

## NEW BEREAN NEWS

SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

## GOD'S MINUTE: HOW YOU TREAT GOD

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Treat GOD like the GOD he is
- The only truth about the past is it hinders you from receiving the best from the Lord
- Appreciate those who have a passion to teach.
- Fight for the Lord.

Are you ever surprised by Scripture? Not just amazed but almost unable to believe a specific passage is actually in the Bible? Jeremiah felt the same astonishment when he heard God tell him that his prayers for the Israelites were just a waste of time. "Pray no more for these people, Jeremiah. Do not weep or pray for them, and don't beg me to help them, for I will not listen to you" (Jeremiah 7:16, NLT) Why would God tell Jeremiah that? Don't you think He wants His people to pray for each other? What is the difference in this situation? God explained it to Jeremiah. The difference was because of how the people had treated God. They had defiled God's house, lived wicked lives, refused to repent; and they had to bear the consequences.

"Don't you yourselves admit

that this Temple, which bears my name, has become a den of thieves? Surely I see all the evil going on there. I, the Lord, have spoken!" (Jeremiah 7:11 NLT)

God is a God who expects to be treated like God. And any nation, any people who live like they don't need God should not be naïve enough to believe that God will ignore their behavior and also help them whenever they ask. Is God a God of grace, a God of mercy, a God of goodness and love? Most certainly! But He is also a just and holy and fair God. And we, especially His children, should treat God like the God He is. Or we might discover that one day our prayers will be left unanswered because God is not listening.

Does this seem right to you? Is God being mean and vindictive? Or is God refusing to bless

sin and rebellion? Praying and asking for God's help does not begin when we voice our needs and troubles to Him. Our prayers and our behavior are inescapably related. Our prayers are nullified when we live lives of rebellion toward God. Understand that, today, the way you live reflects what you truly think of God. Ask for His help, and commit to do your best to walk worthy of your God. "Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God" (Ephesians 4:1 NLT). "Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better" (Colossians 1:10 NLT).

## NEW BEREAN 24TH ANNIVERSARY

This month, September 2013, New Berean Baptist Church Ministry will be celebrating it's Pastor and Church's 24th Anniversary. You are invited to share in this glorious time of God's wonderful grace. It's a celebration of his grace, his mercy and love for us. He established this work in the heart

of the founder and Senior Pastor Leroy E. Ricks Sr. Pastor Ricks has lead this ministry in faithfulness and love to share the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone he meets. His desire is to carry out the "Commission Of Christ" by enabling and equipping the Saints of God with the tools necessary to ac-

complish the work.

Join us at one of our scheduled services as we celebrate 24 years of Christian ministry;

Sunday Sept 8th, 10:00 am

Wed Sept 11th 7:00 pm

24th Anniversary Sept 14, 2013

## TO THE PASTOR AND FIRST LADY

In 2001 I joined the New Berean Church family. They have truly shown me love and encouragement. What I love most of all is the teaching and sound doctrine. Pastor Ricks has been there to comfort me and pray for me when I was going through my surgeries and when I lost my love one. I love Pastor Ricks for his leadership and dedication. Pastor Ricks always has time to listen to what you have to say and if your need private time he is willing to make time for you. Pastor Ricks is truly about what's in the bible. To me First Lady Ricks is a willing worker. No task is too hard for her. Whenever sister Ricks sees something that needs to be done she will get the job completed. Sister Ricks has a beautiful smile, and is not a stranger to anyone in her presence. I love sister Ricks for her kindness and willingness to share her knowledge and her love for the Lord. **Sister Agnes Holmes**

The church has been a true blessing to my family and me while I was away in the navy. I leave anytime knowing that my family was taken care of regardless of the situation. I want to thank God for installing Pastor Ricks in his house of worship. Given God the Glory and all the Honor. **Bro Lawhorn & Family**

