



Joshua's Journal

Reaching People For Christ – **GOD FIRST!**



Rev. Dr. Robert L. Grove



Merry Christmas to one and all! We have a reason to be merry and thankful because God has brought us safely this far. Despite a Pandemic (valley experience) that seems to last and last, we continue to move forward. Our prayer is for Our Father to sweep Covid-19 and the various mutants from the land. However, we are not defeated. We have been able to grow spiritually, financially, and numerically over the past year. The number of viewers of our services has grown online, and

stewardship has remained constant.

Furthermore, we were able to bless Morris College with \$10,000 – a first. We also donated a significant amount of food items and money to the Low Country Food Bank. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, God has blessed us to be a blessing for others.

Moreover, a new year is just over the horizon, and I believe that better days are coming. We pray that during this time of “sifting” we will grow stronger rather than weaker. I appreciate the leadership of our officers and ministry leaders. I also hold in high regard the support of the membership. Saints do not be dismayed whatever betides, God will take care of us. We are HIS people, and we worship and serve in HIS house.

Always remember, God loves you and Lady Grove and I do too.

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**Joshua's Mission
Statement**

Joshua Baptist Church is a Christian Church under the direct leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are also a Missionary Baptist Church committed to the salvation of the lost, conversion of the unregenerate, and the spiritual growth of the saved. We seek to follow Christ as He leads us, cultivate a bond of Christian love, one with another; and to truly and tangibly care for those in need. As Christians, we covet a consistent holy and liberated lifestyle that testifies to our being a born again believer in Jesus Christ, as we strive to fulfill our purpose of *Reaching People For Christ*. Remember, GOD First, we walk by faith and not by sight.

Adopted
September 24, 1998

Amended
July 30, 2005

Amended
May 9, 2012



No Part-Time Christians—It's A Full-Time Job

Many Christians would have you believe they live their life every day like an upstanding child of God. Unfortunately, the truth is some Christians do this routine only on Sundays. While Christians may be holier than thou on Sunday, about six days a week some of them are just like everyone else. The reason being is that some Christians are freestyling their Christianity instead of lifestyling it.



WE'RE ALL IN.

And I get it, it's hard to perform your Christianly duties on a daily basis. No one is perfect. We're all human and given this fact, we all have our faults. However, as Christians, we are to always live according to God's word. As Christians, we have a duty to live a Godly lifestyle regardless of how hard it is. At the end of the day, someone is always watching, observing and evaluating. Make sure that what they see is a reflection of Christ and not the world even when it gets hard.

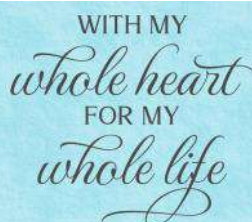
Freestyle of Faith— A light can be switched on and off but the lifestyle of a Christian shouldn't do the same. Living a life that reflects that of a Christian is something you don't just do when you feel like, it's something you do on a daily basis. Too many Christians try to get away with picking and choosing when they will live according to God's word. Too often we become selective. Too often we find ourselves freestyling our Christian walk instead of lifestyling it. However, what we fail to realize is that there are no breaks from this Christian lifestyle. We don't take a hiatus from walking the straight and narrow. We don't clock out nor take vacations from doing God's will. Being a Christian is a 24/7 365 job. We are always on the clock. In public and in private, we are always on the clock. Our Christian lifestyle continues even when we think no one is looking.

Consistency of a Christian Lifestyle—Everyone has a way in which they live, a mental state in which they are constantly in and behaviors that guide their life. Point is, each and every one of us has a lifestyle. And although everyone's lifestyle is different, the one thing that remains the same is that all lifestyles are consistent. The way you lived yesterday will almost certainly be the way you live tomorrow. If you're a Christian, the way you live your life and the things you participate in stay consistent. There is no wavering when it comes to living a Christian lifestyle. Being a Christian requires that you live your life in a way that is of God in public and in private.

