

DISCIPLE DIGEST

Highline Christian Church, 14859 1st Avenue South, Burien

Third Saturday Church Work Party

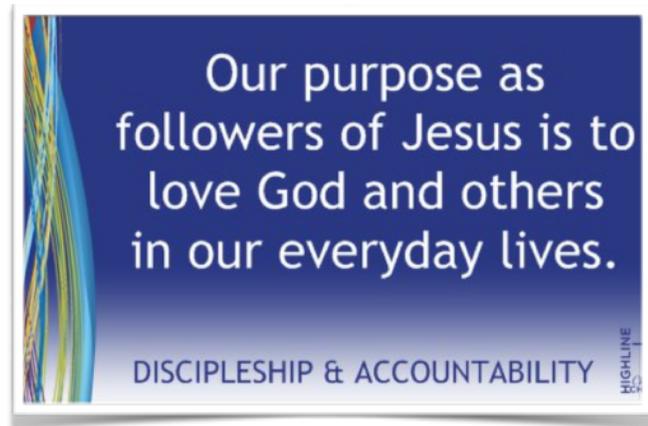


January 18, 8:30-Noon

All are invited to join us for the Third Saturday Work Party. We will be doing general grounds maintenance & fix-its and could use your help. Meet us here in the HCC Parking lot. For any questions, contact Gregg

New Time Wednesday Nights!

Mark your calendar! Beginning **January 8**, all Wednesday night classes and studies will begin at **6:30 PM.**



Reformed Reflections

The Most **Misused** Verses in The Bible

Ask for Anything in My Name

“Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

—John 14:13–14

At face value this verse might lead someone to think we can pray and ask for: A new expensive car, a dream trip around the world, or some other major material blessing. After all, here, in the Bible, it literally says, “*if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.*”

But, is that what this verse truly means, or implies?

Before we move into it, let’s step back and take a larger view of the picture as we approach an understanding of this verse.

Bargerhuff poses the background question, “Where did *you* learn how to pray? Can you remember? Was it from a grandparent, parent, or friend? Perhaps you have never been taught. If so, you’re not alone. Everyone must begin somewhere, and this was true for Jesus’ disciples as well. Luke writes:

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Reformed Reflections...

Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples" (Luke 11:1).

He adds, "We're not told which disciple asked for guidance, but it doesn't really matter. They all needed to learn, and it is evident that even the followers of John the Baptist were eager to learn from John as well".

This leads to an obvious question, where he states "But what does that mean? Does it mean that asking in Jesus' name gives the prayer an extra boost of sorts, somehow increasing the chances of that prayer being heard and answered? Is it like a magical formula that guarantees we will receive whatever we ask, no matter what, as long as it is prayed "in his name"? These are some common misconceptions.

But as Jesus taught his disciples about prayer throughout the course of his ministry, he taught them something specific that has often been misunderstood in Christian circles. Jesus told the disciples that when they ask for things, they should ask the Father "*in my name.*"

Here's a studied observation, "To be sure, to do any of these aforementioned things "in his name" means that we do them in a manner that is consistent with who Christ is, what he taught, and all that he stands for (his kingdom purposes). It is to do them in accordance with God's will, and ultimately for his glory. This is very important for us to remember as we approach the text where Jesus spoke about asking for anything "in my name."

It is best to go to the place where Jesus uttered these words, cite it in its context, and allow other Scriptures to aid in our interpretation.

The words of Christ are found in John 14:13–14, but let's begin with verse 12:

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. (John 14:12–14)

So, let's take a brief look at this context: "On the surface, this may be difficult to understand, but Jesus is surely not saying that the disciples will have more supernatural power than he had. He is God, and to interpret it that way does not make sense. The key to interpreting "greater works" is linking it with the final phrase, "because I am going to the Father."

