



Weekly Newsletter

January 17, 2021

Order of Worship

Greeting

Justin Hatfield

Song Leader

Briley Ewing

250 (v. 1, 2, 4, 5)

#417

Prayer

John Mahon

#76 (v. 1, 3, 6)

#492

The Lord's Supper

Barry Hannah

#842 x 2

Message

Justin Hatfield

#380 (v. 1, 3, 6)

#350 (v. 1, 2)

Announcements/

Prayer

Jon Ewing



Making Himself Equal With God

Jesus, the humble servant and the teacher with no place to lay his head, had a perfect opportunity to correct a serious misconception about his identity—if it was a misconception. Those who were upset over what he did on the Sabbath, and at his calling God his Father, considered that he was making himself equal with God (Jn. 5:18). But, far from correcting that understanding, Jesus proceeded from it to make a series of breathtaking claims that emphasize his relation to the Father even more!

Dwell for a few moments on the impact of—and the implications within—these assertions by Jesus about his identity and standing as the Son of God.

- The Father loves him and shows him all that he is doing, and he does whatever he sees the Father doing (v.19-20).
- The Father raises the dead and gives them life, and he, the Son, likewise has life in himself and gives it to whom he will (v.21, 26).
- The Father, by right, can judge, but he has given the Son all authority to execute judgment, in part because he is the Son of God and the Son of Man (v.22, 25, 27).
- The Father is to be honored, but whoever does not honor the Son whom he has sent in the same way does not honor him (v.23).
- The Father can be believed and wants people to have eternal life, but it is those who hear the word of the Son and are responsive to his voice who pass from death to life (v.24, 25).

And, of course, the force of these claims only deepens as the subsequent material in the Gospel of John unfolds.

Jesus wasn't *making himself* equal with God. He *was* equal with God, and he was saying so. He was presenting himself as the lone known basis for passing from death to life (does anyone know of another one?). He was affirming that his own voice will call everyone to account, and that his voice will decide between life and judgment.

The setting of his claims within John 5 and 6 lends soberness and credibility to them. They are bracketed by the healing of a thirty-eight-year-invalid man at Jesus' word (5:5f), and by the feeding of five thousand from very little at his hand (6:1f). And, his right to make such claims is attested by the series of witnesses which are listed in the section following them (5:31f).

Jesus made himself the issue when he could've calmed the waters. He did it because he *is* the issue—the bread of life, the Holy One of God, the Savior of the world. May this Lord's day remind us what the issue really is.

—Bill McFarland



THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:

- **Bob Snider** is having some vision loss in his left eye—also remember Leona.
- **Van Barnes** is hospitalized and may require surgery—also remember Barbara.
- **Jim Reaves** had outpatient surgery to remove a skin lesion under his eye.
- **Izumi Loomis'** mom is dealing with serious health issues. Her dad is caring for her and Izumi is so far from them.
- Shirlane Horton's niece, **Jackie Thress**, is having complications with her pregnancy.
- **Wayne Harmon**, tested positive for the virus but currently has no symptoms.
- **Julie Alexander** is doing well after her recent surgery, and is now staying a few days at Gene & Ruth Lund's home.
- **Becky Marsolf's Aunt Millie** is doing much better.
- **Bill White** is doing very well after his dental surgery last week.
- **Les Horton** is having major dental surgery January 26th.
- **Shirlane Horton** is scheduled for knee surgery February 23rd.
- **Ann Freeze** is back at Woodland Manor but they anticipate a long recovery.
- **Marjorie Shelby**, Lucile High's niece is having surgery January 26th.
- **Truman Coltrane** is home but Turman and Helen continue to need our prayers.

- Jon Davis' grandmother, **Ruth Lindsey**, is doing better and in a rehab facility recovering from her fall.
- **Jim Elliff** as he and Johnnie continue to adjust to life with dialysis.
- **Kerry Cole** is requesting prayers for his friend **Randall** who recently had a stroke; and his cousin, **Wendy Williams**, who was diagnosed with melanoma.
- **Ryan Murray** is recovering from his back surgery in Korea (Air Force base).
- The Essex's granddaughter, **Victoria Lacy**, will begin radiation treatments soon.
- **Continued prayers for health concerns:**
Ron Bower; Betty Grabber, Russell Harber, Marty Long, Marlene Matthews, Sandra Pingenot, Ruth Raines, Dennis Smith, Nancy Snider, Betty Stockstill, Connie Westerman, Carolyn Young, Nina Peak, grandmother of Jacob Herman's wife, Tina.; Dorothy, David Grimm's mother; Clint White, Leon Wake, Tina Orum and Darren Wake's father; Beverly Hammond, Coyeatte Ewing's mother; Frank Cunningham, Elizabeth Lilly's father

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to Melissa Girdley and her family in the loss of her granddad who passed away January 12th.

SHUT-INS

- Ron Bower
- Mary Bratcher
- Don Essex
- Clarence Feeny
- Ola Jean Feeny
- Wanda Frost
- Doris Iorg
- Jim/Ruth Reaves
- Doris Tobler

NURSING HOMES

- Ella Mae Findlay
- Ann Freeze
- Wayne Harmon
- Virginia Morgan
- Sandra Pingenot
- Nancy Snider

THIS WEEK ...

- ◆ Prayer time Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 5:00 pm.
- ◆ Wednesday evening classes to be announced.
- ◆ Thursday Ladies Bible Class (10:30 am) Quilters (9 am) and Card Makers (9:30 am) will meet Thursday, January 21st.

Welcome!

Please welcome the Steinshouer's who placed membership with our congregation last Sunday, January 10th. Bobby, Linda & Logan have been part of our church family for a while, so please take an opportunity to welcome them. Their address is:

823 S. Barwick; Willard, MO 65781

417-827-6839

Youth & YFC

Sunday, January 17

Youth Bible study & YFC Family Bible Study to be announced.



January Birthdays

- 18 William Morrison
- David Scott
- 19 Jim Elliff
- 20 Betty Grabber
- 21 Pat Blackburn
- Gena Ussery
- 23 Jerry Milligan
- 25 Lora Luna
- 29 Illene Birdsong
- Tim Marsolf
- 31 Pat Culley

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jared Duncan (Eric & Wanita's son) and Katelyn Eady (family attends Fordland church) who were married December 26, 2020. Katelyn is in the Army and stationed in Arizona, awaiting training school. Jared will join her soon.

January Anniversaries

- 16 Bill & Gail White—11 years
- 17 Dennis & Carolyn Smith—68 years