When people notice you, they should see the God in you. There should be no question that you're a Christian. By your actions, people should know that God is in your life. By your words, people should know that you live in a way that is righteous. Because for some people, ***we may be the only Bible they read.*** This means that even though we don't realize it, we are demonstrating to them what it says in God's word how his people are to live.

We are a living example of the word of God. Just by our actions that person looking at us will make a determination as to whether they will choose to be a Christian or not. By our words, someone may just determine whether to not to give their life to Christ. If we aren't following what it says in the Bible, how can we be living a Christian lifestyle that will one day lead someone else to Christ?

Takeaway



WITH MY
whole heart
FOR MY
whole life

Someone is always watching you. Your movements and actions are always being monitored and analyzed. Thus, you can't pick and choose when and where you will be a Christian. You can't freestyle your Christianity when it's most convenient for you. As Christians, we are tasked to live as Christ did. Our daily lifestyle should be one that reflects Christ. How can we expect them to accept God as their Lord and Savior if what we do six days out of seven is of everything but God? If we want people to see us Christians, if we want more people to join our church, if we want our friends to accept Christ the solution starts with how we live. We have to stop freestyling our Christianity and start lifestyling it.



Enjoy Your Retirement

You worked so hard, for so many years,
Giving everything you had to give,
But now is the time to put yourself first,
To relax to enjoy and to live!

Take in the song of the birds when you wake,
Get in touch with an old friend or two,
Learn to do something you've not done before,
Find adventure in all that you do!

So much awaits you around every bend,
There are so many places to see!
Travel afar...if that is what suits you,
Or read by the shade of a tree.

But, never forget, as you go along,
That honestly, right from the start,
All of the moments we shared thru the years,
Left an imprint...right here on you my heart!

Happy Retirement to Deaconess Mary Pinckney for 31 years and 5 months of service at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Deaconess Pinckney began her employment with MUSC on April 2, 1990 and retired on September 10, 2021.

To God be the glory for after all the years that you have given so much of yourself to your work.



"Pouring Into Morris"

Pouring into Morris was successful because of you, you and you! Joshua raised \$10,000 and presented a check to Morris College. President Leroy Staggers of Morris College made a special visit to Joshua Baptist Church to show his appreciation. President Leroy Stagger especially thanked the fundraising committee for the magnificent gift to Morris College. The committee thanks everyone for their contribution to this important funding effort.



Pictured from left to right: Deacon Joe and Deaconess Betty Fields, Mr. Leroy Staggers, Rev. Robert L. Grove, and Sister Trudie Dukes

Three Ways to Give



Through our website:
<https://www.joshuabapt.org/>
(click 'Online Giving' on top right corner)

In-Person: Sundays from 9 am to Noon
(NOTE: NO Saturday drop-off)



Mail To: 2482 Faber Road
North Charleston, SC 29405

If you know of anyone who does not receive Joshua Blast's emails and would like to be included or no longer want to receive emails, please send email request to:
churchjoshuabaptist@gmail.com

1-Minute Bible Love Notes

6 Things to Believe in at Christmas

1. Believe in Miracles - Isaiah 9:6
2. Believe in God's Purposes - Luke 4:18
3. Believe in Love, Grace, and Hope - John 3:16
4. Believe in Comfort - Psalm 147:3
5. Believe in Joy - Nehemiah 8:10
6. Believe & Seek Him! - Hebrews 11:6

A Prayer for the New Year

Lord,
Whether I leave behind
a year of joy or of trials and difficulties,

I pause to *give thanks*.
Thank you for being with me
every day of every year.

Thank you for making all things *new*
and for giving me the grace of
fresh starts

and *new beginnings*.
Remind me of your presence in the days to
come,
even when I feel pushed and rushed by
busyness.

Be glorified in my life this year.

