



# From the Pastor's Desk

## Beginning Again Jeremiah 18:1-6

The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord saying, "Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will announce My words to you." Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something on the wheel. But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make. Then the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel."

Many of us today and many people you know need a new beginning. God is the God of second chances and God is the God of new beginnings. Have you ever wished you could go back and start over? Maybe because of decisions that you made that created the situation that you are experiencing. IF only you could take the words back that you said, if only you could make different choices. Sadly, in most cases, it is impossible to go back and change what has been said or done. There is however one area of your life that you can have a new beginning: Your spiritual life can have a FRESH NEW START! What do you need today? God Specializes in New Beginnings. God used a unique manner to teach Jeremiah a valuable lesson. Jeremiah is a true prophet with the people's best interests at heart. At this time, he is very discouraged, and about to give up on God's people. He seemed to think God had done all He could and now there was no hope. God told him to go down to the pottery for an object lesson. There he saw a potter at the wheel intently shaping a vessel. The potter's foot was on the treadle moving the wheel around and around as the potter shaped the vessel. But just as the vessel seemed to be taking shape and becoming lovely, something unexpected happened: the vessel was marred. We are not sure just why, but it was marred. Jeremiah probably thought the potter would reject the crumpled clay as if the material was now of no value. Instead he flatten it again, put it back on the wheel and

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## Memory Verse



*"<sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Romans 8:38-39 (KJV)

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# Food For Thought

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A New Year always brings a fresh set of possibilities to be explored. Unfortunately, we tend to cling to our old habits and behaviors and simply double down on our excuses and create new ones to accommodate the extension of our old patterns of living. Excuses are never solutions to our spiritual shortcomings. Remember, one excuse is as good as another if you are unwilling to act! Please consider the following as you prayerfully determine the course that your life will take in 2016.

## WHY I NEVER WASH

A pastor, apparently disgusted with the excuses parishioners offered as to why they didn't attend worship services, included "Reasons Why I Never Wash" in the Sunday bulletin:

- I was forced to as a child.
- People who wash are hypocrites - they think they are cleaner than everybody else.
- There are so many different kinds of soap; I can't decide which one is best.
- I used to wash, but I got bored and stopped.
- I wash only on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.
- None of my friends wash.
- I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.
- I can't spare the time.
- The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.
- People who make soap are only after your money.
- I don't like the songs people sing in the bathroom.
- I can clean myself perfectly well whenever I pass a sink, so I don't need a bathtub.
- I know how to stay clean without washing.
- The last time I washed, someone was rude to me.
- What I do doesn't affect anybody but me.
- I know someone who washes every day and still smells bad.
- I don't believe in soap. I sat beside a whole case of it

for an hour once, and nothing happened.

- Washing was invented by people who knew nothing about science.
- If people saw me without my makeup, they would laugh at me.
- I'm so dirty now that if I washed, the drain would clog.
- Cats, dogs, and chickens never wash, and they are happy all the time.
- Prehistoric humans were happy all the time until the first soap salesman made them feel guilty.
- If I start washing again, my friends will think I am trying to conform to middle-class standards.
- Washing is for women and children.
- Washing is for people much dirtier than I am.
- I will wash when I find the bathroom that is exactly right for me.
- I only believe in things I can see, and I can't see bacteria.
- Children need to see that it is OK to be different.
- Children need to see a few bad examples.
- Washing may have been OK in my grandfather's day, but it's not practical in today's world. I need to look dirty, talk dirty, and fight dirty to survive.
- I watch other people washing on TV.
- There are lots of clean people who never wash.
- We've just moved here six years ago and haven't had a chance.
- I bought a bad bar of soap once, so I swore I would never wash again!
- I feel as close to washing on the golf course as I do in the bathroom.
- I never wash when I have company.
- Washday is the only day I have to sleep in.
- My wife washes enough for the whole family
- I know people who wash but don't act very clean.

Washing is the opiate of the masses.



## From the Pastor's Desk, Continued

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caused it to take shape once more. He might have cast it aside with the waste. In utter disgust, he might have abandoned it completely.

