



PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

December 29, 2024

<p style="text-align: center;">Welcome!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except for our God? - the God who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless. He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please stay for lunch and an afternoon service at 1pm</p> <hr/> <p>Minister: Timothy Agee timothy@teamagee.com 615-330-8652</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Prayer List</p> <p>Mamie Hamilton had an epidural for her back pain</p> <p>Randall Brinkley is slowly getting better at home</p> <p>Kim Waller is recuperating at home from a fractured femur and ankle</p> <p>Barbra McDonald (Sherrie Russell's mother) is doing well after her leg injury</p> <p>Dick Chapman was able to go home?</p> <p>Darinda Paul is in hospice care at home</p> <p>Continue to pray for: James Gupton, Hunter Crouch, the John Hayes family, Brian West family, Linda Demonbreun, Leigh Smith, Robert Williams, Ronnie Mayo, Rebecca Brown, Donnie Garrett, Forshia Pennington, Carol Saling, Camille Brosky, those in Ukraine, and Bill Gillock</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>We invite everyone to join us Wednesday night at 7pm as we study together</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Serving Today</p> <p>Song Leader: Jeff Baker</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)</p> <p>Scripture Reading: Sam Baker</p> <p>Prayer: Jearmie Gupton</p> <p>WORSHIP (10:30 am)</p> <p>Scripture Reading: Mike Reed <i>Psalms 34:8-10</i></p> <p>Wait On Table: Johnny Walker</p> <p>Serve: Jerry Butterworth Dwight Pennington</p> <p>Prayer: Eddie Walker</p>							
<p style="text-align: center;">Service Times</p> <table><tr><td>Sunday Bible Study</td><td>9:30 am</td></tr><tr><td>Sunday AM Worship</td><td>10:30 am</td></tr><tr><td>Sunday PM Worship</td><td>6:00 pm</td></tr><tr><td>Wednesday Bible Study</td><td>7:00 pm</td></tr></table>	Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am	Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am	Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm	Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Follow Us</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> pleasantviewcoc</p> <p style="text-align: center;">pleasantviewchurchofchrist.net</p>
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Background - In the original language, this Psalm is an acrostic poem where each verse begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Above the Psalm is the following title: *Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away*. This is a reference to the events recorded in **1 Sam 21:10-15**, when David fled into Philistine territory. David is on the run from king Saul, who is trying to kill him. He has been anointed as the next king of Israel privately (**1 Sam 16:13**) but not publicly. When David arrives in Gath, he is afraid of king Achish and pretends to be “insane”. Note that the name “**Abimelech**” does not appear in these verses, but this could have been a title for Philistine kings (**Gen 20:2; 26:1**).

David escapes king Achish (**1 Sam 22:1-2**) and hides out in the “**cave of Adullam**”. In this cave, a group of “**about four hundred**” comes to David with his brothers and members of his father’s house. While this might seem like a sizable force, it consists of those who are “**in distress**”, “**in debt**”, and “**bitter in soul**”. So, David is at a low point surrounded by those who are also in the midst of significant trials.

Psalm 34 - I wonder if the words of this Psalm were uttered by David to this group who was assembled with him in the “**cave of Adullam**”. Regardless of the specific circumstances, there is clearly an appeal for a larger group to join him in his activities toward the LORD.

C _____ (1-2) - The Psalm begins with David expressing that he will offer “**praise**” to God “**continually**” and “**at all times**” (**Phil 4:4-7**). This is significant when considering the context of David’s life. He is on the run from king Saul, who wants to kill him, and has just fled into the territory of the most bitter enemy of the Israelites. It is easy to feel like offering praise to God when things are going well, but it requires faith and gratitude to be willing to offer praise during the difficult seasons of life.

C _____ (3) - David ends this first section of the Psalm imploring those around him to “**magnify the LORD with me**” and “**let us exalt his name together!**” If this group is indeed those who were gathered in the cave with David, then they are also going through a difficult time in their lives. He is asking them to have enough faith to offer praises even when times are tough.

C _____ (4-7) - In the next section, David aims to show that God is faithful to those who call on Him. He starts with a personal assertion that the LORD has “**delivered me from all my fears**”. David is at a low point, yet he still praises God for taking away his “**fear**”. Think about his situation and how incredible it is to think that his fear is gone (**Phil 4:10-13**). He goes on to exclaim that those who “**look to him...shall never be ashamed**”. Next, he points to a “**poor man**” who was “**saved**” by the LORD from “**his troubles**”. Might this be one of those in the cave who was “**in debt**”? Finally, David explains that “**The angel of the LORD**” will “**deliver**” the ones “**who fear him**” (**Rom 8:28; Eph 6:10-20**).

C _____ (8-10) - In the last section from our lesson text, David challenges those gathered to “**taste and see that the LORD is good!**” (**1 Peter 2:3; Heb 6:5**). Here he is promising that if one is willing to push through their apprehension, and give God a try, they will not be disappointed. Instead, they will be able to see for themselves that “**the LORD is good!**” Those who “**take refuge in**”, “**fear**”, and “**seek**” the LORD will “**lack no good thing**” (**Mt 6:25-34**).