Heather
heathercking.org



The BROTHERHOOD MINISTRY



Feliz Navidad to Joshua's Brotherhood. In spite of all the setbacks of COVID-19, we still managed to contribute to the church and the community. We just finished up our third food drive of the year in collaboration with Lowcountry Food Bank. We were able to collect almost 500 items and presented a check for \$800. What a mighty blessing God has allowed us to accomplish!

Over the course of the year, we assisted families in need make minor and less minor home repairs. Every time a call for help was made, we had dedicated and willing brothers who stepped up and answered the call. Brothers, there is much more that can be in the church and in the community. We will need all of you to help us achieve a successful 2022.



SERVE

I thank you for everything that you have done and will continue to do for the Brotherhood. May God continue to bless everyone. Take the time to thank God during Christmas for all he has done for you, spend some time with your family and bring in the New Year with prayer and thanksgiving.

Remember, brothers we are somebody, because God made us and Christ died for us. Please continue to provide for your home, lead your family, and support your church, because *"No matter what anyone else may say, God knows, I'm Trying !!!"*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Nothing is insignificant
when you serve God.**



I've always known I was gifted, which is not the easiest thing in the world for a person to know, because you're not responsible for your gift, only for what you do with it.

(Hazel Scott)



Real Joy

What is Christmas without Jesus Christ?
It's a holiday full of stuff.

Money and stress, teaching kids greed,
Some people are saying "Enough!"

"Love one another," our Savior said.
It's all about love, not things.

Let's teach our children to serve, and create
The real joy the true Christmas brings.

By Joanna Fuchs



WHAT A NAME!

JESUS

SHE WILL BEAR A SON,
and you shall call His name

JESUS,
FOR HE
WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE
from their sins.

MATTHEW 1:21

It's Still About Jesus

For every Christmas carol we sing,
For every present under the tree,
For every child that smiles with glee,
It's still about Jesus.



For all the joy the season brings,
For every shiny, glowing thing,
For every Christmas light that shines without,
It's still about Jesus.



As the joy of giving is in the air, also, the bounty
of many blessings with much to spare, with food
beyond measure in which we shall feast, The
rejoicing of precious life makes it all complete.



Giving thanks through prayer is a timely pleasure,
For the birth of our Savior is the greatest treasure.

For with hope and grace in which we are so faithfully bound,
For it is the love of our Lord God in which we were found.

Brings to my remembrance of how Christmas began,
A King was born to save the souls of all men.

It's still about Jesus!



Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/its-still-about-jesus>



That at the name of *Jesus* every knee should bow,
of things in heaven,
and things in earth;
& that every tongue should
confess that Jesus Christ is LORD,
to the glory of God the Father.

- Philippians 2:10-11



The Blessed Name

There is no name so sweet on earth,
No name so sweet in heaven,
The name before His wondrous birth
To Christ the Saviour given.

O Jesus, by Thy matchless name,
Thy grace shall fail us never;
To-day as yesterday the same,
We'll bless Thy name forever.

For there's no name ear ever heard
So dear, so sweet as Jesus.
We love to sing of Christ our King
And hail Him, blessed Jesus.

—unknown



SIGNIFICANT MIRACLES

The Scripture texts in the first column each tell of a different miracle of Jesus. Read the Scripture texts and complete the chart.

Scripture	What did Jesus do?	How did people react?	What was the significance for the original audience?	What is the significance for us?
John 2:1-11				
John 5:1-15				
John 6:1-15				
John 6:16-24				
John 9:1-12				
John 11:1-45				

YEAR END THOUGHTS

"Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us."

"If plan A didn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters."

