

Scott's Thoughts by Scott Deneen, Pastor to Youth and Families

We've all heard the saying, "Lord, give me patience and give it *now*." I don't know about you but that saying is true for me. I want patience but I don't want to wait for it. But what *is* patience? Is patience a disconnected apathy where we just don't care? OR is it the willful endurance of bad circumstances? OR is it seeing circumstances from another perspective and therefore having the ability to "wait out" the moment?



I'm thinking patience is directly associated with how I view my present circumstances in light of God's plan for me. Consider this illustration: There are two people doing the exact same job. The job entails mundane, clerical work that never ends. They get to work every morning with more work to accomplish than time to accomplish it and their boss wrongly but constantly berates them for inefficiency. There is no hope for advancement and the pay is minimal. What do you think their mindset would be? I'm thinking... *crazy!!*

Now add this little element to the mix. One of the workers knows that they will receive a million dollars at the end of year. The other doesn't know. Which one of the two has greater peace, patience, and joy? Which one endures the boss' tirades and lack of appreciation better? Which one handles monotonous tasks without going bonkers?



The one who is looking forward to a million dollars, right? Why? Because knowledge of reward/blessing allows for patient endurance of difficult circumstances. So what does that have to do with patience?

Well, for Christians, we are inheriting ALL things (btw, that's more than a million dollars!) along with Christ; we'll enjoy eternity in paradise with God; and we will have relationships with God and others that are filled with joy and laughter. In other words, we have much to look forward to that make this life/difficulties easier to bear. So fix your eyes on Jesus and all He is for you. Meditate on His love, grace, and provision; and think through all that awaits you in the future life. Then you will endure difficulties with what others call "patience" but all you'll think is "it's no big deal" because your heart & mind will have more lovely things on which to dwell.

Praying for Your Lasting Joy,
Pastor Scott

Upcoming Events

Youth Group

Middle & High School

Sunday Night

Bible Study
6:00 - 7:30pm

Wednesday Night

Open Gym, Eat Out, etc.
6:30 - 8:00pm

Children's Ministry

Infant - 5th grade

Sunday Nights

Nursery

Infant - 2 yrs.
6:00 - 7:30pm

M&M Kids

3 yrs. - Kindergarten
6:00 - 7:30pm

Imagebearers

1st - 5th grade
6:00 - 7:30pm

Adults

16 yrs - 99 years

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00pm

Men's Basketball Open Gym

Saturdays 2:00 - 4:00pm

To keep sports fun for your child:

- Emphasize skill development, not winning
- Maintain realistic expectations
- Stay positive. Avoid criticizing your child's play.
- Keep in mind that if sports become work, they're no longer fun.



Kids ask tough questions...

At the volleyball skills clinic, players were given an "Open Mike" opportunity to ask our pastors a question. Here's one answered by Pastor Dave.



Q. How old is the earth?

According to the Bible, earth is 6122 years old (give or take a few years.) Earth's age is a topic of great debate in modern times because popular pockets of the science and school communities insist that the earth is millions of years old. There are many other debatable issues coming out of the earth's age question which I can't address in this short space.

The bottom line issue of what you believe concerning this question comes down to trusting man, or trusting God and the Bible as His Word. Do you trust God - Who was there at the beginning - AND, His ability to get the story to us in the way and timing in which it happened; OR, do you trust the speculative "scientific" history of men who weren't there and keep changing the story as new discoveries are made?

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

Volleyball News

Mark Your Calendar!

Volleyball Season Finale

Friday, March 12th

Division III Finale 7pm - 9pm

Saturday, March 13th

Division I Finale 9am - 11am

Division II Finale 2pm - 4pm

Finale Events

- Round-Robin Style Tournament
- Keynote Speaker
- Trophy Presentation
- Bible Verse Presentation



SOAR Youth Soccer

☺ Registration is Sat., March 27th
10:30am - 12:00pm

☺ Ages 4.5 - 11

Division I Ages 4.5 - 6

Division II Ages 7 - 8

Division III Ages 9 - 11

☺ More info and Registration Forms available at the Church Office or visit us online at www.fpcstanley.org.

☺ Registration Fee is \$35

☺ Season runs through June 5th



Youth Perspective

Annalise Jessen (AJ) is an active member of the FPC Youth Group. In this interview, she describes how her involvement with this group has had a positive influence on her life.

Q1.) What are some things you like about Youth Group? *AJ: I love playing games (basketball) and hearing about what I need to pray about for others in the group.*

Q2.) What are some trips you enjoy? *AJ: I always look forward to Ridge Haven (mountain retreat) and the lessons we learn including the time we get to spend with each other.*

Q3.) What's your favorite Bible story? *AJ: I really don't have a favorite. They are all great!*

Q4.) How does Youth Group help you in your Christian walk? *AJ: I get to learn more about God in a fun way!*

Q5.) What is something you've learned about Christ in the last year? *AJ: I have learned about how God is very loving, forgiving, and generous.*



Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Morning Service

8:30 Worship Service

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

Sunday Evening

6:00 Care Groups

Image Bearers

6:00 Youth Group

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at

www.fpcstanley.org

Team Rosters

Game Schedule