## From the Pastor's Pen...

January 16, 2019

There is one thing that deserves my greatest care, that calls forth my ardent desires. That is, that I may answer the great end for which I am made – to glorify thee who hast given me being, and to do all the good I can for my fellow men. Verily, life is not worth having if it is not to be improved for this noble purpose. Yet, Lord, how little is this the thought of mankind! Most men seem to live for themselves, without much or any regard for thy glory, or for the good of others. They earnestly desire and eagerly pursue the riches, honors, pleasures of this life, as if they supposed that wealth, greatness, merriment, could make their immortal souls happy. But, alas, what false delusive dreams ore these! And how miserable ere long will be those that sleep in them, for all our happiness consists in loving thee, and being holy as thou are holy.

O may I never fall into the tempers and vanities, the sensuality and folly of the present world! It is a place of inexpressible sorrow, a vast empty nothingness. Time is a moment, a vapor, and all its enjoyments are empty bubbles, fleeting blasts of wind, from which nothing satisfactory can be derived. Give me grace always to keep in covenant with thee, and to reject as delusional a great name here or hereafter, together with all sinful pleasures and profits. Help me to know continually that there can be no true happiness, no fulfilling of thy purpose for me, apart from a life lived in and for the Son of thy love.

(Taken from The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions)

For the Gospel and the Glory of God!

## JJ Cory's Column...

"I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose."

1 Corinthians 1:10

It seems like this topic of a singular purpose – a laser-focused purpose – keeps coming up. Bro. Paul has mentioned it numerous times in his sermons. The purpose of the church – God's people – is to be His Gospel. More specifically, living the gospel and making disciples by the Gospel. Our lives should be totally and completely affected by the Gospel. And we should be sharing the Gospel with people we encounter each day in hopes that their lives would become totally and completely affected by the Gospel.

Within the music ministry at Parkway, 1 Corinthians 1:10 is a verse I meditate on regularly, particularly the last phrase "united in thought and purpose." Are the lyrics/words we sing Gospel focused? Do they serve as an instrument for putting the Gospel message onto the lips of our people? Does the music help to facilitate the message of the song – in other words, does the music "emotionally paint" the song's lyrical content? Does the music have the potential to help the Gospel impress into our hearts and minds?

As we come together each week to worship in music and song, I challenge all of us to continually ask these questions and meditate on our united purpose.

Singing His Praises! Bro. Cory

Follow us on Facebook and download the Parkwaytupelo mobile app for up to date information.

## Katey's Korner...

### Family Bible Challenge 52 Verses Every Christian Should Know

January 1-5	Hebrews 13:8
January 6-12	John 15:9
January 13-19	Psalm 1:6
January 20-26	Titus 3:5
January 27-Feb. 2	Psalm 139:14

Parents!!! It's time to begin thinking about camp. There will be an information meeting for ALL camps (children and youth) on Wednesday night, January 30 at 7:10 in the youth room. We will discuss fundraising, payment options & due dates and requirements.

> Operation Christmas Child January Donations: Hats, Scarves, Socks, Christmas/winter stickers or craft items (A donation container is in the glass hallway.)

Love in Christ, Katey

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# Caleb's Connections...

#### Matthew 8:10

"When Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who followed Him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith."

This verse comes after a display of faith so amazing that Jesus Himself was even amazed. Who could have faith so that even the Lord marvels at it? This faith didn't come from a Pharisee, or a disciple, or any Jew. This faith came from a Roman Centurion. A foreigner had that amazing faith! It leads me to ponder what the Lord says about my own faith.

If Jesus were to sit in front of you, would you have faith enough to make Him marvel?

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray that the Lord will increase your faith to points that it's never reached before.

- Pray that our students will use their schools as the mission field that God has given them.

#### Announcements:

Dnow 2019 sign up has officially started! Please sign up in the glass hallway or down in the youth room.

From what's on my heart,

Caleb

#### **The Record Speaks**

<u>January 13, 2019</u>	
Sunday School Attendance	105
Guests	4
December Sunday School Avg. Attendance	108
December Income	\$51,818.88
December Expense	\$30,393.57

### The Lord's Additions

<u>September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019</u>	
By Letter	2
By Baptism	2
By Statement	
Total	4

Disciple Now 2019 February 8-9 Cost: \$20 per student Sign up in the glass hallway or youth room

Operation Christmas Child January Donations: Hats, Scarves, Socks, Christmas/Winter Stickers or Craft Items A container for donations is in the glass hallway.

Food Pantry Needs Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Bars of Soap, Hand Soap, Garbage Bags, Soup

If: Gathering Parkway ladies, let's get together to watch the live stream of If: Gathering 2019 February 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-9:00p.m. and February 9<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00p.m. Contact Angela Young or Christy Witt to sign up.

> <u>3rd Sunday Ushers</u> David Moore, Norman Bowen, Billy Lowry, Sr. David Cox, Bobby Wages, Greg Smith

January 16, 2019