

Celebrating 50 years of Proclaiming Christ
BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Shine as Lights in a Dark World

Philippians 2:12-15



Philippians 2:12-15



- Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without murmurings and disputings: ¹⁵ That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Philippians 2:12



- Wherefore, my beloved, as ye **have always obeyed,** not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

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**The true people of God
have always been
characterized by
obedience to God.**



Hebrews 5:9



- And being made perfect, he [Jesus] became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

Notice

he does not say who believe

Matthew 7:21 (ESV)



- “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 12:50 (ESV)



Jesus said:

- For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”



1 John 2:3 (ESV)

- And by this we know that we have come to know him,
- if we keep his commandments.



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**The NT does not permit
people who are
characterized by
disobedience to have
assurance of salvation.**



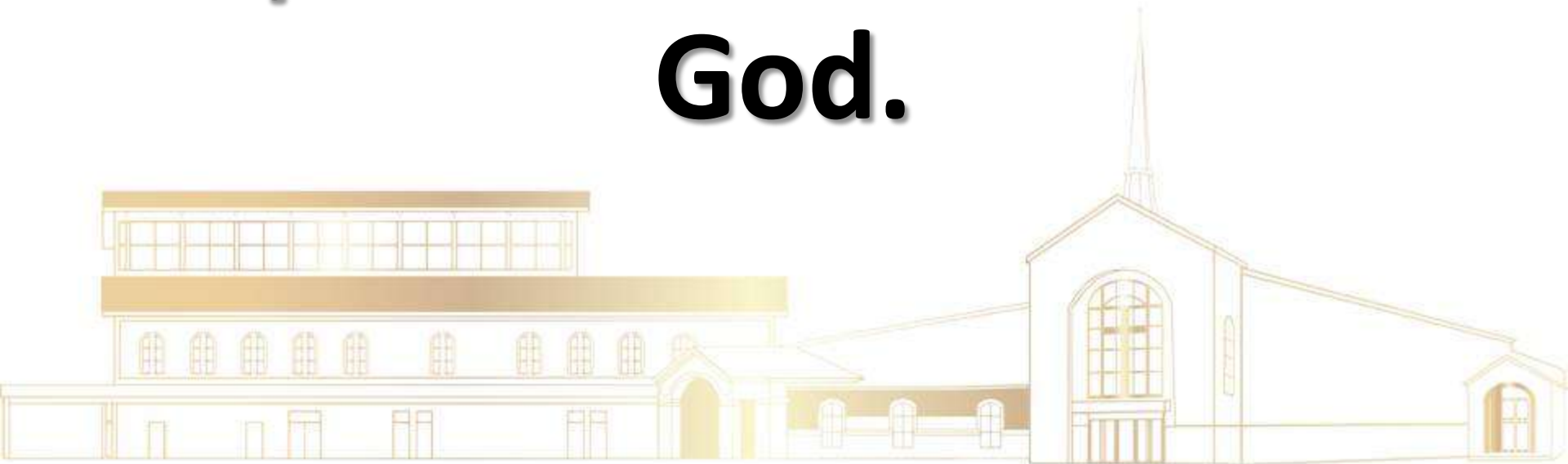
Ephesians 5:6 (ESV)



- Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

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**Children of
disobedience
experience the wrath of
God.**



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What do we obey?



We Obey

- The Law of Christ (Gal 6:2)
- The moral imperatives found in the ten commandments all of which are repeated in NT except keep the Sabbath.
- God



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**Paul's death is impending
and He prays the church at
Philippi will continue in
the faith when he is gone.**



Philippians 2:12 (ESV)



- Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

Philippians 2:12 (ESV)



- Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

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**V. 13 provides much
help in understanding
what it means to work
out our salvation.**



Philippians 2:13 (ESV)



• **for** it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**working out my salvation is
my response to God working in me**

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**Working out my salvation
provides evidence that
God is in me working
to do his will and his good
pleasure.**



Philippians 2:14 (ESV)



- Do all things without grumbling or disputing,
- that you may be blameless and innocent,

Philippians 2:15



- **children of God without blemish** in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Philippians 2:15



- that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Philippians 2:15



- that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

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Turn Back To

Matthew 5:13-18

Sermon on the Mount



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**Speaking to his disciples
Jesus tells them:
You are the salt & the
light of the world.**



Matthew 5:13



- “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?
- It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

There is a reason why we eat too much salt.



eat less
SALT!