Again, it's important to always pay attention to the context. As Professor Robert Plummer notes, "Any portion of Scripture must be read within the context of the sentence, paragraph, larger discourse unit, and entire book. The farther one moves away from the words in question, the less informative is the adduced material. Attempting to understand or apply a particular biblical phrase or verse without reference to the literary context is virtually guaranteed to result in distortion. Unfortunately, in popular Christian literature and preaching, there are many examples of such failure to respect the context of a passage." Unless, we take the context into consideration, this verse could well be one of those examples.

One of the keys with the context here is to note that in verse 13, Jesus says,

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Reformed Reflections...

“whatever you ask in My Name, this I will do”, and this is qualified by the *sub-point*, “that the Father may be glorified in the Son”

It's essential to note here that, “On the surface, this may be difficult to understand, but Jesus is surely not saying that the disciples will have more supernatural power than he had. He is God, and to interpret it that way does not make sense. The key to interpreting “greater works” is linking it with the final phrase, “because I am going to the Father.”

Though the interpretation of this passage is understandably difficult, many scholars hold that, “Here then is what “greater works” means. The number of “physical” miracles that were performed by Jesus will pale in comparison to the number of “spiritual” miracles that will take place when both Jews and Gentiles are converted to Christ in this Spirit-filled church age.

And it is here within this new era of ministry (post-resurrection) that Jesus promises his help:

Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.
(John 14:13–14)

In other words, their powerful ministry is bound to be aided by answered prayer. And the key to the effectiveness of their prayers is that they will be asking “*in his name*,” which again is to pray in a manner that is consistent with who Christ is, what he taught, and all that he stands for (his kingdom purposes).

Bargerhuff rightly notes that what this verse is saying is, “In essence, it is to pray in accordance with God’s will—ultimately for God’s glory —“that the Father may be glorified

in the Son.” Then as the disciples pray “in Jesus’ name,” with those motives in mind, they can rest assured that their prayers will be answered and that Jesus himself (“I will do it”) will be assisting them from heaven in their ministry efforts.”

The result being that, “When people learn to pray like this, with these motives and with this perspective, it is amazing to see how God answers their prayers. Prayers turn from a selfish focus to a more God-centered, God-glorifying focus, and the results are dramatic. In fact, this is the clear promise of 1 John 5:14–15:

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

As a closing summary for John 14:13-14, C.H. Spurgeon wisely commented,

“Is that promise true to every man? Certainly not. It was made by Christ to his own disciples, and not to all of them absolutely; but only to them as they believe in him, as they are filled with his Spirit, and as they keep his commandments. There are some of God’s children who have little power with him in prayer,—some who walk so disorderly that, since they do not listen to God’s words, he will not listen to theirs. Yet he will give them necessaries, as you give even to your naughty and disobedient children; but he will not give them the luxury of prevailing prayer, and that full fellowship with him which comes through abiding in him. Such luxuries he saves for his obedient children, who are filled with his Spirit. Even under the old dispensation, David wrote, “Trust in the

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Safety & Protection

ATTENTION!!!

For those that have Keys and/or entry codes to the buildings at HCC.



For the safety of you and our staff, please be careful when using your key or code for access to the building. First be mindful that others may be trying to watch as you enter your code. That would allow them later access. More importantly we need to be aware of attempts to “tail gate” (follow you in the door). If you are not familiar with others at the door PLEASE DO NOT allow them access to the facilities as you enter. If you would like you can let them know that you will let the individual that they are trying to access aware that they are waiting outside. You could also let them know that they can ring the office for possible access. IF you are unable to prevent a tailgate situation please alert someone immediately. Just because they want to see (insert name here) or talk to someone in the office or a staff member, does not mean that person is expecting them or it is safe for the target individual. We have had instances where individuals NOT associated with the church have gained entry and then put our employees or members in uncomfortable situations. Other times things have been stolen by unattended individuals.

So please for your safety and that of others, PLEASE do not allow individuals with which you are not familiar to enter when facilities are secured.

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Reformed Reflections...

Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart;” and in a very special sense, under the new dispensation, that spirituality of mind, which enables us to delight in God, is a necessary antecedent to our obtaining the desires of our heart in the high and spiritual sphere of prayer.”

