



## Redemption from Shame

We can feel shame for things we can't control. We can feel guilty even when we haven't done anything wrong. We can be manipulated by someone who is an expert at injecting feelings of shame and guilt into our minds.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are times when someone (could it be me?) doesn't feel guilty for something that really is wrong. Sometimes this is out of ignorance or out of a misguided conscience. Sometimes it is out of a seared conscience—one so often ignored and trampled on that it is no longer sensitive to guilt.

Satan, our enemy, has many ways of using these weapons against us. He wants us to feel so much shame and guilt (even when we haven't sinned) that we feel discouraged, hopeless, debilitated. He wants us to say, What's the use?

Satan also wants us to feel there's no real way out of guilt when it is deserved. He wants us to seek to justify ourselves, to get angry at those we have sinned against and at God. He wants us to seek harmful distractions, to self-medicate and to feel cutoff from God with no way back.

Or he wants us to not feel guilty—when we really should.

There is a time and right purpose for guilt. God created us with the ability to learn about right and wrong and to feel guilt for wrong. He wants the feeling of guilt for sin to lead us to change. He wants us to repent and to wash away the guilt—not to go back and wallow in it.

The Bible shows that even Jesus Christ endured undeserved shaming (Hebrews 12:2). The apostles faced times when they were shamed for serving Christ, and so they reframed their situation, "rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name" (Acts 5:41). Peter later wrote, "Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter" (1 Peter 4:16).

If we face shaming or guilting that is undeserved, what can we do?

Reminding ourselves that it is not deserved can help. Seeking wise counsel about how to deal with the person or people shaming us can also be a good idea.

And we can ask God to help us not take the unfair attacks to heart.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave some keys to dealing with anxieties and worries. It's a matter of focusing on godly priorities and turning our concerns over to God. This helps us to minimize our worries. Consider these instructions from Jesus:

"In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. [We give God and His Kingdom top priority.] Give us this day our daily bread. [We put our needs and cares in God's hands.]

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. [God alone can forgive our spiritual debt of sin.] And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one [our spiritual accuser]. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matthew 6:9-13).

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matthew 6:33-34).

(Borrowed)

## A SENIOR MOMENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I pray that 2020 will be a great year for each of you. I know that 2019 was filled to the brim with all sorts of things going on in our world. There were times of joy and happiness, and times of great sorrow. There were times of peaceful calmness and times of extreme anxieties. These different emotions were experienced by all of us during this past year.

My prayer for each one of us this year is that our faith might grow stronger each day so that we might be better equipped to face each situation in our lives with a new strength that can only come from our loving God.

The greatest problem with New Year's resolutions is that we make them and try to keep them using our own strength. If you are making changes for the better for 2020, don't forget that we always need to be in God's will and depend on God's strength to make things happen.

As believers in the Lord Jesus, our goal really shouldn't be change; our goal should be transformation. Transformation is the work of God; it's something he invites us to share, but something only He can truly perform. So as you seek to make those changes that will leave you a better person at the end of the year, please take a look at the following words of wisdom from your heavenly Father and accept His invitation to do more than change. Be His partner in the work of transformation in your life, for there are no simple changes!

**Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.** Rom 12:2

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.** Prov 3:5-6

### A Heavenly New Year!

Happy New Year, this is God.

This year, as with every year, I will be handling all of your problems. Please remember, I do not need your help. If the devil happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it all in the SFJTD BOX. (Something for Jesus to Do) It will be addressed in my time, not yours.

Please be patient. Once the matter has been placed in the box, do not hold onto it. Do not become impatient and take it back to see if you can find a solution. Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your problem. You must surrender the problem to Me for proper resolution.

If a situation you think you cannot handle arises, please consult Me in prayer. Together we will come up with proper resolution. If you do not receive what you anticipate as proper response from Me, remember--some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayer.