Matthew 5:14



- “You are the light of the world.
A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.



Matthew 5:15 (ESV)



- Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket,
- but on a stand,
- and it gives light to all in the house.

Matthew 5:16



- In the same way, let your light **shine** before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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**What does it
mean to
shine?**



Shine Defined

1: to emit rays of light

2: to be bright by reflection of light

3: to be eminent, conspicuous, or distinguished

4: to have a bright glowing appearance

5: to be conspicuously evident or clear

Webster



John 8:12 (ESV)



- **Again Jesus spoke to them, saying,**
 - **“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

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Darkness Represents

Everything that is evil.

**Light represents
everything that is good
and godly.**



John 3:19



- And this is the judgment:
- the light [Jesus] has come into the world,
- and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.



**Somewhere in this company of soldiers
was Brandon Dubois shining as a light on a
hill for the Lord Jesus Christ in dark and
fallen world.**

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**How do we influence a
crooked and perverse society
to be good and godly?**

**How can we shine as lights
for Jesus in a dark world?**





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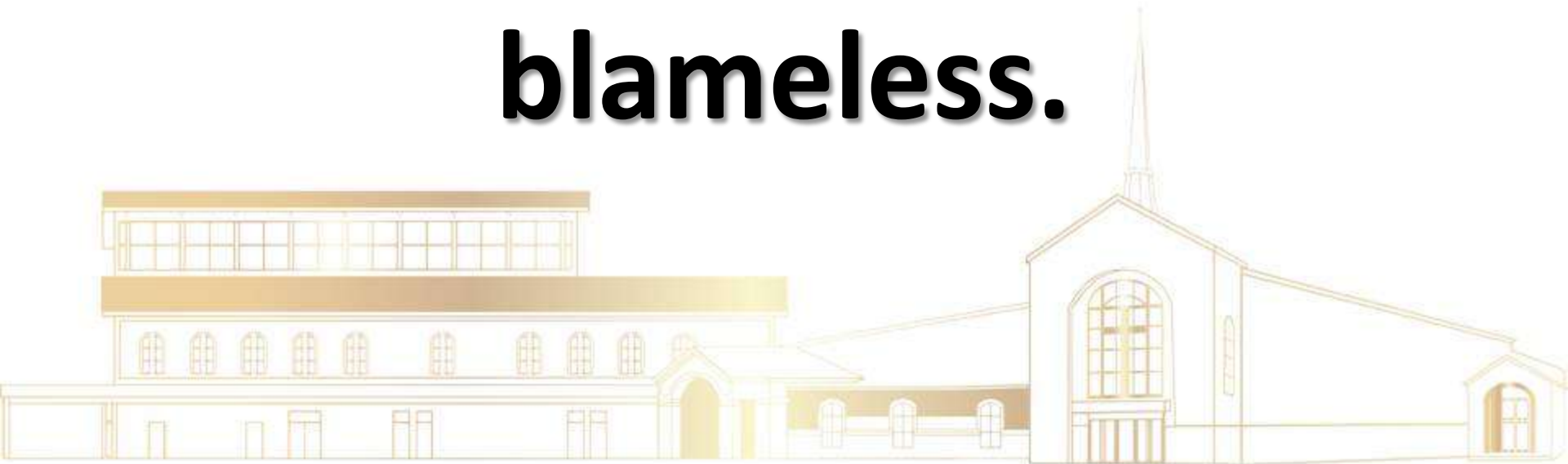
**5 ways
Christians can shine
as light in a dark
world.**



