

Bro. K says: “What’s Mine is Mine”

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD... Malachi 3:3

For too many Christians today life is dissected: part of what I do is religious, and the rest is secular, and never the twain shall meet. For two hours on a Sunday morning I attend to spiritual things, but the rest of my life is mine. But there is often no discernible impact of those “God hours” on the remainder of the week; religion has little to do with my “practical” life.

This “dissection” of our lives is completely foreign to God. In God’s economy my time, energy and resources are His. All of me belongs completely to Him, all the time. So we don’t have the luxury of saying, “I will give God my time on Sunday, and the rest I keep to myself.” God: “All of it is mine.” That’s why God told the Jews of Malachi’s time they were “robbing God.”

They had taken what is His, and used it for themselves. He frowns on stuff like that. He scolded them for their lack of faith in Him when they refused to give Him the tithe He was due. He called them “thieves.” Ouch.

Nobody likes to be beaten up over money. So God also gave them a tremendous dose of encouragement at the same time. In Malachi 3:10, He tells them to bring Him the tithes that are His, and He would make them a guarantee: if they were faithful in their giving, He would rain down blessings on them that they could not imagine, in such quantities they could not contain it. That was His promise then...and it is His promise to us.

If you struggle with the concept of tithing, I get it. I do too. That’s why God offers you a guarantee: “Test me, Let me prove it to you.” Malachi tells us that obedience leads to “righteousness.” In other words, you grow by doing what God says in every area of your life, especially this one. And if you don’t, you can never be what God wants you to be: righteous.

No, tithing does not make sense. The math simply doesn’t add up. But experience tells us (as does God’s Word) that most of what God asks of us is illogical. Why should finances be any different? If you have not made the difficult decision to obey God in the area of finances, let me echo God’s challenge on the subject: test Him. Let Him prove to you how great He is. You’ll be amazed.

Hineni Student Ministry,

This Friday we took a church group to Sight and Sound theater in Branson to watch the play *Jesus*. The youth have also been watching the series *The Chosen*. As fantastic as these are they are not substitutes for scripture. I really enjoy these media because they remind me of a simple fact: Jesus called us.

Those chosen to be the apostles of Jesus were average, normal people. Andrew, Simon Peter, James, and John were fishermen. (Matthew 4:18-22) Matthew was a tax collector. (Mark 2:13-14) The other Simon was called Zealot, which means he was a political radical, engaged in overthrowing the Romans. (Luke 6:15) The point is these were average people, just like you and me.

Jesus calls normal people to do His will. It’s not just the elite and educated; it is those that He wills. This is not how I was raised but it is what I believe now. We are all called to say “here I am, send me.” It will not be easy. It requires a lot of work and study of God’s word, but if that hard work means we get to serve the God of the universe, who could say no. I encourage everyone, study God’s word, be ready to do His will.

Raymond Torix

A Time For Prayer

Our families and our Church face many difficult challenges. God has provided a means of support through prayer. We invite you to join us in prayer each Sunday morning at 9:00 in our Sanctuary.

**YOUR WORLD NEEDS THE CHURCH.
YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU.
YOU NEED THE CHURCH.**

WEEKLY FINANCIAL NEEDS:

WEEKLY BUDGET: \$6206.47

LAST WEEK: \$5861.00

MONTHLY FINANCIAL NEEDS:

MONTHLY BUDGET: \$26,895.00

LAST MONTH: \$22,706.10

Welcome to SHBC

About SHBC

We are a group of Christ-followers who believe in the power of God to change lives. We want to see transformation take place in your life, and in your family’s. We see that happening in this Church through the consistent teaching and preaching of God’s Word, and through the encouragement and support of fellow believers. Our worship is simple and Spirit-led, meaning God is the focus of everything we do, because He alone is able to help; He alone is able to save; therefore, He alone is worthy of our devotion.

Our activities and teaching are centered around the Biblical directive to “make disciples.” Simply put, everything we do is for the purpose of pointing people to Jesus, so they can become more like Him. SHBC is a relatively young Church, but a Church that God has already blessed in miraculous ways. We invite you to become a part of our family, and experience the power of Christ in your life.

Join The Family

The only biblical requirements for Church membership are that you are born again and have been baptized. That means that you have publicly professed your faith in Christ and then been baptized by immersion after your salvation. If that is the case, you are eligible for membership.

There are several different ways to join SHBC, depending on your situation. Please talk with our Pastor if you have questions about becoming a member here.

Thanks for Coming

If you are a visitor in our worship service today, we are thrilled to have you. Our prayer is that you are drawn into the presence of Christ during this time, and your encounter with Him will leave you more transformed into His image. If you are new to our community, or if you don't have a current Church home, we hope you will prayerfully consider Southern Heights Baptist Church as your regular place of worship.

If you are just visiting the Berryville area, we hope you enjoy your stay and will come back soon. In either case, we would like to have a record of your visit, and be made aware of any prayer concerns you might have.

Thank you for being here today.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Email: _____

I would like more information about Southern Heights: (Y) (N)

Prayer needs:

School Is Back Soon

In just one short week school will be back in session. Parents are thrilled. Teachers and students are already crying. The beginning of the school year also marks a time of transition in our Church calendar.

Just a reminder that our Kid's Programs will be back in full force soon. Team Kids returns on Wednesday nights, along with our Wednesday night meals. We still need volunteers for Wednesday night Children's leaders. Youth and adult Bible Studies are also a part of Mid-Week worship. Sunday School curriculum changes this month.

Come rediscover church!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS RETURNING

The much anticipated return of our mid-week fellowship meals will happen beginning August 17. We now have 4 groups preparing meals, which should make it easier on our volunteer food prep teams. A big thank you to Donnie and Annette Whitson (and their team), Brenda Snyder and Shonna Coleman (and their team), Stephen and Meredith Garvin (and their team) and our youth department (led by Raymond and Bekah Torix).

Southern Heights News

August 7, 2022

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Final Week: Bright Futures Partnership

SHBC continues to be a big supporter of Berryville Schools, and the Bright Futures organization. This month we will collect the following items for the beginning of the school year.

- ***TENNIS SHOES** – sizes Big Kid 1 through adult sizes, both boy and girl
- ***BACKPACKS** – mostly for big kids – (some) Intermediate School age, and mostly Middle School and High School.
- ***HEADPHONES**
- ***TRAPPER KEEPERS** or **ZIPPER BINDERS**.

PLACE YOUR DONATIONS IN THE FAMILIAR YELLOW SCHOOL BUS IN THE FOYER – THANK YOU!

