bradd	Brian Mitchell
Thelma Brown	Jerry Mitchell
Lisa Bryan	Gary & Jane Mungle
Donna Cox	Carolyn Neese
Maxine Davis	Vivian Petty
Bill Dillman	Jim Pickett
John Dobbins	Eevee Pugh
Ray & Marilyn Duffey	Kevin Pugh
Paul Ensor	Patricia Risenhoover
Kelly & Trudy Garland	Barbara Rushing
Kenny & Sharon Giesler	Lena Schweain
Wayne Graham	Helen Seabaugh
Cody Hazel	Jim & Susan Seabaugh
Juanita Hedge	Steve Simmons
Terry Henson	Sarah Singleton
Vonda Hughes	Kim Spraggs
Jack Huskey	Gelena Stoffregen
Sonny Huskey	Molly Thomas
David Isabel	Susan Tomsu
Peter Ivanovich	Carolyn Trentham
Al Jackson	Mike Turnbow
Betty Jones	Justin Walker
Tina Jones	Sylvia Ward
Gerald Lawson	



Remember in Your Prayers

- **Dale Gilliland** has been diagnosed with colon cancer and will begin radiation and chemo this week. He expects to have surgery sometime after the treatments.
- **Brad Jackson**, Betty Jones' nephew is in critical condition and on life support in a St Louis hospital.
- **Eunice Anderson**, Barb Clark's and Virginia Lowery's sister, is recovering from a recent stroke and hopes to have surgery soon.
- **Lacey Smith**, wife to Kellie McClellan's cousin, became responsive after being given nearly no chance for survival. She was to have surgery on Friday to remove pressure on her brain.
- **Sharon Giesler** reports that her eyes are doing well and she did not have to get a shot at her last visit.
- **Mike Turnbow** had a good MRI on Monday.
- **Paul Ensor** has gotten mixed results from his recent scans and will go to MD Anderson for further diagnosis and treatment.

Sympathy

- We offer our sympathy to the Selvig family as a family friend, **Brian Davis**, passed away this week. He leaves behind a wife and two daughters.

News & Notes

- It's time to rake some leaves! If you have leaves that need to be removed, please sign up on the bulletin board and listen for a **Leaf Removal Date** to be announced very soon!
- Bring your favorite breakfast dishes and join us for a Breakfast#1 (Bolen, Fehr, Watson) will be in charge of set-up and clean-up.

Rejoice!

- We rejoice with **Emily Newman** and her family as Emily decided to put on Christ in baptism on Monday night. Take time to encourage Emily in her Christian walk.

Upcoming Area Events

- **November 8-10:** Central Seminar, "Islam in Christ's Eyes", with Wissam Al-Aethawi

Youth Corner

- **November 3:** All Youth Devo at the building following evening services. Bring a potluck dish to share after the devo.
- We will be hosting our first **IGNITE Youth Rally** on **January 18-19, 2020!** Watch for more details as plans are being made and sign up on the youth board if you would like to be involved in planning.