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#1

**As much as possible, we
must live lives that are
blameless.**



Philippians 2:15



- that you may be blameless and innocent,
- children of God without blemish

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Blameless

Not Subject to Rebuke

Above Reproach



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w/o Blemish

**a noticeable imperfection;
especially: one that
seriously impairs
appearance**



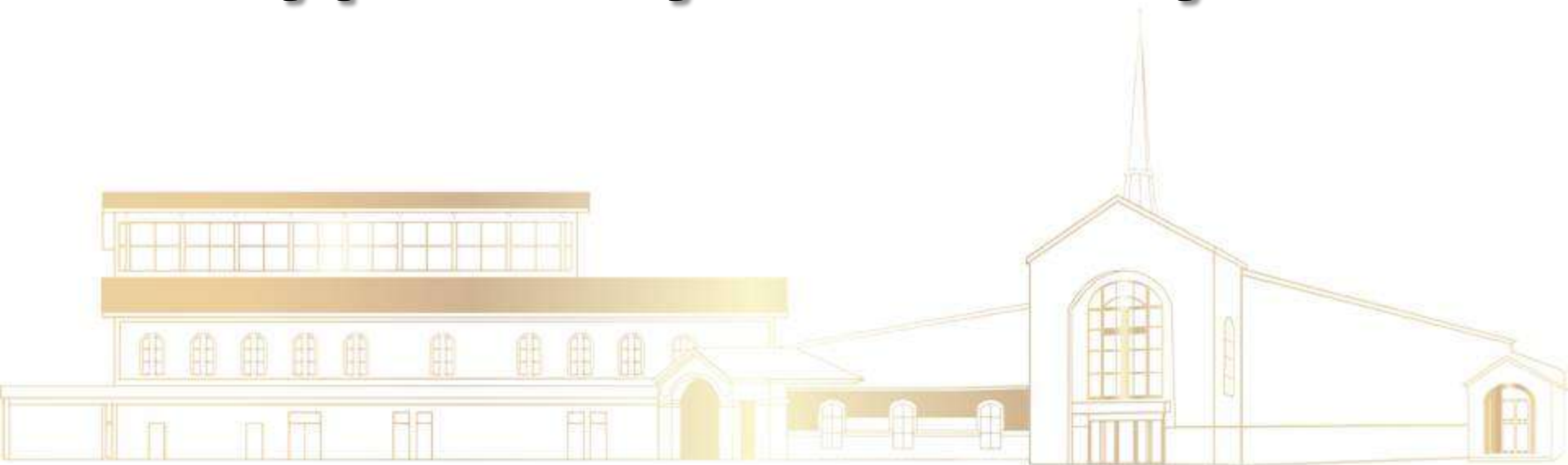
We strive to

- Be people of integrity
- Obey God's moral law
- Be set apart from the world



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Remember **Hypocrisy is Enemy #1**