But he did not, and was only satisfied when he had put his best into it and brought out of the clay, its highest possibilities. It is this shaping and bringing out your highest spiritual possibilities that the Divine Potter wants to do for you. He has a plan and purpose for each one of us. His plan is personal and His plan is definite. He alone knows our possibilities and He desires the best for each of us. If you are disappointed, if you are discouraged because your life has not shaped up to the Divine will, because you have not yielded to the pressure of His hand, or because your life is not what He wanted and wants it to be, then know that God has a message of hope and assurance for you. God is working on us – we are His workmanship. He wants to shape us according to His divine design and plan. 2016 offers a new beginning.

Will you continue doing the same things spiritually in 2016, and come to the close of another year, in the same place spiritually that you are today, and have been for some time? God says to His people, *"As the clay is in the potter's hand so are you in my hand."* When our plans, hopes, dreams or life doesn't turnout like we desire, when we realize we are flawed, God can remake us! When we fall apart at the seams, God can put us back together again! God takes the clay we yield to Him, and starts all over again, rebuilding life after life, time after time. God is willing to start over again shaping you into another vessel as it seems best to Him. The only prerequisite is that you give Him your clay, that you give Him your life. What will you do in 2016? Will you Surrender to God or continue on the same "marred" path? My prayer for you is that you will submit, surrender and thrive in 2016! May your New Year be blessed...Remember, THE BEST IS YET TO BE!

In HIS Love,

Pastor Glen

## Youth Happenings

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2015 was another amazing year in the youth department. We had a wonderful year of Bible study, preparing for our mission trip, mission projects, and fun and fellowship together. We would like to thank our church family for your love, prayers, and support of our youth. We look forward to all 2016 has in store and would ask for your to keep us in your prayers as we serve the youth and try to make a lasting impact.

### Movie Night

We have lots of work to do to prepare for summer camp 2016! We are planning on attending Camp

Caswell. We would love to once again be able to raise part of the money to send our youth to camp. Our first fundraiser of 2016 will be a movie night on **Friday, January 22nd @7:00 pm**. We plan to show the movie "War Room", which is an excellent movie! We will have concessions available and will also accept donations to help go towards our summer camp! Please come out and enjoy a night of fun and fellowship to help our youth!

Carrie

## Bible Reading Schedule

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Day 1 Genesis 1-3  
Day 2 Genesis 4-6  
Day 3 Genesis 7-9  
Day 4 Genesis 10-12  
Day 5 Genesis 13-15  
Day 6 Genesis 16-18  
Day 7 Genesis 19-21  
Day 8 Genesis 22-24  
Day 9 Genesis 25-27  
Day 10 Genesis 28-30  
Day 11 Genesis 31-33  
Day 12 Genesis 34-36  
Day 13 Genesis 37-39  
Day 14 Genesis 40-42  
Day 15 Genesis 43-45  
Day 16 Genesis 46-50

Day 17 Matthew 1-3  
Day 18 Matthew 4-6  
Day 19 Matthew 7-9  
Day 20 Matthew 10-12  
Day 21 Matthew 13-15  
Day 22 Matthew 16-18  
Day 23 Matthew 19-21  
Day 24 Matthew 22-24  
Day 25 Matthew 25-28  
Day 26 Exodus 1-3  
Day 27 Exodus 4-6  
Day 28 Exodus 7-9  
Day 29 Exodus 10-12  
Day 30 Exodus 13-15  
Day 31 Exodus 16-18



## Inspirational People

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### Dr. Charles F. Stanley

Charles F. Stanley is the founder of In Touch Ministries and a *New York Times* best-selling author. While his teaching is transmitted throughout the world to millions of people, Dr. Stanley has been said to demonstrate a practical, keen awareness of people's needs and provide Christ-centered, biblically-based principles for everyday life.

Dr. Stanley's motivation is best represented by the truth found in Acts 20:24, "Life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about God's mighty kindness and love." This is because, as he says, "It is the Word of God and the work of God that changes people's lives."

Charles Frazier Stanley is born. Charley and Rebecca Stanley gave birth to a son in Dry Fork, Virginia. Dr. Stanley earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Southwestern Theological Seminary in 1957, and his

first pastorate was at Fruitland Baptist Church in North Carolina. In 1968 he received a Masters of Theology from Luther Rice Seminary. He became the 16<sup>th</sup> pastor of First Baptist Atlanta and in 1971 received a Doctorate of Theology from Luther Rice Seminary. In 1977: An outreach ministry is founded and Dr. Stanley decides to call it "In Touch," which comes from a Living Bible he owned.

