

Greenbank Weekly Update – Friday, July 10, 2020

Do you know anyone in need? Please contact the church office, and we will find a way to assist.

Contact info: office@greenbankcoc.org or 302-994-3800. Office hours: Monday Only, 9:00am-3:00pm

Email and phone messages will be accessed remotely throughout the week.

Reflection – Does God Ever Give Me More Than I Can Handle? By Sarah Garrett (edited)

“Well, like the Bible says, God will never give you more than you can handle,” the tornado survivor said to the TV news reporter. Her words caught my attention. I had heard something similar a few weeks before in a Christian song on the radio. That night, I looked through my Bible and did an Internet search on the topic. I needed to know where this idea came from. After an exhaustive search, I discovered my hunch was correct. The idea that God will never give us more than we can handle isn’t found in Scripture. (At least not the way the tornado survivor – and the rest of us – typically use it.)

A Dangerous Twist

The statement likely derives from 1 Corinthians 10:13 which states, “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide a way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” This verse isn’t about difficult circumstances. *It’s about temptation.* It seems we’ve taken it out of context and applied it to other areas of life. Instead of banking on the idea that our lives will never overwhelm us, the Bible calls us to depend on God when situations become more than we can bear. There are countless verses in the Bible that show this, and one of my personal favorites is Psalm 121:1-2, “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.” Believing that God will never give you more than you can handle is dangerous to your spiritual life for two reasons.

Reason 1: You could believe that if life feels unbearable, God must have abandoned you.

My husband had a rock-climbing accident that left him with 53 broken bones and permanent partial paralysis. He miraculously survived, but he will never be able to run again and will have to use a brace to walk for the rest of his life, unless the Lord intervenes. My husband will tell you that this event proved to be way beyond what he could bear. It even caused him to contemplate suicide multiple times. If he had believed that God would never give him more than he could bear, his accident would have shattered his faith along with his body. If you believe this lie, then when hard times do come, you may think God has abandoned you. If you cannot bear something that is happening, He must have forgotten about you, right? *Wrong!* In Joshua 1:5 God promises, “I will not leave you or forsake you.” God has not and will not abandon you, even when life feels unbearable.

Reason 2: By avoiding the unbearable, you’re missing an opportunity to [grow].

If we are willing, God will use difficult times to show us His faithfulness and teach us how to be more like Him. When life is more than we can handle on our own, we tend to read our Bibles more, pray more, and even praise God more. Doing this teaches us new things about God because our hearts are hyper-aware of our need for Him. Romans 8:28 states, “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” No matter what comes your way, God is using it for good and for His glory. We may not understand it on this side of heaven, but we must trust that God does.

The Gift of Too Much

Life will bring more than you can handle at times. In those times, we can turn to God, knowing His is never, ever overwhelmed. If you are in an overwhelming season right now, you can lay down the false idea that God will never give you more than you can handle, and instead turn to Him, asking Him to carry what you cannot. Consider saying Psalm 121:1-2 as a prayer right now... “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.”

Prayer & Praise

Ed Maynard: recovering from surgery on his eyelid

Barbara Davis: recovering from knee surgery

Ken Essex: injured his back

Joyce Essex: Parkinson's Disease is progressing

Greenbank church: Continue to pray for one another. May we be an example of love and unity to our community. Remember our church leadership as they make decisions about reopening for services

Essential Workers: Doctors, nurses, law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, postal & transit, grocers, etc.

Our Government Leaders who are working to find a balance of restrictions and cautious reopening.

The most recent requests are listed above. If you have an item for prayer or praise, please email it to office@greenbankcoc.org for inclusion in our weekly list. To view previous prayer requests and those on our ongoing lists, please visit the Weekly Bulletins page on our website www.greenbankcoc.org.

7/12 Worship Leader – Sedric Willis

I Want to Be a Worker for the Lord

Prayer – Sedric Willis

Blessed Assurance

Scripture Reading & Prayer – Mark Ray

I Am Thine, O Lord

Communion & Offering – Darrin Anderson

I'm in the Glory-land Way

Sermon – Domingo Reyes

Closing Comments & Prayer – Jim Friederichsen

Announcements

Baby Boy Piggy Bank: We are collecting money for a piggy bank for Erika Aguilar, daughter of Maria Aguilar Gallegos, who is expecting a little boy in early August. If you would like to contribute, please make a check out to Greenbank Church of Christ, and put "piggy bank" on the memo line. We will purchase gift cards for Erika with the donations we receive. Also, if you have any baby boy clothing or other baby items that are in good condition and would like to donate them, please make arrangements with the office to drop them off by July 27.

Sunday Breakfast Mission has an opening for an Assistant Thrift Store Manager. The Urban Vintage store serves the Wilmington community with gently used items of all descriptions. If this job opening is of interest to you, please send your resumé and testimony to Kathleen Dorsey, 110 N. Poplar St., Wilmington, DE 19801, or submit by email to kdorsey@sundaybreakfastmission.org.

Other Employment Opportunities: If you know of someone looking for a job, please contact the church office. We have received information from some places that are hiring.

Online Bible Studies

Wednesdays @ 7PM: Facebook Live <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>

Gospel of John: This online study continues. Boyd Reed posts passages weekly along with questions to prompt discussion. You can access the lessons at any time convenient for you, read other's comments, and post questions or comments you have for each lesson. Access the lessons here:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjUyNzlyMTI2MTda> **Class code: 7s2upmd**

Worship With Us Online

Sunday Mornings 9:00 a.m. Spanish service 10:30 a.m. English service @ 10:30 a.m.

1) **Facebook Live:** <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>

2) **Greenbank website:** www.greenbankcoc.org Click on the Facebook Live tab on the menu bar at the top of the page. PLEASE NOTE: You do NOT need to have a Facebook account to view the live feed through our website.

3) **Conference call:** If you do not have internet access, you can dial in on your phone to connect.
(301) 715-8592 Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992

Options for Giving

We appreciate those who are able to maintain regular giving. Ways to contribute:

1) **Write a check** and mail to 511 Greenbank Road, Wilmington, DE 19808, or hold all checks until we begin meeting again.

2) **Cash givers** can set aside your contributions and bring them when we begin meeting again.

3) **Online giving:** A PayPal option has been set up on our website www.greenbankcoc.org. Click on the “Donate” button and follow the instructions. (Note: there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)

Last Week’s Contribution: \$4,770

Weekly Average: \$4,147