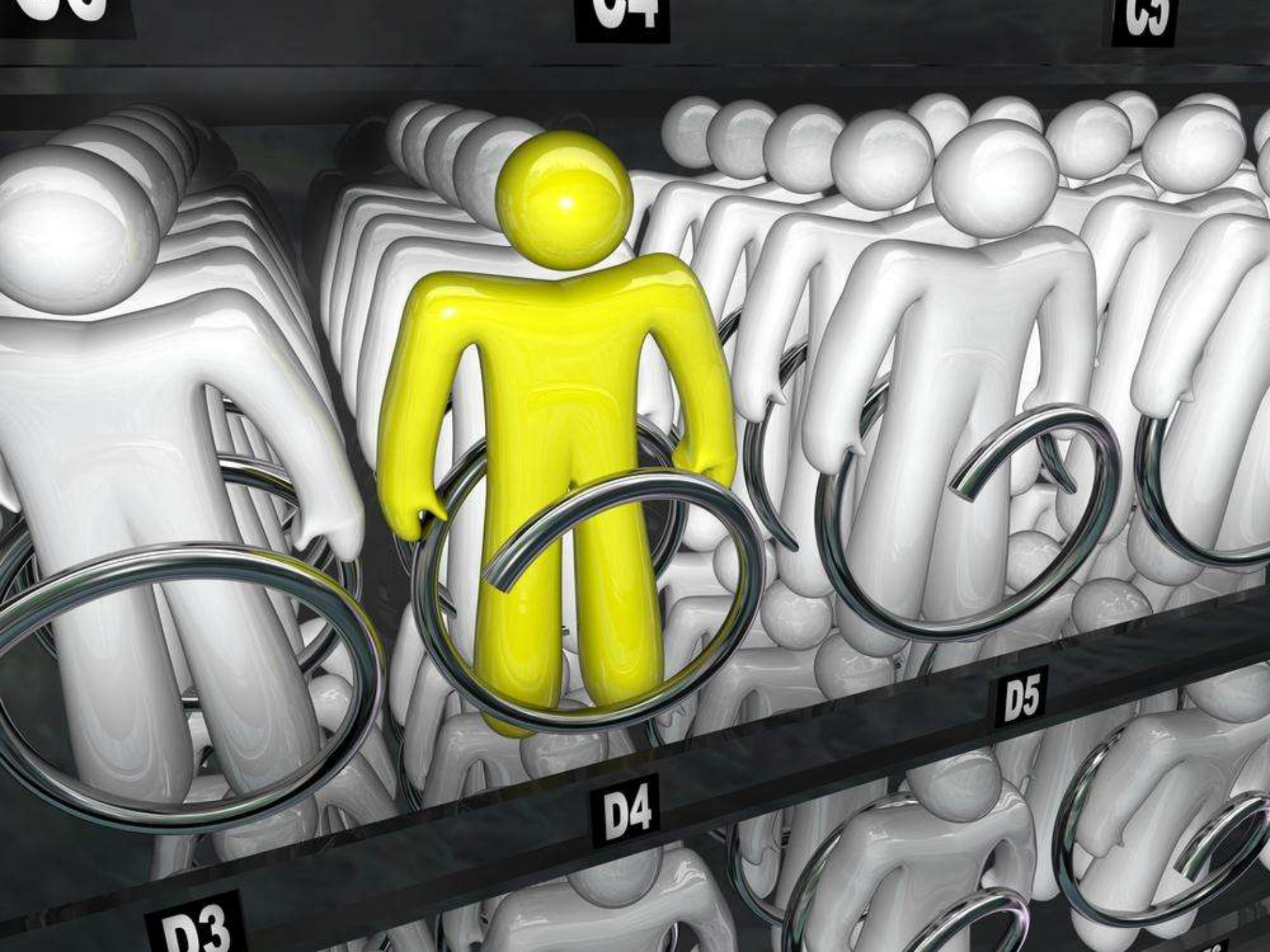


If the world is

- Immoral
- Delinquent
- Irresponsible
- Shiftless
- Lazy
- Unreliable
- Profane

**We
are
NOT!**





We Are

- **Different (set apart)**
- **Dependable (reliable)**
- **Dedicated (loyal)**
- **Diligent (hard working)**
- **Decent (morally good; honest)**
- **Disciplined (self-controlled)**
- **Distinguishable (stand out)**





Lunch
Tomorrow @ 12
be early



We strive to

- Yield to the Holy Spirit
 - Speaking to us through our conscience
- Live out 1 Corinthians 13:4f