- The verse is not a carte blanche from God
- We must properly understand the context
- We should understand the ultimate goal of prayer- God’s will

Next month, for February 2020, we’ll examine “If My People Who Are Called by My Name (2 Chronicles 7:14). Should we claim this verse as applying directly to the United States?”

Thanks for again reading and I pray this has blessed you or encouraged you to seek Him and His word and to better rightly divide the truth.

Brad Krantz

Bargerhuff, E. J. (2012). *The Most Misused Verses in the Bible: Surprising Ways God’s Word Is Misunderstood* (p. 55). Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers.

Plummer, R. L. (2010). *40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible*. (B. L. Merkle, Ed.) (p. 104). Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic & Professional

Spurgeon, C. H. (1900). *Neither Forsaken nor Forgotten*. In *The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit Sermons* (Vol. 46, p. 204). London: Passmore & Alabaster.

Operation Christmas Child



Thank you, again, for the 712 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes you helped sent to 712 children. These boxes will introduce 712 children, plus their families and communities to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Last year, we collected a different item each month leading up to Collection Week in November. This was helpful to many people. If you are able and willing to donate the focused item each month, that would be appreciated. If it is easier for you to wait and pack an entire box next Fall, that is great and completely appreciated as well! At any point, if you have a question about Operation Christmas Child, please contact Tammie Lindblom.

January's focused donation item is **SOCKS**. We need socks for boys and girls, aged 2-14. Donated items can be placed in the bin in the Community Room marked "Operation Christmas Child". For those who like to plan ahead, here is the plan for the coming months:

January - Socks

February - Girl Toys

March - Boy Toys and Soccer Balls/Pumps

April - Stuffed Animals

May - Flashlights with batteries

June - Toothbrushes

July - Wash Cloths and Bar Soap

August - School Supplies

September - Cash

October - Full Boxes

November - Full Boxes

Christmas Tree Stand Success!

A MASSIVE "THANK YOU!" to all that assisted with the Missions Christmas Tree Stand this year. It was a HUGE SUCCESS! It was the best year yet in raising money for mission projects. We ended up selling every tree that we had (about 590 trees) and collected \$29,382.00 in sales of trees and wreaths this year. After reimbursing supplies and delivery costs we raised over \$15,000.00 for future mission projects. We could NOT have done this without your help!



Your support came in MANY different forms – Thank You. People donated well over 800 hours of labor hours to the stand-- to pick up trees from Onalaska WA, unload trees, unbind and display trees, sell trees and then load them again. We THANK YOU. Many of you prayed for the "success" of the stand, both financially and that we would have opportunities to show our love for JESUS – THANK YOU! Also many of you and your neighbors bought trees and wreaths from us - THANK YOU!

While working at the Christmas tree stand many of us were able to share with people that came in to buy a tree that our purpose was "to love God and others in our everyday lives" and to show that it is that love for God and all God's children that spurs us to participate in a variety of missions projects outside the USA. How on some of these projects we take children, parents and grandparents to Mexico to touch those that are not as financially blessed as we are. How all who participate in these trips are blessed in the experience.

Again THANK YOU for blessing us so that we can bless others.

A special thanks once again for "Santa's" participation. Once again John Davis played Santa EACH DAY blessing the children. Many children (and parents) return each year not just to buy a tree, but also to see "Santa John". Each child that came in received a candy cane and a small stuffed animal from "Santa John".

Thanks again to ALL,

Christmas Tree Stand Leadership



Shoemaker's Circle

January 15th
10:30AM
Room S-203



Ladies, bring a sandwich and come join us for scripture sharing, fellowship and lunch.



Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided.

Photographic Memories

All scrapbookers and anyone who wants to get their photos organized are welcome to join us on



Saturday, January 18, 1-6 pm in N-203, the south classroom of the north building. There will be tools to share, but please bring your own scissors and consumable supplies.