Because I do not sleep, there is no need for you to lose any. Rest, my child...if you need me, I am but a prayer away. - Author unknown

SEE YOU SUNDAY

Jerry



# JANUARY

## Birthdays

4th Dustin Dobill  
5th Lyle Thompson  
5th Wes Wilt  
8th Stephanie Cralley  
9th Anniston Thompson  
9th Harold Zoller  
14th Michelle Snyder  
14th Lisa Stewart  
16th Kathy Yates  
16th Ricky Baldridge

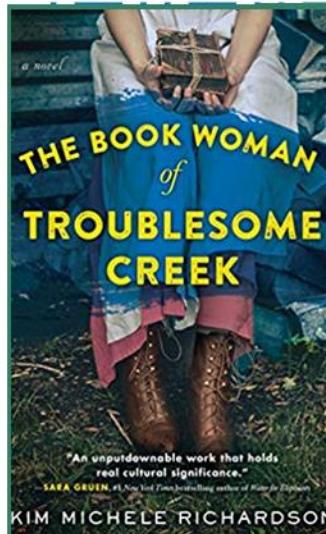
17th Darell Bosecker  
22nd Travis Williams  
25th Kaye Jackson  
26th Maggie Elson  
27th Gabrielle Cobin  
28th Trevor Dinkins  
29th Jerry Piper  
30th Danielle Snyder  
30th Gail Ridgeway  
31st Thelma Viernum  
31st Kevin Hicks



# JANUARY

## Anniversaries

1st Brian & Nichole Tripp  
6th David & Kathy Elson



Book Club  
Monday,  
January 13th  
at 6:00 p.m.  
We are reading  
*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*  
by Kim Michele Richardson



Church  
Cookbooks  
If you would like to submit a recipe to be published in an upcoming ECC cookbook, see Paula Dunlap or Virginia Pabst. You may also include a dedication recipe.



**HEADS  
UP**

Get your act  
together now!  
VARIETY OF PRAISE  
coming in March!

If you've got a talent such as singing, playing an instrument, comedy routine, juggling, or any other "Variety of Praise", we'd love for you to share it with us at this annual event full of praise, worship, fun, and fellowship!

Blood Drive  
Here at the  
Church Monday,  
January 27th  
from 1-6 p.m.



**American  
Red Cross**

Hey all,

Lucas writing to you. What makes you mad? A few things come to mind for what makes me mad: The St. Louis Cardinals and LA Rams losing, stepping on what feels like pure glass and nails every time I step barefoot on one of the toys Amelia and/or Hadley leave on the ground, and Jake Gibbs beating me in ping pong. On a more serious note, I hate bullies. Coming from the standpoint of someone who used to be the bully and also the bullied, I hate it. It makes me mad. You may have seen a recent post I wrote on the church Facebook page that 77% of students see bullying every day in their schools. What was worse is that someone said they see bullying inside the church. Say what?! No, that can't be right. Christians don't bully anyone, especially in church. I laugh at that like I laugh at people who think nothing immoral happens on Christian University campuses. I'm not defending the phrase "people are imperfect," because I understand we all have faults and sin in our own lives. But we, as disciples of Jesus, have been called to live by a standard that is above the standard the world has set before us. We were created as a people of love, of grace, and of mercy. We were created to treat and respect all of humanity as sons and daughters of the Most High God.

All of this is brought up from books I've been reading the last few weeks. The first is called "Dignity Revolution: Standing up for the Value of Every Person" by Bob Lenz. The other is called, "What Made Jesus Mad?" by Tim Harlow. And one thing early on in Tim's book that he says made Jesus mad was God's people getting in the way of non-God-knowers coming to know Jesus and God. Read that again if it was a little fuzzy.

"Jesus was mad because of what always made him mad: denied access to His Father. Jesus' anger was directed at the Jews who turned the non-Jews' house of prayer into a market, thereby denying access, literally, to the outsiders who wanted to worship God."

-What Made Jesus Mad?: Page 8-9

I saved a quote from an Andy Stanley sermon from earlier this year: "Does your version of Christianity get in the way of loving people God loves?" That's a real honest question we need to constantly ask ourselves. One of the ways that those Jewish leaders would get in the way of "outsiders" getting to God would be to hold people to their own traditions and laws that they made up for themselves, even if they weren't from their 613 laws given by God in the Old Testament. They would put these standards on people, and if they didn't live up to them, they were seen as "lesser than." They were bullied by the religious.