1 Corinthians 13:4-5

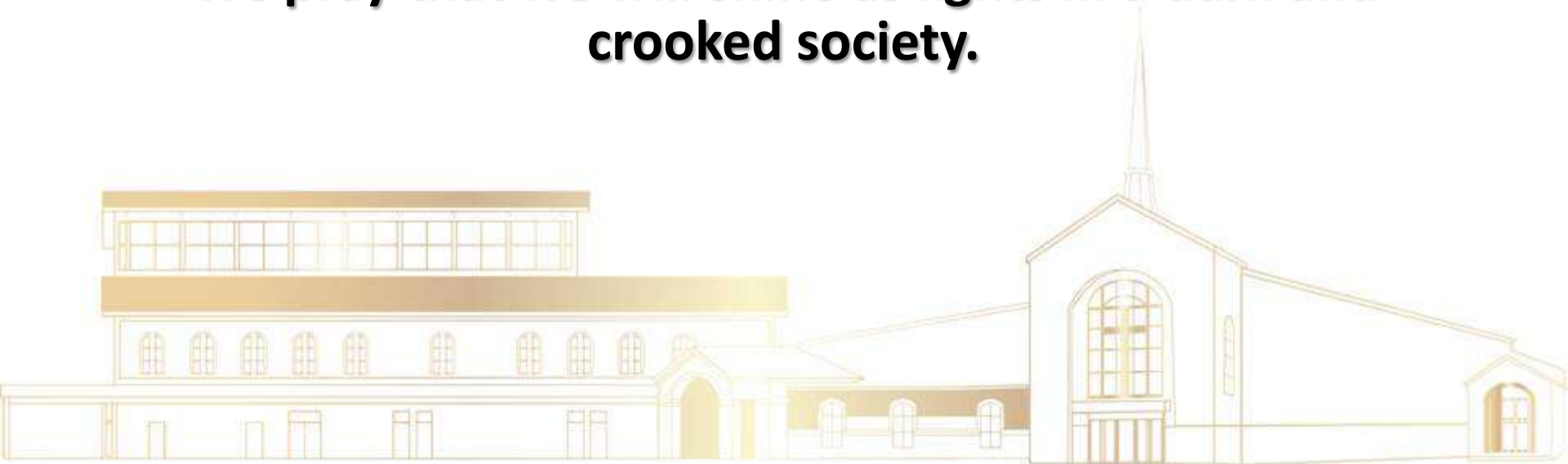
- Love is patient and kind;
- love does not envy or boast;
- it is not arrogant or rude.
- It does not insist on its own way;
- it is not irritable or resentful;

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#2

We pray!

We pray that we will shine as lights in a dark and crooked society.



We Pray for

- Our enemies
- National, state and local leaders
- Labors for the Harvest
- God's will to be done in our lives and in this world
- Wisdom from God



Matthew 5:44

- But I say to you, **Love your enemies** and **pray for those who persecute you,**



1 Timothy 2:1-2



- First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Luke 10:2



- **And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.**

**Pray for the global advancement
of the gospel.**



Colossians 1:9 (ESV)

- And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to **pray** for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,



#3

**We seek to add value to
whatever situation we
find ourselves.**



Acts 10:37-38



- you know what happened throughout Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John announced:³⁸ with respect to Jesus from Nazareth, that God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, because God was with him.

We strive to

- Edify
- Build Up
- Improve
- Steward
- Contribute



**Make a
Difference!**



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#4

**We *spea*k the
truth in love.**



Ephesians 4:15



- **Rather, speaking the truth in love,**
- **we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,**

We proclaim

- The reality of a Creator God

Acts 17:24

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,



We proclaim

- The reality of a Creator God
- God's moral law



1 For in
heaven and earth
in them is, and rested
wherefore the LORD blessed
bath day, and hallowed it.
12 ¶ Honour thy father and thy
mother: that thy days may be long
upon the land which the LORD thy
God giveth thee.
13 Thou shalt not kill.
14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.
15 Thou shalt not steal.
16 Thou shalt not bear false witness
against thy neighbour.
17 Thou shalt not covet thy neigh-
bour's house, thou shalt not covet thy
neighbour's wife, nor his manservant,
nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor

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We proclaim

- The reality of a Creator God
- God's moral law
- Christ and His Gospel
 - Jesus is Lord
 - Jesus is the Christ
 - Jesus is the Son of the living God
 - Jesus died for your sins
 - Jesus rose from the dead
 - Jesus is coming again