"As the year comes to a close, it is a time for reflection – a time to release old thoughts and beliefs and forgive old hurts. Whatever has happened in the past year, the New Year brings fresh beginnings. Exciting new experiences and relationships await. Let us be thankful for the blessings of the past and the promise of the future." -

Significant Miracles: John 2:1-11: Jesus changed water to wine; the master of the banquet was surprised and Jesus' disciples reacted with faith in Jesus; the original audience recognized Jesus' power over creation. 5:1-15: Jesus healed a man with a disability; the Jewish leaders were concerned that he was healed on the Sabbath; the original audience recognized that the Sabbath was no barrier to Jesus' ministry. 6:1-15: Jesus fed 5000; the people thought Jesus was a prophet and wanted to make him king; the original audience recognized that the Bread of Life provides for his followers. 6:16-24: Jesus walked on water; his disciples were afraid; the original audience saw Jesus' mastery of all nature, even the violent bits. 9:1-12: Jesus healed a man with blindness; some believed the man was healed, while others did not; the original audience understood that only those with eyes to see could recognize Jesus as the promised Messiah. 11:1-45: Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead; many believed in Jesus; the original audience understood that Jesus' power was not limited to nature but also to life and death.



Hello parents and students Of JBCC,

Have you ever wondered "Does God know my name?" The scripture says, "He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name." Psalm 147:4 NIV

...so as we make these stars, let us remember our God, who not only created the stars, but hung them in the sky and just as He knows each and every star and where each is placed. He knows each of us. Oh what a wonder!!

During this Christmas season, just as the wise men & the shepherds followed the star to find the baby Jesus... We must follow Him.

The JBC Children's Church staff has prepared a craft for all the children to reminded them that they matter to the Lord.

Supplies for the craft will be available Sunday, December 12, 2021 at the church and the interactive video will be released via YouTube on Sunday, December 19, 2021.

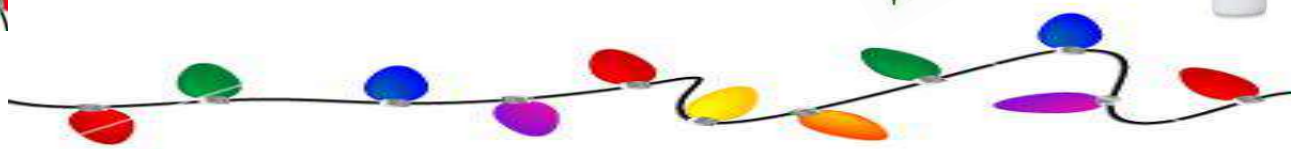
For those who are not able to pick up their supplies, we have supplied a list for you.

We love you & Merry Christmas!

JBCC Ministry



- SUPPLIES NEEDED**
- 5 popsicle sticks per star
 - twine or ribbon (any color)
 - any embellishments (bells, etc.)
 - Tacky glue or glue gun





Sunday School Classes

Sunday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

In-person

Via Facebook and YouTube



Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Mornings at 11:00 a.m.

In-person


Live at 11:15 a.m.



Children's CHURCH


YouTube

Please check out our videos on YouTube to learn more!
There are lessons, easy crafts and more!



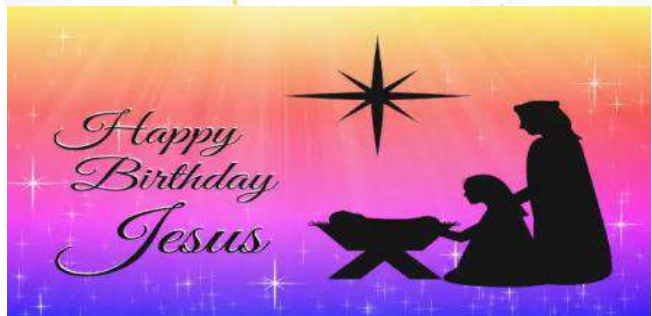
BIBLE STUDY

Evening Bible Study and Noon Day Bible Study are on Holiday Break. Please take this time for personal reflection as we prepare for the New Year!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to everyone celebrating in December!



Happy Birthday Jesus



WARMEST THOUGHTS AND BEST WISHES
For **MERRY CHRISTMAS**
and **HAPPY NEW YEAR.**



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