

Maybe this has never happened to you, but he, Peter, was spot on one moment and way off the next. When Jesus asked his disciples who they thought he was, Peter's spot-on answer was, "You are the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16), and he got a major thumbs up from Jesus. But almost immediately, when Jesus started talking about God's plan for him to go to Jerusalem to suffer, be killed, and rise on the third day, Peter interjected, "Never!" Which was followed by a swift rebuke from Jesus, **"Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance, offense, stumbling block to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man"** (Matthew 16:23 ESV, italics mine). Ouch!

How do we keep our minds on the things of God? How can we tell if we are thinking spiritually in tune with God? How can you and I avoid Jesus turning around to tell us, "Get behind me, Satan." I might know the complete answer to these questions, but I do know the correct starting point.

1. **"This is the most important," Jesus answered: Listen, Israel! The Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength"** (Mark 12:29-30 HCSB). Who or what do you love the most? The answer to that question will tell you where your heart is. In Peter's case, his eschatology, political dreams, and love for his nation were in direct conflict with God's plans, priorities, and ways. Jesus tells us, **"If you love me, you will keep my commandments"** (John 14:15 (ESV). God's commandments reveal his will in the most practical of ways; they also set the standard for right and wrong, good and evil, and what is righteous and holy. Which brings us to number two.
2. **"The second commandment is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these"** (Mark 12:31 ESV, italics mine).

"If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well" (James 2:8 (ESV)

"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 7:12 (ESV).

Everything we, Christians, do and say, everything we believe, all of our opinions, preferences, and politics, must submit to these two supreme commands. We are not at liberty to treat others in ways we do not want to be treated ourselves, even when they deny God and Christ, don't care about God's standards and ethics, deny our rights, and maybe even outright hate us. We are not free to lay claim to a standard of justice and deny it to others. Maybe the smartest thing I can do at this point is to let Jesus himself talk to you, **"But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful"** (Luke 6:27-36 (ESV).

To God be all glory, love you, Paxtor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

Carol Bozsik (Rehab), Carol Parrish (Health), Jerry Miller (Stroke), MaryAnn (Health), Bud Guyton (Health), Amy Jo (brain tumor surgery), Joyce Prinz (Health), John Stagner (Bereavement), Payton & Grace, Hilmar Church, Marriages, our Country's Leadership, and those dealing with addiction.

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray, Farney, Peter, Jimmy, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Noah Martin, John Michael Chavez, Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Brian Sula, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen, Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski, Christopher Sula, Dylan Briggs, Jacob Bowden

Church Board Members:

Wynter Sturtevant III - Pastor , Richard Mayes - Head Deacon , Chuck Arndt, Jerry Lyman, Sarah Storey, April Wilcox

“2025 Tanzania Mission Trip”

November 2nd - 18th
(See Pastor Hans for further details)

October

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

- Ladies Fellowship Pumpkin Paint: Oct. 16th at 6:00 PM
- Board Meeting: Oct. 20th at 6:30 PM
- Roger Stagner's Memorial Service: Oct. 25th at 10:00 AM
- **Fellowship Meal:** Oct. 26th following the
Lord Supper Sunday Service
- Ladies Luncheon (60+): Nov. 8th at 11:00 AM

Fellowship Refreshments



were provided by:

"Beverly's Class & Youth"

and we **thank you.**

Next week:

"Merle's Class is up!"



If you notice someone has been absent from Small Group or Worship Services for awhile, why not call them or stop by to let him/her know that they have been missed. A kindness that cost you nothing could mean everything to someone who is suffering in the silence of self-exile.



Giving

October 5, 2025

Offering:
\$6,843.00

Camp:
\$75.00

Food:
\$.00

Missions:
\$5.00

Attendance:
114

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM
Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM
GriefShare - (On Hiatus)

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

Saturday: Youth Hang-Out (Hiatus)

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Give

Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.”

Luke 6:38 (NIV)



Yearly Bible Reading Plan - 2025 **October 13th - October 19th**

DAY 1 - 2 Cor. 12-13 (Proverbs 13)	DAY 4 - Romans 3 (Proverbs 16)
DAY 2 - Romans 1 (Proverbs 14)	DAY 5 - Romans 4 (Proverbs 17)
DAY 3 - Romans 2 (Proverbs 15)	DAY 6 - (Proverbs 18)
	DAY 7 - (Proverbs 19)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.