

Audubon Baptist, *a Church in the Park*
SO WE, THOUGH MANY, ARE ONE BODY OF CHRIST

1046 Hess Lane, Louisville, KY 40217, (502) 635-2100

www.achurchinthepark.org

September 2020

HIDING FROM GOD'S PRESENCE

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:8

Christians agree that the Bible speaks great truth, a truth that is unwavering from the earliest of written accounts. We love how in our study of Ephesians the truth of God's Word tells us that we are free, God has done the work already in His Son Jesus Christ, and while there is diversity in the Body, oneness is a higher call, oneness only possible in and through Him. Such truths are what we long for as created beings.

But, how shall we respond to truth when it hits a bit closer to home? When truth arrives with an intent to correct or perhaps urge us higher in our spiritual disciplines and pursuit of Him? How shall we respond to God's Word when it illuminates our tendency towards sin, and its natural impulse to hide from a God that loves us? Do we love it just as much when the Bible speaks these truths?

Early in the Biblical account we find Adam and Eve hiding from God, their God with whom moments earlier they enjoyed perfect and harmonious relationship. Let that sink in to your mind. Hiding. From God. One moment walking with God, the next moment hiding from Him. On the face it seems preposterous. Silly. Fool hearted. Something a child might try. Hiding from God?

We understand Adam and Eve. Immediately, we feel their need to hide. God has placed understanding within each of us to intuitively know that His holiness, and our inability to be holy, are in conflict. How can a God that is perfect

accept the worship of beings that are not? This circular logic has stretched the ruminations of thinkers for millenniums, around and around they go. Do you believe that we are immune from such faith crises? Think again.

Adam and Eve demonstrate how quickly we place our inadequacies on the line in our relationship with God. Sin fractures relationship with God, casting feelings of unworthiness upon ourselves. Hiding from God happens lest we are disciplined and on-guard and fight it with the truth of God's Word.

The psalmist writes in *Pslam 57:1, Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me.* While our tendency may be to play proverbial peek a boo with God, David reminds himself, and us too, of the opposite truth. Our God is merciful.

May I remind you that our God is for us! He gave us His very own begotten Son to save us from our rightful condemnation and to bring freedom. Will we live in light of the Cross and such a gift?

Beloved, His mercy is great! His is a tender mercy, gentle, loving, healing the broken hearted. It is a great mercy. There is nothing little with God. His mercy is so great that it forgives great sins to great sinners, after great lengths of time and fallenness, and then gives great favors and great privileges and great joys. It is a rich mercy. There is no single mercy, it is an abounding mercy. Generations have received it, yet it is far from being exhausted. It is full and available and refreshing for those that drink it up. And maybe the best of all, it is an unfailing mercy. When I fall down, when I run and hide, His mercy does not. He patiently waits for me to seek Him with my whole heart.

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me.

Aren't you so very thankful?

Following Him,



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

02 Brad Cooper
03 Louis Korb
06 Misti Houghton
06 Dr. Edgar & Jo Ann Hatfield
10 Alice Franklin
10 Bentley & Reba Daye
11 Grace Dyer
12 Courtney Keeling
16 Michael Mosley
21 Sandy Binford
23 Gabrielle Clark
30 The Kelly Mosley

THANK YOU

Doris is grateful for the many prayers, thoughts, and cards sent on behalf of Michael.

Shirlene sends thanksgivings for the many remembrance sent on behalf of her brother. She reports many cards and the beautiful flowers.

Susan also sends her appreciation for the beautiful flowers sent by the church, the cards, phone calls, and visits of the brothers and sisters. "The love of Jesus has been on full display."

The Trustees are thankful for the men (and young men too!) who installed the new parking lot bumpers at the church. They look fantastic!

Here is a picture after we were well-fed by Carol.



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your continued support of His kingdom work at Audubon and beyond during this pandemic season. For those unable to participate at "in-person services", tithes and offerings may be mailed to the church at the following address:

Audubon Baptist Church
c/o Mattie Fentress
1046 Hess Lane
Louisville, KY 40217

All received contributions will be accounted for and included within annual giving statements. Thank you, Audubon!

CORPORATE PRAYER

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2

Beginning Sunday, September 6th, Pastor Jeff will lead a corporate prayer gathering during the hour before Sunday worship. Our focus will be upon the church of Audubon and the work that God is doing in us, and with His continued pleasure, through us in the years to come. We will begin promptly at 9:30AM in the sanctuary and conclude at 10:15AM. I hope that you will join with us.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GATHERING

Interested women of Audubon are invited to join with fellow sisters for prayer and encouragement Saturday mornings at 8:30AM. Note that these prayer gatherings are conference call only.

TRI-ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Please join your church leaders for a conference on September 9th. This conference was delayed from June due to COVID. The leaders are desiring to update Audubon members on the state of our church amid this pandemic, and share reports on church finances and select committee happenings. The pastors will also share a brief word on the state of pastoral ministry and those matters God is pressing front of mind. You may participate "in-person" or via conference call. Thank you!