



newLife THRIVE YOUTH CORNER

Summer is a time to get away, reset, and rest. What comes to mind when you think about relaxing? To some it is staying in, laying around all day, reading, playing games, or sleeping, while to others it means a time to get out, go to the beach, go for a walk, or shopping. But what if we spent more time focusing on **R.E.S.T.** What about Re-evaluating priorities and eliminating distractions. We could identify time wasting activities and create that space for our relationship with God. We could spend more time Engaging with Scripture in a new way. We could start a new study plan, try new study methods, pray for understanding, and focus on application. Setting goals for spiritual renewal and growth is a great way to REST. We must recognize that spiritual growth is a process and does not happen over night, but in small victories along the way. Last is Time to Rest. Take time to rest in God while you are learning along the way. When you don't have the answer, when you think everything is getting to be too much and you don't know where to go, rest in Him and let Him take that away for you. (Matthew 11: 28-30, Psalm 23:1-3, Psalm 116:7, and John 14:27). Rest is a gift that was given to us and sometimes we just need that little reminder. I pray you all have a Restful summer break!

529 North Walnut Street
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The Connection

Volume 25 Issue 13

June 25, 2025

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CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

The church office will be closed on July 3 and 4 in observance of the holiday. We will reopen on Monday, July 7, at 9:00 am.



JC Alzamora
June 29, 10:00 am

Join us for this powerful service with JC. His ministry is marked by prophetic insight, signs, wonders, and a deep commitment to advancing the Kingdom of God. Make plans now to attend. Invite a friend!



June 29 - July 2

Be praying for our youth and youth leaders as they prepare for summer camp again this year at *Cross Oak Camp and Retreat Center* in St. Marys. For more information, contact your youth leaders.



THRIVE Lake Day
July 19

If your child regularly attends Thrive Youth, they are invited to a fun day at the "Lowe's." This will be a day of water sports, yard games, good food, and a bonfire. Mark your calendars now. Look for more informations in future publications.



Church Picnic / Pool Party
July 20, 5:30 pm

SAVE the DATE and join us at the Bryson Memorial Pool for this annual church gathering! All are welcome to come for food, fun, and fellowship. More information coming soon.



Volunteers are needed for the coming school year for this awesome time release ministry. Register your child, sign up to volunteer, or for more information visit: kingdomharvestministries.org

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Christine Saunders

Satan is like a roaring lion walking about seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). He is coming to kill, steal, and destroy (John 10:10). As he was walking about, he saw a beacon of light coming from Celina. It was coming from New Life Christian Center. He doesn't like this light. He is trying to snuff it out. He is doing everything he can to keep people from seeing this light; people who are hurting, and those who are hungering and thirsting for something different. People are starting to see this light and heading toward it. Almost every week someone new comes toward this light. More will come. Satan is trying to hurt the people in our church. He wants us to lose our faith in God and blame Him for every bad thing that happens, sickness, job, and death.



8:28 says, work for good who love the Lord.... 1 Corinthians 10:13 says, God is faithful. He will not allow us to be tempted (or go through a trial) above what we are able to endure, but with the trial, He will make a way to escape.

We will prevail! God has a hedge of protection around us. We are the hope, not only for Celina, Ohio, but for the whole world. We are that beacon of light and those that are hungering will be fed the truth here at New Life. Those who are thirsting will be quenched. Those who are hurting will have their wounds bandaged up. What satan doesn't realize is as we are going through these trials, it is strengthening our faith. The more he throws at us, the stronger we are getting. We are more than conquerors in all these things through Him who loves us (Romans 8:37).

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Discipleship 2 Class for Men
July 2, 9:30 - 11:30 AM



THE PHARISEE AND THE COLLECTOR

Pastor Doyle

The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector in the Temple (Luke 18:9-14) is rich with spiritual truths. Jesus rocked the thinking of those who trusted in their own righteousness and viewed others with contempt. Jesus was pleading with His hearers to understand their total inability to be righteous enough to earn eternal life. Jesus' mission on earth was to save sinners and to gift of repentance which leads to salvation. No amount of good works, church attendance, tithes, community service, loving our neighbor, or anything else we do is sufficient to take away the blot of sin and enable us to stand before a holy God on our own. We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Jesus' death is the only "work" that is able to cleanse us and make us acceptable to God.

We must not make the mistake of comparing ourselves with others and gaining confidence from what we see in that comparison. Jesus' warning at the beginning of this parable should be loud and clear to all of us. In our world of social media and "fast news" it is easy to see or read about the "speck that is in our brother's eye" and fail to see the "log that is in our own eye." Good trees bring forth good fruit and bad trees bring forth bad fruit. May the good fruit of the Kingdom of God be that which emanates from our lives. In 1 Cor. 11:27-32, Paul gives a stern warning on properly examining ourselves. If we will allow the Laver of God's Word to judge us, we can be recipients of the grace and mercy of God which is able to transform our hearts.

Examine yourself

expose those who thought they could save themselves, but couldn't. The Pharisee was impressed with himself and not with the price of salvation that God paid through the gift of His only Son. His self-justifying prayer confessed no sins, involved no true praise or thanksgiving to God. The only thing that it accomplished was that he felt better about himself and his self-deception grew. How sad!

The tax collector stood "afar off." He knew that the Pharisee would have been offended had he been anywhere near him. His posture was one of unworthiness, humility, guilt, shame, and spiritual poverty. He understood that no amount of good works could save him from his sin and that only God's mercy could save him. He received the