

Welcome

A *meridian* can be defined as "the highest point reached by a heavenly body in its course."¹ Although we are not literally in heaven, we have been placed, as believers in "heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). As we set our aim of *Lifting Christ Higher*, focusing on Heaven, and seeking to continually draw nearer to Jesus, then we will begin to comprehend those "heavenly places" as more of a reality than just some words on a page.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for choosing Meridian as the place for you to give honor and praise to our wonderful Savior on this Lord's Day. We trust that you will come to know and understand more fully the relationship you can have in Jesus Christ.

¹ Webster's New World Dictionary. ©1971.

Meridian Online



Contact

Scott Kliewer (Pastor)
Cell (Phone or Text): 316-727-1390
Email: pastor@mbcnewton.org

Caleb Wood (Assistant Pastor)
Cell (Phone or Text): 318-294-6777
Email: assistant@mbcnewton.org

Jerrold Martens (Pastor Emeritus)
Cell (Phone or Text): 316-288-3622

Sermon notes

Grace Abused – Pt. 4 Hebrews 12:12-15

Grace is a benefit designed to be used, not abused.

The warning of ...

7. Failing the grace of God

Hebrews 12:15

“fail” - to fall short of the end; fail to reach the goal; fail to become a partaker; to **“fall back from”**

We NEED God's grace for Strength.

1. The Strategy for avoiding the failing of grace (12-15a)

A. The strengthening of self for usefulness (12-13)

B. The pursuit of peace (Harmony) with Holiness (14)

C. The directive of diligence to Jesus (15a) - “looking” to Jesus

2. The Scourge of activating the failing of grace (15)

Bitterness happens when we fail to access and apply the grace of God in a hurtful situation.

Everyone is a candidate for bitterness.

- **Identifying the dangers of bitterness.**
 - A. Penetrating Presence of Depth**
 - B. Propagation and Production**
 - C. Personal Pain**
 - D. Public Pollution**

We disadvantage ourselves of the full access of God's favor by disregarding His grace.

- **Targets of bitterness:**
 - A. People**
 - B. Circumstances**
 - Loss of a Position**
 - Loss of a Possession**
 - Loss of a Person**
 - C. God**

With grace we may bend, but not break.



August 11, 2024



Scott Kliewer
Pastor

Caleb Wood
Assistant Pastor

1130 West Broadway
P.O. Box 321
Newton, Kansas 67114

316.283.6380

info@mbcnewton.org

~ August 11, 2024 ~

*We extend a warm WELCOME!
If you are visiting today,
Connect Cards are available for you
to register as our special guest.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

MORNING WORSHIP 10:40am

Hymns – (Blue) 392, 70, 369

Scripture Reading – 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1

EVENING SERVICE 6:00pm

John McPherson

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Young people ages 4 - 4th grade are invited to be dismissed before the sermon for age-related teaching.

THIS WEEK AT MERIDIAN

Wed – 7PM – Bible Study and Prayer
Sat - Noon – Barnabas Class Luncheon

BAPTISM

We plan to have a baptismal service, **Sunday, August 25**. If you have never followed the Lord in this ordinance of obedience, please see Pastor Kliewer, or you may present yourself as a candidate during the closing invitation song. Baptism is a very important step in the life of a believer, indicating a desire to publicly make known the decision of your heart of having trusted Christ and to identify yourself with Him. Our obedience of heart and life as a believer is not complete without obeying this command.

LOOKING AHEAD AT MERIDIAN

- Aug 18 (Sun, 4:30PM) – Deacons mtg.**
- Aug 18 (Sun, PM) – Communion**
- Aug 24 (Sat, 10AM) – Visitation Outreach**
- Aug 30 (Fri, 5:30-10PM) – New Hope Outreach**
- Sep 1 (Sun, 5:00PM) – Carry-in Mexican Fiesta Dinner & Movie**
- Sep 3 (Tue, 5:30-10PM) – New Hope Outreach**
- Sep 8 (Sun, AM) – Quarterly Business mtg.**
- Sep 9 (Mon, 9AM-9PM) – KS State Fair Bible Project Outreach**
- Sep 19 (Thur, 7PM) – Ladies Bible Study**
- Sep 21 (Sat, 8AM-Noon) Church Work Day for Downstairs Projects**
- Sep 22(Sun, PM) – Nominating Committee mtg.**

NEEDS FOR CARRIACOU

We are pleased to have John and Karen McPherson with us today in our services. Brother John will present the needs he assessed from the devastation of Hurricane Beryl on a recent trip to the island of Carriacou. He served many years there building a radio station and working as a church planter and pastor.

We will be receiving a special offering this evening for the rebuilding needs on the Island.

Please make your checks payable to our church and Meridian will send one check to Operation Renewed Hope for this project.

MOTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Copies of the **July** report are available on the desk in the Church Office.

MBC TEXT NOTIFICATIONS

If you wish to receive notification from the church about events, prayer requests, etc., you must text the word “**Join**” to 316-999-8857.

Please note that the only prayer requests we will send out via text will be those directly involving our church family and that are of a critical nature.

READING MATERIAL

(Hospitality Desk)
-Frontline magazine – “A Future for Israel” (May / June issue) dealing with the Biblical perspective for Israel both present and future.
-Challenger – Published by **Sam Slobodian of BIEM** Each issue focuses on various ministries of BIEM in Ukraine and Russia.

OUTREACH

Kansas State Fair Bible Project - Sep 6-15 – This opportunity involves handing out copies of John/Romans or other Gospel literature. We plan to help with the booth on **Monday, Sep 9**. The following time slots are suggested (9:00am-1:00pm / 1:00-5:00pm / 5:00-9:00pm). If you cannot stay the entire time period, that is just fine. **Please sign up at the Hospitality Desk** in a time slot if you are interested and available. If Monday does not work for you, sign up on another day and time.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

- Aug 11 – AM – Ashley / Crystal**
PM – Kathy / Deidra
- Aug 18 – AM – Ramona / Daina**
PM – Sarah / Elijah