

Family Focus

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

IS IT EXAM TIME?



As everyone knows, exams can take place at an announced time, or they can come unexpectedly - a pop test. When I was in school, I preferred the former, because you could “be ready.”

Interestingly, the New Testament addresses the issue of “exams”. In II Corinthians, the Apostle Paul urges members of “the church of God in Corinth” to whom the letter is addressed (II Cor. 1:1), “to examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you – unless of course, you fail the test? (II Cor. 13:5).”

The purpose of this examination is to see if we are holding to the faith. Paul speaks further of this holding to the faith, in II Cor. 5:17 where he says, “...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone, the new has come!” In other words, Christians who are “in the faith” are people who have undergone change in their lives. They have stopped a former way of living their lives in favor of a new way of living. We, too, must do this as we grow in our Christianity.

Of the Ephesians, Paul wrote, “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light” (Eph. 5:8).” And in Eph. 5:15, he urges, “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise...”



Let each one of us examine ourselves, and live out our faith, or as Eric has said, “Be the church!”

“Live as children of light!” Be ready to pass the exam.

~ Charlie Martin

Shepherds' Vision Goals

Overall Goal:

To grow spiritually and numerically as “a family growing people to the glory of God”.

Goals for the next 12 months:

1. Increase participation by at least 10% in these areas: Sunday Worship, Bible School, Ministry Works, and Small Groups.
2. Make a list of 5 folks to pray for & invite to Small Group or Worship.
3. Add 20 new teachers.
4. Total Congregational giving challenge - increase giving by 28%.

Want to learn more about specific plans to reach these goals? Ask an elder or minister or go to our website: www.fairviewroad.org.

Our Shepherds

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