Consistency and love immediately come to mind when I think of Pastor and Mrs. Ricks. They have stood firm on the word of God, modeled true labor for God and His will for their lives before me since my early youth. Because of their "unwavering" faith in God we have experienced His favor on New Berean Baptist Church. Personally, they have supported me in every aspect of my life. Pastor and Mrs. Ricks have always taken a personal interest in my spiritual growth and for that I am grateful. **Sheena Griffin**

I thank God for Blessing me with NBBC and Pastor Ricks & Vanessa, Since I've been there, I have really GROWN so much with my walk and FAITH in JESUS CHRIST. I Thank them so much for the Teaching, Guidance, and Love in the things of the Lord. There is where GOD had my Husband for me, and Church Family. I love Pastor Ricks and Vanessa so much, they have always been there for me and my Family. They will always have a place in my Heart. :-)

**Paula Jones**

Pastor Leroy and Vanessa Ricks have been a blessing to me. When I was hospitalized for 7 days, they called and visited me. At that time, I was a member of another church. They showed up when my current church family didn't. When I celebrated my 50th birthday June 2012, I called on Pastor Ricks to speak on my behalf and he did. I hadn't been under his leadership since 2002, but I didn't hesitate to ask him. Of course Sister Ricks was there with her gorgeous smile and loving spirit. These are just a few examples of why I truly love and appreciate them. On September 1st 2013, I returned to New Berean as a member and I am truly glad to be back home under the doctrine I believe to be true. I am also ready to serve. **Sis June Jones**

The Newby family (Sylvester) has been a part of the New Berean Church family for 11 years of its twenty-four years of existence. We too "Give Thanks To The Lord", and it is for leading us to a church where we can freely grow in worship and glorify God. Pastor Ricks, along with First Lady Vanessa, continue to help us grow in our personal walk. Our Pastor is concerned about our souls that none should perish. Through Sunday worship, Midweek Bible Study, Sunday School, Music Ministry, and the many other ministries, New Berean has been a blessing to my family. What a wonderful place to fellowship! **Sylvester and Mildred Newby**

Happy 24th Anniversary NBBC, although I am a new member to NBBC, The New Berean members, Pastor ricks and first Lady Ricks have truly welcomed me with open arms, into the church family as if I'd been a member for years. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you one and all for your out pouring love, kindness, and spiritual connections which has me coming back for more and more. May God continue to bless NBBC with many more Happy Anniversaries. **Sis. Deloris Barmore**

Pastor, First Lady and New Berean have been a blessing to our family. In the teaching, and fundamentals that we needed in order to grow in our Christian walk. In the year and five months that we have been members I can truly say we love our church and its founder. Thank you for coming into our lives when we thought we would never find a church that we enjoy being a part of. **Arthur & Lisa Johnson and family**

I thank god for Pastor and First Lady Ricks. I have been a member for 19 years with the New Berean church family. To God be the Glory for the for the great things he has done for me in my life through sound preaching and teaching and most of all a greater love for God's word. New Berean has truly been a blessing to me. Happy 24th anniversary pastor and church, love **Sis Maggie Weaver, Proverbs 3: 5-6**

## 9 HABITS THAT LIFT THE SOUL

1. Prayer: Daily prayer is a way to practice awareness of God— His providential care, protection, provision, and direction in your life.
2. Spiritual Study: Become acquainted with the writing that inspire you. Doing so will deepen your understanding and your belief.
3. Worship: this means practicing the sovereignty of God over your life.
4. Solitude: getting away from the business and distractions of life is a way to reconnect with and hear your own voice.
5. Giving and service: A spirit of generosity free us from poverty and covetousness. When you serve you become God’s channel of love and compassion.
6. Fasting: This is about practicing self-control, and that’s important .
7. Reflection: Everyday, ake the time to observe your actions, your words and your choices.
8. Discernment: Learn to distinguish between right and wrong, good and bad, pure and evil.
9. Sharing your story: Testifying when you tell others what you lived through and how you’ve failed and succeeded, it reinforces your strength, gratitude, and resilience. It also inspires those who hear it.

## 2013 TEACHER’S PRAYER

Gracious God, Gracious God, as the summer begins to fade new possibilities lie on the horizon.

