



WILMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume II, Chapter 12
December 2022 NEWSLETTER

John 3:16

A Few thoughts about the Greatest Gift: God's Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ

Consider first "Do you know that you are His?" not "Do you know Him?" A person can be baptized in His name, members of His church, knowledgeable of Scriptures and doctrine and still not be His. Do you hate the sins that Jesus Christ died to remove? Do you love the Savior? Do you care for the souls which are so precious in His sight? Do you delight in the Word of reconciliation? Do you pray to the Savior for sinners? Do you seek close fellowship with Jesus Christ?

No? - you are a poor, miserable being in a failing, sorrowful world with no source of true comfort or refuge in your time of need. While you are a dying creature, you are not ready to die! You have sins that are not forgiven. You will be judged and are not ready to meet God. You love the world better than Christ. You have no friend and advocate in Heaven to plead your case.

Yes? – you are one of God's children through Jesus Christ!

To be one of His, He extends His hand, ready (as unworthy as you may feel) to pardon all of your past, to clothe you with righteousness, to give you His Spirit, to make you His own dear child. When He calls, He asks you to come to Him, acknowledging all your sins, repenting them, and confessing your shame – and He takes them all away! Unworthy of nothing in yourself – Jesus bids you to come and be His friend; Come and be wise, be safe, be joyful and happy:– **"Come with me!"**

As one of His, you know the Greatest Gift – Jesus Christ. You have great benefits and privileges! Walk worthy of them. Seek every day to have a closer relationship and communion with this Greatest Gift. Know more of His grace and power (not a set of dry, abstract rules). Paul stated in Phil 1:21 "To me to live is Christ". Seek every day to glorify your God and Savior in all your ways. Avoid everything that would grieve the Spirit and your Lord. Fight hard against besetting sins, inconsistency, backwardness; confess Him before men. When our soul is tempted to do wrong, ask "Is this right and kind to the One who gave His all for me?" Think of His mercy and grace and rejoice daily in our Savior. Even if our bodies are bowed down with disease, if our poverty and trials are great, if earthly friends forsake you, as His Child, you have a mighty, loving, wise friend and Savior who never fails – Oh! What a Great Gift from our Heavenly Father!

One day, soon, this Savior will come to take us Home and we will dwell with Him forever! You will see as you have been seen, know as you have been known and you shall hear the world confess.

Rich, happy and joyous is the man, woman, boy or girl who has Christ for their friend! What a Gift – there is none greater – and This Gift is Eternal!!

Norman Patterson, Adult Sunday School Teacher

Upcoming Events

Saturdays 9 AM – Men's Prayer Meeting (Luke Faulkner, leader)

Dec. 17 6 PM Church Christmas Party