



November 15, 2018

PLEASANT RIDGE Baptist Church

LOVING GOD
SHARING LIFE
SERVING OTHERS

Ministerial Staff
Senior Pastor: Josh Cook
Music Minister: Jonathan Riddle
Children's Minister: Nancy Glover
Youth Minister: Jake Kersh

Daily Bible Reading

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 12: Matt. 27; Mark 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 19: Acts 9-10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 13: Luke 23; John 18-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 20: Acts 11-12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 14: Matt. 28; Mark 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 21: Acts 13-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 15: Luke 24; John 20-21 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 22: James |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 16: Acts 1-3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 23: Acts 15-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 17: Acts 4-6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 24: Galatians 1-3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 18: Acts 7-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov. 25: Galatians 4-6 |

A Note from the Pastor...

Last week, we began walking together through an article by Christopher Ash that encouraged us to learn to be better listeners in church—particularly as we listen to expository sermons (Ash explains what expository preaching is in #3).

2. Admit God knows better than you do.

When Timothy preached in Ephesus, Paul warned him that many would “not put up with sound [health-giving] doctrine,” but would desire for the preacher “to say what their itching ears want to hear” (2 Tim. 4:3). By nature we all want that. We want the sermon to make us feel better about ourselves, to boost our self-esteem, to reinforce our preexisting prejudices.

But when God speaks, he calls me day by day, week by week, to turn from sin and to trust in Christ. He calls me to “get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted” in me (James 1:21). I need to sit under the Word in humility, not over it in judgment. God is God and I am not. I must be ready, then, to adjust my opinions, my beliefs, my heart, my life.

3. Make sure the preacher says what the passage says.

Our question is how to listen to an *expository* sermon. Every sermon should open up from Scripture the meaning God has already put into Scripture. In this sense, every sermon should be expository—*exposing* what's there. The alternative is “impositional” preaching in which the preacher *imposes* a meaning on the text. Of course, some sermons expound one passage while others expound verses from more than one passage. The advantage of the former is that it's easier to ensure the preacher says what the passage says.

The authority of the preacher doesn't come from his office (pastor, minister, or whatever) or his powerful personality. It is entirely a delegated authority. When he says what Scripture says, he speaks with authority; when he does not, he has no authority. A friend once said to me that when his pastor preached, he would have his Bible open and ask, “Where did he get that from?” It's a good question. If I can see he got it from the passage, I should bow and repent and believe; if not, I shouldn't.

Be humble but not gullible. Read the passage during the week leading up to the sermon. Ponder it. You don't have to be an academic to do this. What's the main idea? Is the central thrust of the sermon the central thrust of the passage?

I look forward to seeing you this week at church.

(<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/7-ways-to-become-a-better-sermon-listener/>)

Dr. Josh Cook

This time of year is especially busy for our Jesus Pantry Ministry. Please remember they love donations to be able to put more canned goods in the boxes they give out to those in need!

Church facilities will be closed
November 21-23 for
Thanksgiving Holidays!

Memory Verse

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8–9, ESV)

Special Recognitions Sunday Schedule: November 18

Budget: In memory of Bobbie Coston by Jo Morris.

Sunday	
Prayer Walk	8:45 pm
Small Groups	9:00 am
Morning Worship	10:30 am

Decoration Sunday in the Sanctuary for Christmas

Sunday, November 25

After the Morning Worship Service, come have lunch and help us get the sanctuary ready for Christmas!

Volunteer Schedule

Childcare (11/18) Frances Eddings Mary Elliott LeAnn Keith Jean Putnam Betsy Simpson	Praise Pals (11/18) Jackie Redmond Kids in Him (Nov.) Martha Waldrop Jennifer Vest Jesus and Me (Nov.) Janice Poole Amy Willis
Security Patrol (11/18) Jamey Deadwyler Larry Vines Gerald Hicks	

The Gifts of Grace Christmas Shop at The Grace Place is a ministry to help people in need experience God's grace and joy at Christmas. We need your church's help with the following donations by November 29th:

- New toys (price range \$40 and under)
- **Monetary donations** (checks made out to The Grace Place and mailed to :1630 Powder Plant Rd SE, Bessemer, AL 35022 or give online at www.thegraceplaceonline.com/donate. Please designate Gifts of Grace on donations.)
- Wrapping paper
- Volunteers (week of Dec. 3 to prep and/or help clients on Dec. 5 & 7)

Please have all donations to The Grace Place by November 29.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and price toys Dec. 3 & 4 from 9AM-1PM. Additional volunteers are needed to help clients on shopping days the following shifts:

Wed., Dec. 5: Shift 1: 8AM-11 AM Shift 2: 11AM-3PM

Fri., Dec. 7: Shift 1: 8AM-11 AM Shift 2: 11AM-3PM

If you or your church group would like to have a toy drive or volunteer, please email thegraceplacedirector@gmail.com. Please identify which area and date/time you wish to volunteer.