

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2019

The youth group recently watched a Bible study on Rightnow Media called This Is the Day, led by Tim Tebow. Episode three was entitled Live Extraordinary, not Ordinary. In this study, Tim taught that one way to live an extraordinary life was to practice perseverance.

Discussion questions included, "What are some indicators that your life could be too comfortable?" We concluded that our culture puts a premium on comfort and we are all probably too comfortable.

Another question was, "In what ways have you experienced a temptation to be lazy?" Answers to that question included, "I spend too much time playing Fortnite." "Too much time on Instagram, Netflix, watching TV, or binge watching movies." What I found telling about this list is every single temptation to be lazy was technology. A screen, to be precise.

Before any adults start tut-tutting about 'those kids,' grown-ups spend way too much time on screens as well. In fact, many of the young people are on screens so much because adults allow it or they are just following the example of the adults in their lives.

The lesson taught us that sometimes working hard for God means he'll ask us to do things we're not comfortable doing. He may have us give up things that lead us to laziness.

The text we studied in this lesson was **Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV)** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

The witnesses are those people mentioned in chapter 11, whose lives are an example, a witness to us of what it means to persevere. Noah, Abraham, Moses and others all endured hardship, but persevered as they served God.

The passage tells us this life is like a race, and anything that slows us down in a race keeps us from our goal. Sin is what slows us down in our life race, so we need to throw it off and persevere in following God so we can finish the race.

The solution to not being distracted by temptations and persevering even though the race is tough is Jesus. We are to fix our eyes on him and let his example speak to us and teach us how to run.

Talk about perseverance! He considered it joy to be able to die for us to pay for our sins and so get to spend eternity with us. That is how much Jesus loves you!

He left the glory of heaven and endured the shame of crucifixion. But after he persevered, he was rewarded as he sat on his throne at the right hand of God the Father.

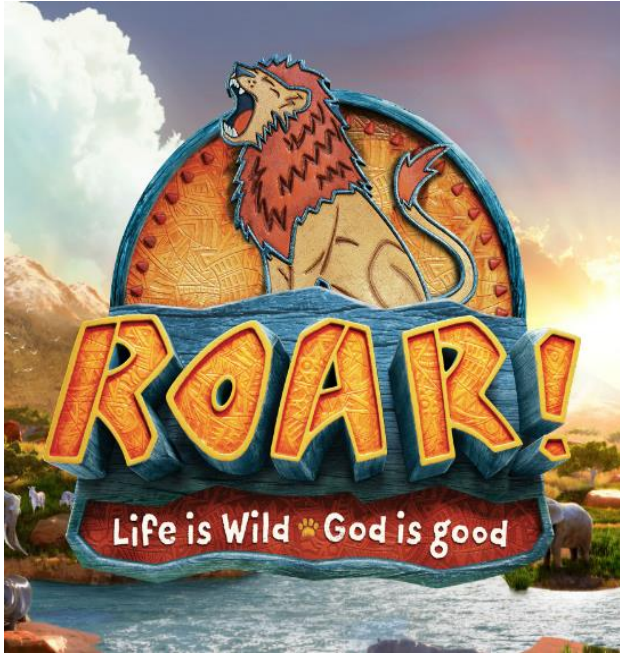
Verse three tells us to model ourselves after our Lord in perseverance. **Hebrews 12:3 (NIV)** *Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

We need to think about times we have had to persevere in following Jesus and how God helped us during that time. We also should think of ways we can remind ourselves to focus on Jesus, to *Fix Our Eyes* on him so we can obey him as we go to work, school, church, home, or around your neighborhood.

The lesson concluded with this: *Following Jesus doesn't always mean we have to take a giant leap of faith. Sometimes it's just taking a small step of faith that pushes us slightly out of our comfort zone. This week, choose to obey Jesus, even if it makes you feel uncomfortable. Choose to live the extraordinary life of a follower of Jesus.*

This lesson isn't just for youth. It is for all of us. Let us all fix our eyes on Jesus and persevere in our service to him and his kingdom!

Mike



VBS

July 15th-19th, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Aisha would like to set up for VBS and have a volunteer training meeting, Sunday, July 14th at 4 PM. Please plan to attend!



WEDNESDAY, JULY 24TH
7 PM

VALLEY FALLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The event is for all of the community. Everyone is encouraged to attend: all ages. Be here, be informed, be confident we are looking out for your safety.

Men's Breakfast: The men's breakfast will be Saturday, July 13th at 8:00 AM. Charlie Brown is cooking.

JAMS: Is on summer break, but continued prayers for next year's attendance and volunteers is always welcome.

