



October 29, 2023

FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Thrill and Chill of Working for the Lord

by: Austin Johnson

In an explanation from an angel of the Lord, Zechariah hears about his coming son, John, who would prepare the people for the Christ. Notice the combination of exciting yet humbling news for Zechariah concerning his son.

Luke 1:16–17

“¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”

1. John would turn “many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God,” but not all of them.
2. John would live His life in a way that is “great before the Lord.” (Luke 1:14)
3. John would be “in the spirit and with the power of Elijah”
4. John would “turn the hearts of the fathers to the children”
5. John would turn “the disobedient to the wisdom of the just”
6. John would “make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”

This would have been incredible news to receive! Isn't it the case though, that what is thrilling to receive is oftentimes chilling to consider? Look at John's thrill and chill.

1. John's message would turn many, but not all.
2. John would live a great life before the Lord, but we know that such a life is prone to public commentary, complaints, and criticism.
3. John would be in the spirit and power of Elijah, but would have to bear the burden of great expectations placed upon his prophesied state.
4. John would turn the hearts of the fathers to the children; however, such work would cause John to confront people in their sin.
5. John would turn the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, which means he was going to point out a lack of wisdom in some people's lives.
6. John would make ready for the Lord a people prepared, and that day was sure to come. What a blessing and great responsibility.

It seems to me that the exciting and incredible are often paralleled by some potential sad and humbling truths. Who likes to consider the reality that some people will reject the life-saving message of Jesus? Who looks forward to the public assault waged against those in the spotlight? Is it easy to live a life where great expectations are placed upon you, when you must confront people in their sin, point out a lack of wisdom, and prayerfully help people be ready for the coming Messiah? No! But...the thrill is worth every bit of the chill that is to be faced!

Joshua 1:9, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

2 Corinthians 5:9, “So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”

Elders
Steve Clark
Jake VanDyke
Ken Vanhorn
Mark Willingham

Deacons
Greg Allen
Justin Beckman
Kevin Clemons
Jeffrey Cox
Mike Davidson
Kyle Dickson
Gregg Elrod
Nate Fulmer
AJ Gooch
David Gooch
Will Hodge
Brian McManus
Jamey Medley
Ronnie Putnam
Dave Schmidt
Mark Vanhorn

Minister
Austin Johnson

Youth Minister
John Birdwell

Office Manager
Monnie Ross

2502 FLORENCE BOULEVARD

www.florenceblvd.org

PHONE (256) 766-3617

email: office@florenceblvd.org

FAX (256) 766-3546

Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am; Wednesday: 6:30 pm

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM: 268 / On Line Views: 351
Sunday School: 220 / On Line Views: N/A
Sunday PM: 232/ On Line Views: 147
Wednesday: 194/ On Line Views: 78
Budget: \$14,620
Contribution: \$ 15,017

OCTOBER MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Evands Pierre
C/O Jean-Claubert Belton
Carrefour Michaud #46 Route Malpasse
Entrée Double Harvest
Croix des Bouquets
Haiti

MEETINGS

There will be an Elders & Deacons Meeting **TODAY** at 3 pm followed by a Men's Meeting at 4 pm.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Trunk or Treat **TONIGHT** following evening services. You do not have to decorate your trunk to participate.

CHRISTIAN STUDENT CENTER
FUNDRAISER

The UNA Christian Student Center is selling pint jars of Honey for \$12.50. The students take all money and buy Christmas presents for kids who have incarcerated parents. They wrap and deliver these gifts to the families before they go home for their Christmas break.

PRAYER SERVICE

On Wednesday, November 1, everyone from our Youth Group through Primetimers will meet in the auditorium during class time for a period of prayer, specifically praying for the names we have personally invited to our Gospel Meeting.

Cradle Roll through 4th grade will meet as usual during this time of prayer.

Please continue to turn in these names to the drop boxes located in each foyer.

GOSPEL MEETING

Please be praying for our upcoming Gospel Meeting November 5-8 with Barry Gilreath.

AREA EVENTS

30th Annual Alzheimer's Symposium, Friday, November 3rd at Crosspoint Church of Christ. Registration: 7 AM; Symposium: 7:45 AM-5:00 PM. Pre-Registration beforehand is recommended: Donna Johnson djohnson@mhnrc.com or c.a.r.d.nwa@gmail.com

Various topics and speakers speaking about Alzheimers, Dementia, Grief, Hope, Support

UNA Christian Student Center Annual Benefit Dinner

November 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm at KEESTONE RESORT in Loretto, TN.

Entertainment by Ben and Travis and also some talent by our CSC students

Tickets are \$100

Sponsorships opportunities are available

Call or email the CSC office to purchase tickets or sponsor unacsf@comcast.net 256-764-9439