

The Vine

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

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

September 2021

I have t-shirts celebrating the 2008 Kansas Jayhawks NCAA Basketball championship victory, the 2015 Royals World Series victory, and the Chiefs Super Bowl victory from 2020 (2019 season).

Last month, there were hundreds of medals given out for the Olympic Games. When a person or team won the gold, there were shouts, smiles, laughter, tears, jumping up and down, and even collapsing in fatigue. What was apparent in all those cases was the joy from achieving their goal.

It doesn't have to be on a national or worldwide stage. We enjoy seeing our youth teams win. In our youth group, I want the team I'm on to win. Whether it is board games, card games or computer games, I'd rather win.

Maybe that is because we were made to be victorious. Victory is a theme we find throughout the Bible. We claim our faith is a victorious faith.

We sing songs of victory like 'Victory in Jesus' and 'Faith Is the Victory.' Songs also celebrate victory within the lyrics. High King of heaven my victory won (Be Thou My Vision). Jesus, Yours is the victory (Living Hope).

Biblical language speaks of victory. Words like overcome, conquer, and authority.

The big question: with all this talk of victory, how do we actually experience it?

Whether it is fear, anxiety, temptation, health or other issues, we want to win these battles!

First, prepare. Teams don't win championships by accident and we won't live victoriously if we don't put something into it.

Paul wrote, "*But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*" 1 Corinthians 9:27 (ESV)

He told Timothy, "*For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*" 1 Timothy 4:8 (NIV)

Long before the games commence, athletes are conditioning their bodies. Running, weights, and diet all go into preparing them to compete.

If physical training is of some value, then spiritual training is infinitely greater. Athletes memorize plays and practice basics until they become second nature. Christians should

read and memorize the word. They ought to pray often.

Also, most serious athletes set a goal as part of the preparation –winning a championship. Likewise, you can set spiritual goals to help keep you going when you feel like quitting.

Perseverance. One setback doesn't mean failure. *Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) ...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.* This is followed by the command to keep our eyes on Jesus. He is the finish line. Those who achieve spiritual victory don't give up.

Perspective. Don't set goals so high you will always feel defeated. Don't set goals so small they don't grow your faith. Most pro sports have either a comeback player or most improved player award. These athletes may not win the championship in a particular year, but their improvement was a victory. Even though a goal is not reached when you want it to be, look for smaller victories as you pursue something greater.

One great perspective to have is many of our victories may not come in this life. Our perspective always has in mind that we have glory in our future. When the Christian prays for healing, God guarantees it. However, it may not happen in this life, but in the one to come.

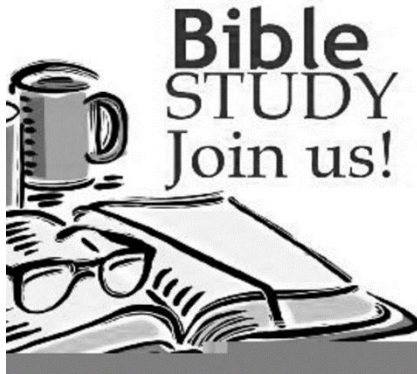
Finally, after major sports teams win a championship they commemorate the victory, usually with a parade. Often in the Old Testament, God would have his people set up a monument so when people saw it they could remember the victory he gave them.

Celebrate the victories. Some people keep a journal so they can go back and see when God was faithful and brought victory. Remembering past success encourages us as we pursue future victories.

Spiritual victory is achievable. Fear and anxiety can be helped as our trust in the Lord increases. Temptation is defeated when we recognize God provides a way out – and we take it! And victory over death is guaranteed for the Christian because our Lord rose from the grave and promised the same for us.

1 John 5:4 (ESV) *For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.*

Mike



**Wednesday, September 8th
7 PM**



**Church Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 8th
8 PM**



To all who helped with the School Supply Give-away, with time and resources. 196 students were given needed supplies.

Men's Breakfast: The men's breakfast will be Saturday, September 11th, 8:00 AM. Wayne Flack is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Please continue saving your pocket change for VFCC youth programs and School Supply Project. There is a bucket for your change anytime, not just the third Sunday.

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.

On line sermon opportunity: For those sheltering at home, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.

Don't forget to subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube channel



Sermon Series, Scripture

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| Sep 05 | I Am the Resurrection and the Life
John 11:21-27 |
| Sep 12 | I Am the True Vine
John 15:1-5 |
| Sep 19 | Give to Caesar
Matthew 22:15-22 |
| Sep 26 | Guest Speaker |

Sep	Greeters	Scripture	Devotion	Servers	Nursery
05	Flack	Flack John 11:21-27	Jay W	Stan/Jay/Jarret/Brian	Debbie/Abby
12	Gatzemeyer	Gatzemeyer John 15:1-5	Jay W	Stan/Jay/Wayne Jackson	Aisha/Rhonda
19	Welborn	Welborn Matt 22:15-22	Jay W	Stan/Jay/Ray/Chad	Tiffany/Aleyna
26	Durand	Durand	Jay W	Stan/Jay/Clinton/Kyle	Brittany/Dakota

September communion devotion and prayer: Jay Welborn

Prayer Requests: Becky Arnold, Emma Dockweiler, Pat Petesch,

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

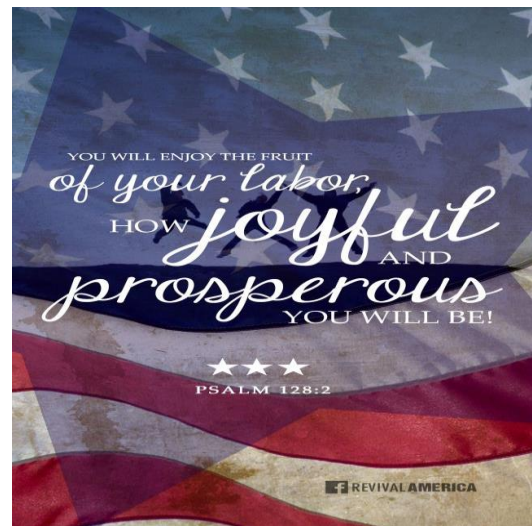
Church Offerings:

July 18 - \$ 1,383
 July 25 - \$ 1,186
 Aug 01 - \$ 1,240
 Aug 08 - \$ 1,667

Gyve to VFCC online through our partnership with Gyve at: <https://gyve.io/give/valleyfallsc>

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

6 Mary Lou Clark
 7 Ray Mitchell
 Elaine Worner
 19 Chad and Tiffany Spencer (2014)
 Todd Spencer
 25 Kyle Reich
 27 Kevin Gatzemeyer
 (Names in CAPS in Mission Field)



Valley Falls Christian Church

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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 7-12) – 5:00 PM

Midweek: Bible Study-7:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
		1	2	4
5	Labor Day 6	8	9	11
5 PM – Youth Group		6 PM – Worship prac 7 PM Bible Study 8 PM Board Meeting		8 am Men’s Breakfast
12	13	15	16	18
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6 PM – Worship prac 7 PM Bible Study		
19	20	22	23	25
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6 PM – Worship prac 7 PM Bible Study		
26	27	29	30	
5 PM Youth Group	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6 PM – Worship prac 7 PM Bible Study		