



My the God of hope fill you  
 with all joy and peace as you trust  
 him, so that you may overflow with  
 hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
 Romans 15:13

# October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Worship</i> 10 A.M. Evening 6 P.M.	8	9	10 <b>Women's Refreshing 6:30 P.M. All women welcome</b>	11	12	13
14 <i>Worship</i> 10 A.M. Evening 6 P.M.	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <i>Worship</i> 10 A.M. Evening 6 P.M.	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 <i>Worship</i> 10 A.M. Evening 6 P.M.	29	30	31			

Happy  
October  
Birthday's

Pleasant Grove Pentecostal Church  
From the Pastor Desk

October  
2018

*“THOU HAST SAID, SEEK YE MY FACE,” MY HEART SAYS TO THEE, “THY FACE, LORD, DO I SEEK.” PSALM 27:8*

There are two ways to live your life. One is with God, and the other is without God. This is something for you alone to decide. No one can make the choice for you. It's up to you.

When Solomon became King of Israel, God appeared to him in a dream and asked him what he would like to have. It was up to him to choose what he wanted. He could have asked for riches fame, honor and greatness. What would you have done? Solomon recalled what God done for his father David and how he had blessed and prospered him. He thought of the people over whom he rules and what a responsibility it was to be king. He gave it serious thought and then he asked for an understanding heart, so that he might know good from evil. He made a wise choice.

When Robert Moffat was a young man, he lived in Edinburg. One day as he was leaving home for work, his mother said to him, “Robert, I want you to promise me something.” He loved his mother very much, so he answered, “I will do anything you wish.” His mother replied, “You are going out into a wicked world. Begin every day with God. Close every day with God.” Then she kissed him and he went away. “It was that kiss,” said Moffat, “that made me a missionary.” For more than twenty years he worked among tribes of Africa. He taught, preached and translated the Bible into Sechwana language. He too made a wise choice.

A young man came running to Jesus and eagerly asked what he should do to have eternal life. He must have been a likeable fellow because we read that Jesus loved him. He was young, rich and he was a ruler. What more could he want? But was not satisfied with his life, so he asked for advice. What should he do? Jesus looked into his heart and saw he was selfish. He was too fond of his riches. He had not learned to share. He was not interested in others. Jesus told him to sell his property and give the money to the poor and then to become his disciple. It was up to him to decide. He did. He choose to stay the way he was. His heart sank and he was very sad. It cost too much to be a disciple. He didn't want to pay the price. Some people avoid making decisions. They just sit and do nothing or drift with the stream instead of steering the boat. It is easy to drift because it takes no effort. Someone said, “Any old fish can go down stream but it take a live one to swim up.”

A father had difficulty in making his son obey. It seemed that no matter what the boy did, he chose wrong. They talked it over and his father said, “Every time you do something wrong, I am going to drive a nail into the barn door.” One by one the nails were pounded in until the door was almost covered. The boy did not like this. His conscience bothered him. He decided that he would mend his ways. His father said, “I'll tell you what we'll do. Every time you are obedient or do a good deed, we will pull one nail out.” Finally there was one nail left. How glad the boy was when they pulled that last nail out! He stood looking at the door and said. “The nails are gone but the marks are still there.” That is the sad thing about doing wrong. It leaves marks. How much better it is to choose God's way which is the right way in the first place. Jesus needed disciples. He walked along the seashore and called to certain fishermen, “Follow me.” They left their nets and followed Him. They made the right decision. Their lives were transformed. He showed the deep things of God; taught them how to live and told them to help other to find eternal life. They became His Apostles. This is Decision Day. Jesus still needs followers. He is calling “Follow me.” Listen. It's up to you to decide. What is your answer? Choose Him, so that He can make your life what it ought to be.