If you need to RSVP, have a question, or need to enter the building on the day of the event, please call Tammie Lindblom.

Women In Touch Mingle Jingle

The Women In Touch Ministry had a memorable night at the Mingle Jingle on Dec 6th. The ladies were welcomed with a beautiful decorated room with elegant Christmas decor decorated by Jaylani Evans and her team. We enjoyed getting to meet new friends and fellowshiping together. We were serenaded by The Barber shop Quartet, Two Town Sound with Christmas classics. The evening was full of a variety of different kinds of desserts made by Jen Young & Yoli Prainito. We were blessed by some of the men of Highline who worked behind the scenes and by those



who graciously served us. There were also many options of dietary dessert's made by some fabulous bakers. Thank you, to our very own Josh Ambrose (Youth and Young Adult Minister) who took the time to hang out with us and share from his heart. Thank you to all you



ladies who donated pj's to Foster Champ's. Highline is always looking for a way to give back. We are grateful to bless foster kids this Christmas. The Mingle Jingle was a great start to this Christmas Season we hope you all feel the love and joy of our savior.

Merry Christmas,

The women in touch women leadership

Team



Retirees Breakfast

Thursday, January 9, 8:30AM
Pancake Chef



Seniors, come join us for fellowship and breakfast.

Seniors Luncheon



The Seniors will be meeting for lunch at The Sizzler in South Center January 8, 2020 at 11:45 AM! Any Senior is welcome to come. Bring your appetite!

Sermon Discussion Study

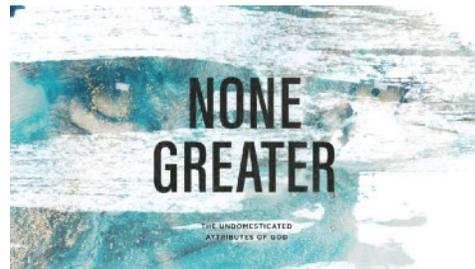
January 8th
9:30AM
Room S-201



Come fellowship, learn and grow with us Wed's, 9:30 am as we discuss the sermon from the previous Sunday.



Adult Winter Class



Sign up December 28 & 29th in the Atrium

Who is God and what is He like? Can we know what God is like? Why is it important to explore who God is, beyond simply being God?

Come and explore the attributes of God this January - March during the 10:40 a.m. worship time in Room N-203. This class is for all who desire to know God more fully and to be moved to worship the one true God. Led by Brad Krantz, this class will follow the chapters of *None Greater: The Undomesticated Attributes of God* by Matthew Barrett as you explore how God has revealed Himself through Scripture.

Evergreen Prison Ministry Ongoing Needs

- New or used Bibles and Christian growth books.

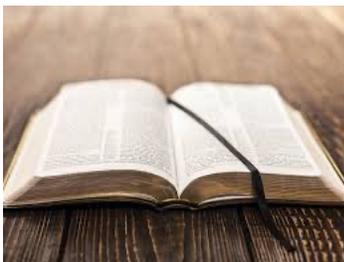


- Solid Christian magazines like Decision or In Touch type, ok. (Please NO secular books, magazines, or children's materials.)
- Books of stamps to write letters to inmates. (Please give to Janita Lagasca directly or church office.)
- New Christian Christmas cards with NO GLITTER. Prison's don't allow glitter.

No used Christmas cards this year, have enough, thanks.

Items are collected in the Prison Ministry box year round, in the Community Room, just inside the south building to the right.

Janita Lagaska



A New Year
Is here with opportunity
To reach out to the world in need
Of Christ!
Please keep our missions in your prayers!