We proclaim

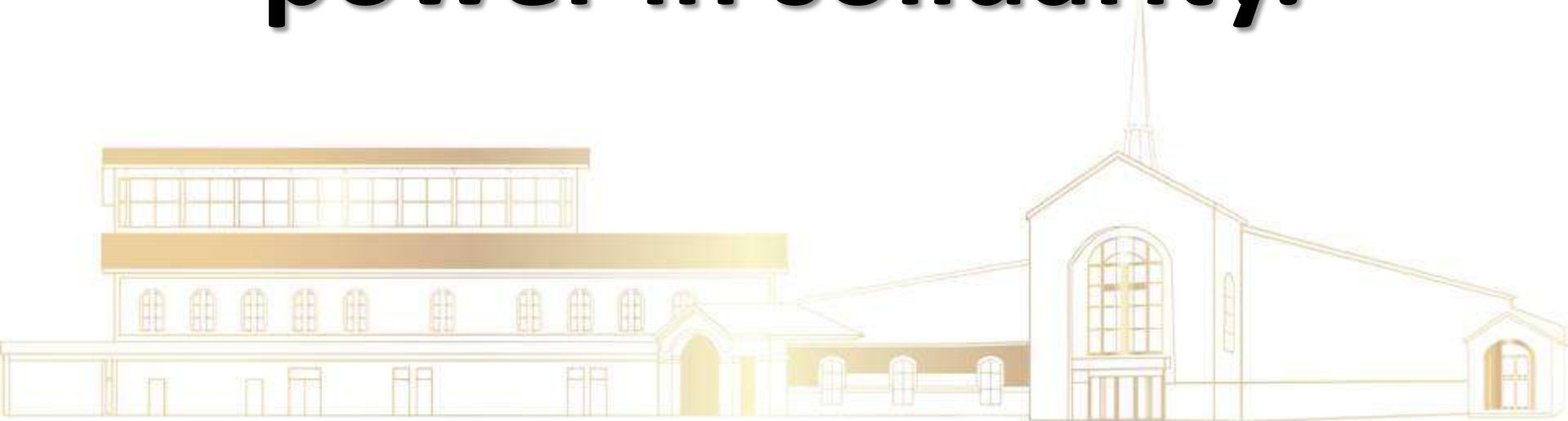
- The reality of a Creator God
- God's moral law
- Christ and His Gospel
- The relevance of Biblical truth to a twisted and crooked society



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#5

**We unite; there is
power in solidarity.**



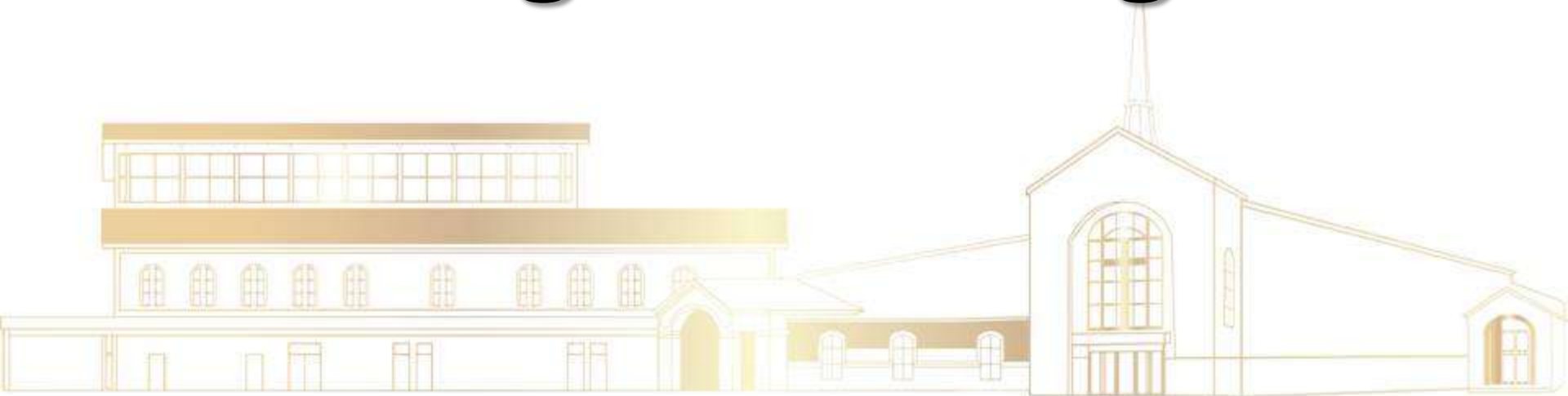
Philippians 2:2 (NET)



- **complete my joy and be of the same mind,**
- **by having the same love, being united in spirit,**
- **and having one purpose.**

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4 Things
**That will dim or
extinguish our light.**



Our Enemy

- Hypocrisy
- Apathy
- Fear
- Lack of Faith

