

# *the*Will

August 2018 | Monthly Newsletter of God's Will Christian Church

**Mark Your  
Calendar**

**Service Time: 10AM**

**Happy Birthday to those  
born in August**

**Interested in becoming a  
member? Please see  
Sis. Vanessa Hawkins!**

## **Battle**

by Josh Moody

Psalms 144

Life can sometimes feel like a battle. Endless demands. You get up early and work hard. Then there are the children. The bills. The taxes. On and on it goes: you fight for health, you fight to be heard, you fight to get good grades, you fight to do what is right. David was a real warrior in the most literal sense. And yet David knew it was God “who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle” (144:1). What has David learned about battling with the Lord on his side, and with God training and equipping him?

First, that despite our inadequacy as humans, God still loves his people (144:2-4). We are but a “breath...a fleeting shadow” (144:4).

## Battle cont'd

But still, "He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer." So the first lesson is to lean upon the character of God, not upon our own worthiness to receive his love and strength.

Second, that God is all-powerful (144:3-11). Certainly the battle is real. There is a "deadly sword" (144:10). There are lies and deceit (144:8). But, in wonderful imagery of God's power, David draws upon the thunderstorm to evoke the kind of majestic might that God alone wields. "Send forth lightning and scatter the enemy" (144:6). The second lesson then is to lean upon the power of God, not be fearful of the power of people.

Third, David refuses to be brow-beaten by circumstances but looks to the future blessing of God in hope (144:12-15). "Then," verse 12, David envisions, there will be all kinds of blessings. Sons and daughters thriving, barns full, sheep, oxen, no defeat by the enemy. All the signs of blessing in a material sense: family, economy and defense. But there is a much higher blessing still: "blessed is the people whose God is the Lord" (144:15).

The greatest blessing of all is to know God and to be known by God. The third lesson then is to lean on hope, and not give in to despair when you are in the midst of the battle.

These are David's lessons for fighting the good fight of faith, lessons from a real warrior who knew that God trained him for battle. Lean upon the character of God who loves you. Lean upon the power of God which protects you. Lean upon the hope of God that will not let you down.

### **REMINDER:**

Please remember to download our App in the App Store or Google Play!

## Member's Corner



*This month, we shine the spotlight on Sister Cathy Voundy-Thomas*

### Who introduced you to Christ?

My grandmother Callie Robinson raised me in the church at a very young age.

### When did you join GWCC?

Uncertain. But it's been some years.

### What do you do for a living?

I am the Operations/Property Manager for a Property Management and consulting firm. We manage properties on behalf of HUD, for persons with disabilities.

### What ministries do you participate in?

No specific ministry. However, I share God's word with everyone I come in contact with.

### What are your hobbies?

Bowling is my hobby.

### What have you found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC?

The teaching of God's word by our Pastoral staff, and the closeness I feel with our church family.

### What advice would you give a new Christian?

I think it is important that anyone new in Christ has to believe and trust that God's word is true. They have to have Faith that everything works in God's time. His works are amazing, it just takes time!

## Recipe Corner: Watermelon, Cucumber and Feta Salad

### INGREDIENTS

Serves 6

- 4-5 cups watermelon, cubed
- 2 large cucumber, peeled, sliced and quartered
- 1¼ cups feta, cubed
- 2 tbsp fresh mint, finely chopped

Dressing

- 1 tbsp [olive oil](#)
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 tsp [honey](#)

### DIRECTIONS

1. Whisk the dressing ingredients together in a small bowl.
2. Stir the watermelon, cucumber, mint and dressing together in a large salad bowl. Add the feta and gently stir to combine.

## Our Daily Bread

As my friend and I went for a walk, we talked about our love for the Bible. She surprised me when she said, “Oh, but I don’t like the Old Testament much. All of that hard stuff and vengeance—give me Jesus!”

We might resonate with her words when we read a book like Nahum, perhaps recoiling at a statement such as, “The Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath” (Nahum 1:2). And yet the next verse fills us with hope: “The Lord is slow to anger but great in power” (v. 3).

When we dig more deeply into the subject of God’s anger, we understand that when He exercises it, He’s most often defending His people or His name. Because of His overflowing love, He seeks justice for wrongs committed and the redemption of those who have turned from Him.

We see this not only in the Old Testament, as He calls His people back to Himself, but also in the New, when He sends His Son to be the sacrifice for our sins.

We may not understand the mysteries of the character of God, but we can trust that He not only exercises justice but is also the source of all love. We need not fear Him, for He is “good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him” (v. 7).

*Father God, You are good. You are loving and You are merciful. Help me to understand more fully some of the mysteries of Your redeeming love today..*

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## Weekly Activities

**Morning Prayer Conference Call**

**Daily 7:00AM**

**Weekly Bible Study Conference Call**

**Wednesday 7:00-8:00p**

**Men’s Bible Study Conference Call**

**Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm**

**Conference Number:**

**712-775-7031 Access Code: 443-268-839**

**Women’s Bible Study Conference Call**

**Monday 7:30-8:30pm**

**857-232-0158 Access Code 262390**