Pastor Denny

## His Truth Will Set You Free

*Take delight in the Lord and He will give you your heart's desires. (Psalms 37:4)*

How can the psalmist place such a bold, across-the-board claim on the thorny grass of a lusty world? Inside-outside delight in God drives so much dross out of the heart that we can dare to trust what we feel. The desires that can dwell and propagate under the roof of divine delight are those God can bless with unleashed glee. You see, desire is not the problem. We were created for it. Deceit is the problem and it draws to a heart of flesh like iron fillings to a magnet. Only one thing has the power to extract thorns of deceit from the hominess they find in a human heart. Christ's truth. In His own words, "*You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.*" (John 8:32)

We have to know it, get it down in our bones, and stuffed into our belief systems until it's breaking threads and popping through the seams. We don't just pat the Truth occasionally on our bedside tables or settle for feeling good about our Holy Bible cell phone app. We plant our faces in the pages. There to that immutable Truth we bring what's true about us. We drag every want into the light whether it's wrong or undeniably right. We bring each and every sigh and every "how long, O Lord?" into His presence without fear of rejection, revulsion or reprisal. *Lord, my every desire is known to You; my sighing is not hidden from You.* (Ps. 38:9) A healthy heart spreads every desire on the open table of divine dialogue.

*Thus is what I long for, Lord...* And when we know those desires are wrong or toxic, we talk them out with equal liberty and try to identify the bed of need beneath the body of craving. Often when I'm pouring my heart out to God aloud, I will hear my mouth say what my thoughts alone could never articulate. Freedom of speech is the flooring invitation that is taped like a birthday card to the gift of our salvation.

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Jesus sits at the right hand of God interceding for us as one who has been tempted in every conceivable way. There in His presence, we get to be ourselves, not just behave ourselves. We're not bound and gagged. We're loosed and heard. When we're red-faced over what we find our hearts are longing for, we bring it out in the open before Him instead of holding it inside where it incubates in warm, dark secret and hatches into action. Freedom is telling God what we desperately want. Trust is asking Him to change our want if gaining it would poison us. We don't just sit back and stare into our empty hands. We open them up, stretch them out and ask Him to fill them with something better.

*Increase my delight in You so that my desires start sifting and shifting until they align with the ones You hold tightly in Your hand for me. Your desire is to profusely bless me, not withhold from me. You are trustworthy. You will never respond to my full surrender by starving my soul and leaving me empty. Give me the wants You want because anything less will rob me.*

Something otherworldly erupts within us and washes over us when we start wanting the Spirit of God wants. Call it the anointing. We start experiencing the abundance of John 10:10 that many can quote but none can adequately describe to us. Spiritual gifts that had barely surfaced begin surging. This odd joy starts stirring within us. We laugh a little more and worry a little less because the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace (Roman 8:6). We start liking people we could not stand. Some of them will think we're freaks but they'll tell us on occasion that they feel different around us, like maybe life's not such a living hell. Our lives begin bearing obvious fruit and others are affected and blessed and built up by God and no one is more surprised than we are. We still meet hardships and difficulties and disappointments and losses but not as those without hope, not as those without purpose and not as those without power. Life is still work but, bless God, it works.

*For it is God who is working in you, enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose.  
(Phil. 2:13)*

Excerpted from Audacious By Beth Moore

Dear Lord

I kneel down before you at this moment. Please *enlighten* what is *dark* in me, *Strengthen* what is *weak* in me, *mend* what is *broken* in me, *heal* what is *sick* in me, and *revive* whatever peace and love that died in me.

This is also my prayer For my love ones: my family, my friends and those who hate me.

In Jesus name, amen

**Faith Step:** Today try to find a quiet moment to lose yourself in Jesus so much that everything around you fades away and His presence fills you to the brim with love, joy, and peace.

If you have not received that gift of eternal life with Him, then pray this short prayer to the One who gave us

victory over death through Jesus Christ.

I know that I am a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ died for my sins. I am willing to turn from my sins. I now

invite Jesus Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Savior. I will confess you before men, study your Word and live according to your will as you guide me. Thank you for sending Jesus so that I might have eternal life.

Your word says in Romans 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt

believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man

believeth unto righteousness. And with the mouth Confession is made unto salvation. Amen

## Prayer Request

Place request in prayer basket at the altar, or mail them and we will place them in the prayer basket for you.

Pleasant Grove Pentecostal Church  
3013 Pleasant Grove Road  
Warfordsburg, PA. 17267  
717-573-4512