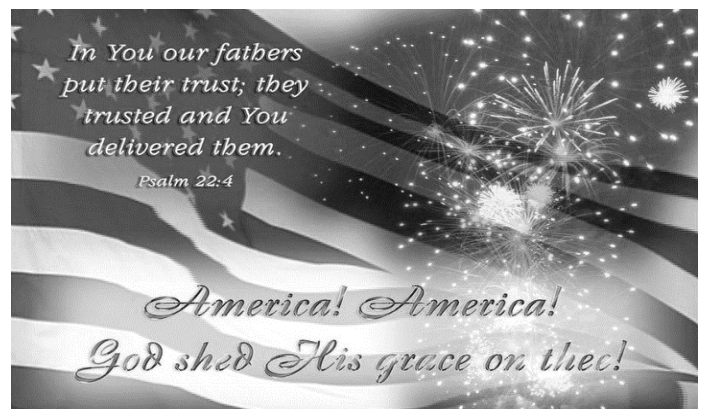
Pocket Change for Progress: We take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving every 3rd Sunday during church. The money is divided between VFCC Youth programs and the School Supply Giveaway Fund.

Valley Falls Christian Church has partnered with **rightnow MEDIA** to bring you a video library with thousands of selections of Bible studies, teaching on apologetics, creationism, finance and Christian history. It offers Christian children's programming, men's and women's studies, selections for the entire family, as well as marriage helps and many other options. This is free to you provided by the church. Go to the church website to sign up if you haven't. If you are already using it, please give Pastor Mike some feedback as to how useful it is for you!

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallsc.org. If you cannot access them this way, you may ask Pastor Mike for a cd copy.

Service opportunity: The church is looking for someone willing to oversee the ordering and distribution of Sunday school curriculum on a quarterly basis. If interested, please see Pastor Mike.

Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 10th, 7 PM



July	Nursery	Greeters	Communion prep	Scripture reader	Communion table
7	Debbie/Myles	Starkey	Starkey	Starkey Luke 8:27-30	Jay/ Stan/ Clinton /Wayne F
14	Brittany/Ashley	Durand	Durand	Durand John 21:15-17	Stan/ Jay/ Ray /Kyle
21	Judy/Abby	Barrett	Barrett	Barrett Luke 19:2-6	Jay/ Stan/ David /Brian
28	Laura/Lauren	Spencer	Spencer	Spencer Genesis 1:26-31	Stan/Jay/ Wayne A/Jackson

July communion devotion and prayer: Jay Welborn

Prayer Requests: Emma Dockweiler, Becky Arnold, Vacation Bible School, School supply giveaway, Rhonda Teaford, Jerry Heinen, Andy Conser, Jeremy Shelton

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, Gary Flack, Dayton Flack

Church Offerings

May 19 - \$ 1,732
May 26 - \$ 1,135
June 02 - \$ 2,510
June 09 - \$ 1,007
June 16 - \$ 2,222
June 23 - \$ 1,190

Our expenses average \$1500 a week.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

5 Laura Reich
8 Allene Mattox
10 Tiffany Spencer
11 PHIL & TABITA MCAFEE (1981)
17 Kaori Cazares
19 Abby GrandPre
20 Aleyna GrandPre
22 Mike Kirby
Jacob Mitchell
24 Christy Arnold
David and Helen Grove (1966)
25 Wade Boyce
31 CINDY SHEAD
(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)

OUTREACH-H.O.P.E. 16th ANNUAL “SUPPLYING OUR FUTURE IN THE PRESENT”

Set up FRIDAY, August 2nd @ 7 PM
Here at the church
Volunteers needed

SATURDAY, August 3, 2019
Give away begins
8 AM until noon
Volunteers needed

Lunch following the Giveaway
for volunteers

Contact Tiffany Spencer for
details

Valley Falls Christian Church

511 Oak Street
Valley Falls, KS 66088

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM

Worship – 10:00 AM

Youth Group (grades 6-12) – 5:00 PM

Midweek:

JAMs (grades K-6): Wed. 3:30-5:00

Bible Study: Wednesday 7:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
	1	2	INDEPENDENCE DAY 4	6
	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	5:30 - Zumba	1 PM – Elders	
7	8	10	11	13
2 PM – Midland 5 PM – Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	5:30 - Zumba 7 PM Board Meeting		8 AM Men's Breakfast
14	15	17	18	20
5 PM – Youth Group	VBS 6:30-8:30 PM 		1 PM – Elders	
21	22	24	25	27
10 AM – Pocket change for progress 5 PM – Youth Group	6 PM – Sunflower Crafters	5:30 - Zumba 7 PM Active Shooter Presentation		
28				
5 PM – Youth Group				