

# THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

August 7th, 2016

**"BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT"**

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

## Knowing God Means More Than Describing Him

"I tackled my first English essay in college with enthusiasm, a thesaurus, and a naive disregard for page limits," writes Carolyn Arends in an April 2014 article in *Christianity Today*. To her dismay the professor returned her paper with this comment: "Carolyn, you've made some fine points, but unfortunately they are lost in a sea of circumlocutious wordiness." While Carolyn admits she has always "loved words" and "a well turned phrase," she confesses that she grew "troubled by a growing sense that (she) needed to pay more attention to wordless things." She asks, "Have I reduced the scope of what I can know to what I can articulate?" Carolyn's question as it relates to our relationship with God is a valid one to reflect upon. Do we really know God? Or do we just know facts about God? There's a big difference.

It's possible to know about God and not know God. It's is easy to learn facts about God. Names. Places. Events. Scriptures that we have memorized. Old Testament history. What did God do on the third day of creation? How many books are there in the Old Testament? Who was the man after God's own heart?

If you are trying to answer these questions, you may be proving my point. Christianity is not "data-based religion" where we become competent in spewing out information like a contestant on a game show. That doesn't mean I'm in favor of Biblical illiteracy. A lack of knowledge can leave us malnourished spiritually. We need to know the Bible. But we need to know God too.

For instance, suppose I get in one of "those discussions" with my wife and in her frustration she laments, "You don't even know me!" (If you're married, you know what I mean!). And I reply, "I certainly do. Your name is Norma Jean. You're 5'7" and weigh 125 pounds. You have green eyes, brown hair and were born on February 19th in Trenton, Florida." Do you think she's impressed? She's speaking of insight. Understanding. Perception. Feeling. Emotional connectedness. A close relationship. Intimacy.

Knowing God is often described as "intimacy with God." We tend to think of intimacy as having to do with a sexual relationship, or at least a romantic relationship. But it means, "a close, familiar and unusually affectionate or a loving personal relationship with another person or group." Intimacy does not have to be physical, it can be emotional and spiritual. Intimacy has to do with a relationship. Mike Cope calls it a "holy hunger." Martin De Hann refers to it as a "radical reliance." Joe Beam speaks of it as a "craving." And author John Eldredge describes drawing close to the heart of God as "The Sacred Romance."

Knowing God is about relationship. Community. Commonality. Closeness. Kinship. God wants to be our Father. And He desires that we be His sons and daughters. God desires we do more than believe. He wants us to belong. Belong to Him. Belong to Jesus. Belong to His family. King David, the one identified as "a man after God's own heart," writes about his relationship with God in a most intimate way.

*O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.* (Psalm 63:1-8)

Take some quiet time to reflect on your relationship with God. How close are you? What is your level of intimacy? Do you really know God?

**-Ken Weliever, [thepreacehersword.com](http://thepreacehersword.com)**

**We are so grateful that you have made the decision to join our family, today, as we worship our Almighty God! If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to ask any of our members and we would be more happy to answer as best we can! Please accept our invitation to join us, again, when you have the opportunity.**



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday AM Notes 08-07-2016

# 4 Bad Motivations For Serving God & Others

We want to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

We want to \_\_\_\_\_.

We want to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_.

We want to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday PM Notes 08-07-2016

# Achan's DEADLY MISTAKES

Joshua 7

Achan \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.

Achan didn't \_\_\_\_\_.

Achan \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.

Achan tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_.

Daily Bible  
2016  
READING

## Our Shepherds

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## Our Preacher

**Nick Angel** (423) 310-8272  
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### Times of Worship & Bible Study

**Sunday:**

**9:30 AM Bible Study**

**10:30 AM Worship Service:** You can expect heart felt singing, reverent prayer, preaching from the Word of God, a focused and reverent observance of the Lord's Supper, and an opportunity for the saints of Pleasant Plains to give back to the Lord.

**5:00 PM Worship Service**

**Wednesday:**

**7:00 PM Bible Study and Worship**

### Weekly Attendance

Last Sunday AM Worship.....133  
Last Sunday PM Worship.....74  
Last Wednesday Bible Study.....97

## In Our Prayers

### RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

**-Christine Benson...**Chris Benson's (son-in-law of Marty & Amy Gaily) mother has just been diagnosed with leukemia.

**-Katie & Olivia Angel...**O was born July 13th at 3:13pm. She came in weighing 7lbs and 9oz, and she was 21 inches long. Both momma and baby are doing great! The Angels are so very thankful for all of the well wishes from so many of our family here at Pleasant Plains. Please continue your prayers for the family as they begin this new chapter of their lives.

### CONTINUED PRAYERS:

\*\*\*Our expecting mother: **Melody Brown.**\*\*\*

**-Norma Griggs...**shut in and struggling with her health.

**-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's Mother)...**continuing cancer treatments.

**-Wayne Wilkinson (father of Jim Wilkinson)...**undergoing cancer treatments.

**-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle)...**still struggling with his health.

**-Christy Bennett's Nephew Logan...**young man struggling with his health.

**-Barbara Leonard...**shut in and struggling with her health.

**-Robin Hill.....** battling cancer.

**-Jamie Neal and family (Nancy Phillips' friend)...**Battling Melanoma.

**-Ashley Pickens (Brent Holt's cousin)...** Battling Cancer and has been readmitted to the hospital with complications.

**-Pray for the work of this church. The fields are white & we need to be hard at work to spread the Gospel to as many lost souls as possible.**

**-Men & women making the sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this country.**

\*\*\*If you have any updates or additions to the prayer list, please see Nick (in person, phone call, text, or email) so we can keep the bulletin up to date.\*\*\*

## Pleasant Plains News

### Upcoming Pleasant Plains' Bible Studies & Events

✓**Men's Bible Class - No regular class. Max Dawson will lead the men in a day of study on September 17th as a part of our special study with him that will begin the following day.**

✓**Ladies Class - September 6th** at 10:00am here at the church house. Lesson12 will be covered.

✓**Young People's Gathering - August 28th.** "The Big Picture" will be reviewed.

### Area Gospel Meetings

- **Weekend Study at Elliot Street in Humboldt.** Cloyce Sutton will be leading the studies August 12-14. Friday at 7. Saturday at 2pm for singing and 3 for study. Sunday at their regular times.
- **Please be making plans to be in attendance for our special study with Max Dawson that will be September 18-21.**

## Daily Bible Reading For This Week: I Samuel 2-9

Please make an effort to be in daily reading and meditation of God's Word! This year we will be reading through the first 14 books of the Old Testament in an effort to learn along side our kids classes and to be instructed by those things written in earlier times. **(Romans 15:4)**