A trend of people leaving the church altogether has not been because they didn't believe that God or Jesus were real or anything like that. It has been because they didn't feel the love of Jesus in those people who proclaim to follow and love Him. Some even leave because of people putting standards on them that aren't biblical at all, but tradition and personally based, just like those same Jewish leaders. And you know what? That makes Jesus mad. That makes me mad. I say it so much our students are probably already annoyed with me when I tell them how simple Christianity is (even though we make it harder than it has to be). LOVE is what we do. LOVE is all we do. LOVE is everything we do. So let's stop the bullying. Let's stop letting man made traditions and rules get in the way of treating and loving everyone with the same love that Jesus has for all of creation. When someone asks me, "What makes ECC different from any other church?" I want to answer them like this: "These people truly love like Jesus." Let's be that church community.

Blessings,  
Lucas

# JANUARY

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
			<b>1</b>  Happy New Year No Wednesday night activities Church Office Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Men's Meeting 8:00 a.m.
<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Meal 5:45; Family Bible Study 6:30	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>   Guest Services Meeting	<b>13</b>  Book Club 6:00 p.m.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Meal 5:45; Family Bible Study 6:30	<b>16</b>  Senior Movie Night 6 p.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>   Elder/Deacon Meeting 6:00 p.m.	<b>20</b>  Area Men's Meeting @ Marion	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Meal 5:45; Family Bible Study 6:30	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  	<b>27</b>  Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6  Finance Meeting 6 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Meal 5:45; Family Bible Study 6:30	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>   = Taco Night 5:7 p.m.	

## NURSERY

1/5 Brooke Ward & Emma Yates  
1/12 Brooke Burroughs with Ellie Yates  
1/19 Tarik & Mindy Swenson  
1/26 Becky Burroughs with Jacob Cobin

## TINY TOTS

1/5 Stephanie Hawk & Becky Burroughs  
1/12 Stephanie Hawk & Becky Burroughs  
1/19 Kim Buser & Lauren Kirk  
1/26 Kim Buser & Lauren Kirk

## KIDZ MINISTRY

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

1/5 Rich & Joella Gossett with Isak & Zach  
1/12 Rich & Joella Gossett with Isak & Zach  
1/19 Rich & Joella Gossett with Isak & Zach  
1/26 Darrell & Diane Dunbar with Emma & Ellie

## INSIDE GREETER

1/5 Marilyn Piper & Becky Burroughs  
1/12 Diane & Darrell Dunbar  
1/19 Tedra & Lawrence Crow  
1/26 Landon Buser & Zach Jones

## OUTSIDE GREETER

Matt Jones & Gordon Burroughs  
Larry Hickman & John Halstead  
Tyler Burroughs & Darin Olmsted  
Lyle Thompson & Aaron Thompson

## COMMUNION

**PURCHASE**  
Randy & Kathy Morgan  
**MEDITATION**

1/5 Gary Monroe  
1/12 Ron Kreid  
1/19 Anne Mileur  
1/26 Dennis Bastien

**PREP**  
Lisa Stewart  
**TO SHUT-INS**

Dale Odom  
Gordon Burroughs  
Ray Pabst  
Dale Odom

## SS MILK & JUICE

1/5 & 1/12 Tom & Jenny Scott  
1/19 & 1/26 Pat Shimkus

## EXIT GREETER

Lawrence Crow  
Randy Morgan  
Jane Cobin  
Tedra Crow

## HALL GREETERS

1/5 Jake Gibbs & Dale Odom  
1/12 Matt Jones & Wes Monroe  
1/19 Roger Waller & Gary Jones  
1/26 Larry Hickman & Ray Pabst



## OPENING PRAYER

1/5 Lance Weil  
1/12 Richard Castleman  
1/19 Tom Bailey  
1/26 Gordon Burroughs

## COMMUNION SERVERS

1/5/2019	1/12/2019	1/19/2019	1/26/2019
Ray Pabst	Lyle Thompson	Larry Hickman	Gordon Burroughs
Ron Kreid	Tom Scott	John Halstead	Doug Gibbs
Warren Yates	Jake Gibbs	Wes Monroe	Tyler Burroughs
Jordan Evans	Joe McKinney	Jarrod Kreid	Jake Gibbs
Tyler Burroughs	Noah Castleman	Brandon Buser	Lawrence Crow
Chad Wyatt	Hank Stewart	Landon Buser	Gary Monroe
Tryston Wyatt	Aaron Thompson	Zach Jones	Darin Olmsted
Lawrence Crow	Wes Wilt	Jacob Cobin	Kenny Porter
Gary Monroe	Mark Wilson	Darrell Dunbar	Randy Morgan
Darin Olmsted	Paul Winchester	Jordan Evans	Joe McKinney
Kenny Porter	Warren Yates	Chad Wyatt	Noah Castleman
Randy Morgan	Andy Burroughs	Tryston Wyatt	Hank Stewart