Bless all of those who are begining or returning to their roles as teachers and catechists as well as those who lead and support them in their efforts. May this school year be a time of grace and potential as they teach, share, and challenge others

to grow in faith, knowledge, and wisdom. Bless children and youth, along with their parents, as they begin a new school year. May their minds be open to learning and to the wonder of discovery and insight. Be with us all as we embark on this new school year.

Amen

Thank you to the following teachers: Leroy Ricks,

Dr. Lamont Ricks, Lance Ricks, Freda Cason, Shenna Griffin, Adam Parker, Tracey Pierce, Doris Edmonds, Mildred Newby.

**The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose. Yet they will be rewarded individually, according to their own hard work. 1 Cor 3:6-8**

## FORGET ABOUT THE PAST!

This is what the Lord says--- he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters...Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. Isaiah 43:18 Stop blaming yourself for what couldn't go on well in the past. And do

not keep the pains of yesterday. Do not dwell on the past life. Stop blaming yourself for what couldn't go on well in the past. And do not keep the pains of yesterday. If things didn't go well (probably last year, last month, last week, yesterday), let them go. Don't

start your day worrying about bad things that happened the day before. You can't do anything about the past. However, you can make plans today to have a better tomorrow. The only truth about the past is it hinders you from re-

ceiving the best from the Lord. Friends, your best is in your future. Paul said in Philippians 3:13 "... But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to

what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Let go and let GOD!

OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AN SHUT IN OF OUR CHURCH AND FOR THOSE IN NEED. SHOW YOUR MERCY AS YOU MAKE BROKEN BODIES WHOLE. MAY THESE SPECIAL PEOPLE FIND LASTING HEALTH AND DELIVERANCE SO THEY MAY JOIN US IN THANKING YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS.

Bring Your Articles and Ideas

Calling all New Berean members If you have an article, a word of encouragement, a poem, an up-coming program or event, or anything uplifting you would like to share, you are welcome to submit it and we will be more than happy to include your article in the New Berean Newsletter. The deadline to have your article included is the 1st Sunday of each month. You can also email your articles to: [nbnews01@gmail.com](mailto:nbnews01@gmail.com). All articles received after the 1st Sunday may not be included until the following month. We look forward to hearing from you. Call Sis. Lisa 571-264-3686

Birthdays

Sheila Jordan

Berlestine Duncan

Arthur Johnson

Lance Ricks

Carl Pierce

Anniversary

Perry & Agnes Holmes

Alvin Sr. & Arlean Parker

Stars of the month

Leroy Ricks

Dr. Lamont Ricks

Lance Ricks

Freda Cason

Sheena Griffin

Adam Parker

Tracy Pierce

Doris Edmonds

Mildred Newby

Welcome new NBBC members  
June Jones and Jacqueline Jones

MIC TEST. CHECK ONE, CHECK TWO.

Hello is this thing on? Oh good, y'all can hear me. Hello everyone! Let me introduce myself. My name is Christian the Crosswalk Crusader. Now, many of you may be wondering why I call myself a "Crusader." By definition, a crusader is a fighter. Crusaders work hard to achieve something that is morally right,

My crusade leads me to a fight for the Lord. Galatians 5:17 tells us, within our bodies there is a constant battle between flesh and the spirit, or sin and righteousness. Every day we are struggling to not give into Satan's sinful schemes. As a crusader for Christ, I fight against that struggle by

using what I have learned from the bible and also what I have learned at church.

The crosswalk ministry's goal for the year is for all youth at New Berean to set an example for their peers. Our theme is to be "SET APART". If we show our friends and family how we are set apart from sin and temptation, we are doing our part in the crusade. We are fighting salvation and we are fighting for Christ,

May hope for all of you especially our youth members, is that you all will join me in the crusade against sin. If we all band together, we can show

the world how cool and awesome being a Christian can be.

\*please check out Crosswalk Ministry's bulletin board in the welcome center.

Victoria Cason