- Missions Fair
- VISTA Missions
- Team Expansion
- Prevention Time
- Boise Bible College
- Mission Fest Seattle
- The Jesus Film Project
- Cadence International
- Asia Children's Mission
- IberoAmerican Ministries
- Pioneer Bible Translators
- Roots & Wings Ministries
- Wycliffe Bible Translators
- Tecate Mission International
- Emmanuel Christian Seminary
- Northwest Schools of Mission
- Hippo Valley Christian Mission
- Pleasant Valley Christian Camp
- South American Christian Mission
- Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch
- The Christian Evangelistic Association
- International Disaster and Emergency Services

Four Seasons of Parenting

One of my greatest desires and greatest challenges is to be fully present with my children. That’s why I recently attended a worship on the topic. This is what I learned.

1. Love overflows from God to me to my children
2. I have to know I am loved by God so I can love my children
3. I need to be present to God so I can be present to my children
4. When I know the truth of God’s love for me, I can be free
5. THE most important sub-system in the family is the parents & children. (Not siblings, not spouses...)

Really? The **most important relationship to get right is parents and children**? Bummer! I don’t think I get that right all the time. I realize that sometimes I want to be my child’s friend. Sometimes I want my children to figure it all out on their own as I watch and help them decide. And sadly, sometimes I am “so tired” that I just do for them what they could clearly do for themselves. NOT helpful. The speaker at the workshop (Jamie Roach) provided the below chart that was helpful to me in terms of knowing my role in parenting my children in their corresponding developmental stage.

Age of Child	Parent role	Parent task	Child’s task
Preschool	Parent as Servant	We do	They watch
Elementary	Parent as Tour Guide	We do together, side-by-side, show & tell	
Middle School	Parent as Coach	I watch	They do
Late High School & Beyond	Parent as Friend	I cheer	They do

Recently I wanted to have a conversation with my 13-year-old son regarding his screen time. As I considered the conversation, I contemplated telling him I was removing his devices so he could no longer use them too much. That plan did not sit well with me. This plan involved my acting and his watching (see the preschool row in the chart). I thought about making a chart or letting him know he needed to limit his time.

That didn’t seem quite right either (see the elementary row). But I couldn’t let him do whatever and suffer the consequences without my input! (Not time to be a cheerleader). So, what I did was sat down with him. I had him report to me how much screen time his devices told him he was having. We put it on a chart. I had him make observations. I had him tell me what he would be proud of looking back at his 13-year-old self. Then he decided how much screen time he wanted. He determined what other activities he wanted to do instead. I asked the questions. He made the decisions. It was grand! It was glorious! And I was so proud of what he came up with. Had I taken the devices as I would have when he was two years old, I would have robbed him of the processing that he’ll need to do now and later in life. Had I acted as his friend, he would have missed out on the coaching he needed right now so that later in life, when his mom doesn’t live with him, he has tools to assess his behavior. What was needed was for me to be his coach. I watch. He does. I see the tweaks that need to be made. He pulls it off. This coach/player relationship is what is needed for my 13-year-old. Other forms of relating would have been frustrating to both of us!

As you encounter your children in the new year, I invite you to consider your role in your child’s life.



- What is needed in this time, in this moment?
- How can you prepare your child for the next phase in life?
- How can you equip your child to be fully present to God as you walk the journey of being present to God?

Charlene Crawford

A Word...

I love spending time and interacting with God's preschoolers.

Their honesty, energy, and joy & wonder in the littlest of things draws me back week after week. My desire is to share God's consistency and unconditional love as well as is humanly possible. I want them to have a place where they feel safe and cared for. It is equally important for me that the parents know that their babies are being loved on while they are at BIG church.

God has amazed me many times when I am certain no one has grasped anything from the lesson just taught, only to hear a small voice say "Tabernacle" when asked what was the name of God's home in the desert.

Wow...okay..."Speak God for your servant is listening!"

Thanks be to God.

 Brenda Beck



What is Happening in Early Elementary? (K - 2nd Grade)

On Sunday mornings, each grade has their own Sunday School Classroom at 9:00. The kids have been learning about how God's people respond to God in Worship. During this service, the kids are going deeper as they look at God's word as one Big God Story.