**Praises:** Jordan & Emily Evans welcomed a brand new baby girl, Mila Jane Evans on Saturday, November 23rd. Mila weighed 7 lbs, 3 oz, and was 21 inches long! Congratulations Jordan & Emily!!! Josh & Ann Crow are moving to Arizona with a new job!

**New Members:**

**Surgery & Recovering:** Randy Domineck (Elkville postmaster neck surgery); Pastor Ted Clark (serious back surgery); Keith Bush (foot reconstruction surgery 10/14); Mason Meade 10 yrs old (Parry Romberg Syndrome: surgery on 10/14 for rare skin disease); Carl Walker (surgery 9/26); Donald Baker (surgery 9/18)

**Others in Need:** Hallie Zirkelbach (Darrell & Diane Dunbar's granddaughter) is suffering from a severe concussion; Kaye & Larry Jackson (Kaye fell and is recovering-Larry is caring for her); Laura Hoffmann (Darrell Dunbar's sister-97 years old-fell and broke her hip); Nadine Lacey (broken foot after fall); Bryan Lively; Braden Watson (serious illness); Karsen Tripp-Holder (testing to determine blockage in kidney); Lisa Gill (Neuro Issues-continued testing); Ruth Morgan (fractures on back)

**Those With Cancer:** Brenda Segelken (bone cancer); Mike Wisneski; Linda Bridges (breast cancer); Pat Shimkus & family (Pat has colon cancer); Jessica Zirkelbach (Breast Cancer: starting chemo); Dale Shaw (Linda Martin's brother has colon cancer); Jason Stutes (non-Hodgkins lymphoma); Audrey Booth; Steve McGriff; Rusty Biggs (Brain Cancer); Bart Funk (skin cancer); Linda O'Day (Randy Morgan's sister-has cancer, will be receiving chemo); Matthew McClane (brain cancer-undergoing chemo); Julie Moore; Linda O'dell (stage 3 cancer); Barb Shaw (uterine cancer); Cici Billings (cancer returned-stage 3); Larry Pabst (Ray's brother-colon cancer); Jerry Harsky; Nathan Barnes-Atterberry (finished radiation treatment); Tom Thornton; Sharon Hartline (colon cancer-complications after surgery); Larry Neal Jackson (Larry Jackson's Son-in remission-still undergoing treatments); Nathaniel Wilson; Sarah Keltner (young mother with stage 4 liver, colon, and stomach cancer); Vickie Vernoy (liver cancer-terminal); Indy Jones (3yr old girl fighting lung cancer); Bob Osborn (pancreatic cancer); Marilyn Jones (kidney cancer); Mike Rowland (prostate cancer-metastasized-now taking chemo pills);

**Military Service:** Rylan Ragar (Coast Guard-stationed Pensacola, FL); Andrew Martin (Army-Stationed at Oceana Naval Air Station Dam Neck, Virginia Beach, VA); Jessica Sickles (Air Force-being deployed overseas); Jeffrey Davis (Navy); Stavian Bizaillion (Army); Mekenna Goessman (National Guard); Chelsea Huff (Marines); Seth Barnes (Army); Kaydee Dinkins (Marines); Micheal Brown (Navy); Brooklyn Miller-Sowl (Coast Guard); TSgt Eric Wiggins (in Afghanistan); Faith Odom (Air Force); Justin Shaw (Army, special forces)

**Those in Mourning:** Family of Luke Bryant

**January Wednesday Night Menu**

**Meal starts at 5:45 p.m.**

**\$6.00/person \$15.00/family**

1/8 Lasagna, Salad, and Garlic Bread

1/15 Italian Beef, Potato Salad, and Chips

1/22 Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, and Dinner Rolls

1/29 Sub Sandwiches, Pasta Salad, and Chips

**Elkville Christian Church**



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*Happy  
New Year*