At the 10:40 service, the kids all come into Room 101 for a Big God Story that lines up with what the Early Childhood, Upper elementary, and the teens and adults are all learning in the service. We are working through Matthew alongside of everyone else. The students are working on a Bible passage and each week we add a little more. Verse cards are available to be taken home to practice as well.

On Wednesday January 8th, there will be a new time for all programs. We will begin class at 6:30pm and doors will open at 6:00pm. We will end promptly at 8:00. The kids are continuing diving into the Bible as we worship God through a lesson, reading the Bible, learning God's word through Remember Verses, and learning to sit and listen to God through quiet times.

Remember Verses! A big part of the 10:40 service and the Wednesday Night program is Remember Verse Time. A Remember Verse is a Bible verse or passage we practice saying out loud. The kids can say their verse 3 different ways. The first way is they can repeat the verse. Repeating is for kids who need some help with the words. The teacher will say the verse and pause for the kids to repeat it. The second way they can say their verse is to read it. The students can just read it off of the card. The third way is that kids can memorize the verse. This is where kids just say it without help. If kids repeat or read the verse, they earn a sticker for our sticker board. The children who have the verse memorized, earn 2 stickers. We love blessing kids who are helping others learn the verse or being kind and encouraging to kids in line with a bonus sticker. As the classes earn the stickers, when the poster is full, they vote on a fun celebration. We have had a popsicle party, laser tag game, popcorn party, and a game time. This is one of my favorite parts of class, all of the children are engaged in saying God's word out loud. We are responding to God through learning His Word!

Katie Taylor

Behind the Scenes Volunteers

We would like to thank **ALL** of you who help do the unseen and/or unknown. Who help make HCC community what it is. Thank you, for your time and the commitment you put in behind the scenes that no one sees or knows about.



We appreciate you!

Highline Christian Church Staff

Worship Service Times

Saturdays - 6:00 PM
Sundays - 9:00 AM & 10:40 AM

Contact Us

Phone:
206.243.4333

Website:
highlinechristian.org

Email:
office@highlinechristian.org

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30-2:30
Friday 8:30-Noon

Next eNewsletter Deadline

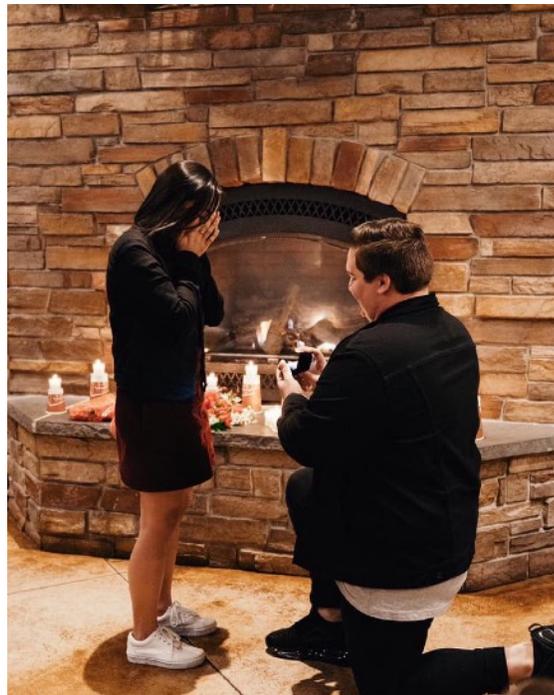
January 19, 2020

Congratulations

Congratulations Josh Ambrose & Leah Anderson on your engagement.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant **5** or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; **6** it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. **7** Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.



By wisdom a house is built,
and by understanding it is established;
by knowledge the rooms are filled
with all precious and pleasant riches.

2019-2020 Elders



Paul Smith, Elder Chair



Tim Knight



Bret Thorson



David Cowan



Bruce Ernst



Les Fader



Konrad Lindblom



Gregg Louvier



Dave Rogge

HCC Staff



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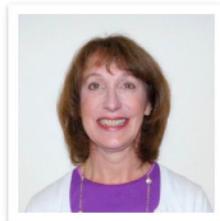


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