Dr. Stanley was inducted into the National Religious Broadcasters' (NRB) Hall of Fame. Dr. Stanley has authored more than 60 books, and has hit the *New York Times* Best Seller's List several times. (Source – In Touch.org)



## Interesting Bible Facts

Solomon described a "cycle" of air currents two thousand years before scientists "discovered" them. "The wind goes toward the south, and turns about unto the north; it whirls about continually, and the wind returns again according to his circuits" (Ecclesiastes 1:6). (Source – The Evidence Bible)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

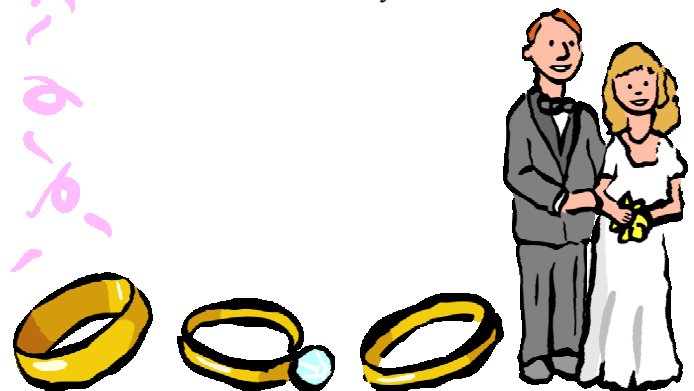


1st	Kathryn Batten	23rd	Mike Bailey
3rd	Joan Hunter	25th	Kathy Ayscue
	Roy Pope	26th	Judy Boswell
4th	Kathy Mack		Steven Carlyle
6th	Brian Bailey		Matt Dillon
	Dale Driver		Cynthia Hudson
7th	Sadie Batten		Shelby Makepeace
	Samantha Hunter		Logan Whitley
	Franceline Price	27th	Kerry Garner
	Rondy Ward	28th	Erin Bell
8th	Samantha Creech	29th	Kathy Flynn
9th	Jackson Morgan		Ashley Maidon
	Brandon Pulley	31st	Mackenzie Bell
12th	Wes Privette		
	Glenn Strickland		
14th	Rickie Driver		
	Dylan Melvin		
	Mary Lou Richardson		
15th	Matthew Grady		
16th	Christin Hunter		
17th	Brooke Bailey		
	Sheila Stancil		
18th	Dana Hocutt		
19th	Wanda Batten		
	Sheri Henry		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*January*

8th	George & Jane Strickland
14th	Ray & Judy Boswell
27th	Jerry & Linda Lee
29th	Dennis & Cathy Lockleair



Regular Schedule of Ministry Opportunities:

**Sunday** 10:00am Sunday School  
 11:00am Regular Worship

**Wednesday** 6:30-7:15pm Youth Meet  
 6:30-7:15pm RA's, GA's & Mission Friends  
 6:30-7:15pm Adult Bible Study  
 7:15pm Adult Choir Practice

**BAPTIST TABERNACLE CHURCH**

**January 2016**

	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
						1 New Year's Day	2
3 Regular Schedule Communion	4 <b>6:30pm</b> Baptist Men <b>7pm</b> Kay Nowell BW	5 <b>10am</b> Triple L- prepare meal	6 Regular Schedule	7	8	9	
10 Regular Schedule <b>7pm</b> Pastor Glen at Robinwood	11 <b>7pm</b> Leadership Tim Mtg	12 <b>10am</b> Judy Strick- Strickland prayer group/Sanct.	13 Regular Schedule	14	15	16	
17 Regular Schedule	18 <b>1pm</b> Vera Hocutt Circle <b>7pm</b> Admin Tim Mtg	19 <b>10am</b> Judy Strick- land prayer group/Sanct. <b>7pm</b> LDBW at Joyce Creech's	20 Regular Schedule <b>6:30pm</b> Church Conference	21	22 <b>7pm</b> Movie Night "War Room"	23 <b>10am-5pm</b> FMC RSVD-Wayne Batten	
24 Regular Schedule Baptist Men's Day	25 <b>7pm</b> Deacons Mtg	26 <b>10am</b> Judy Strickland prayer group/Sanct.	27 Regular Schedule	28	29	30	
31 Regular Schedule							

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***Ricky Andrews***  
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***Carrie Sellers***  
***Youth Director***

***Lenore Strickland***  
***Secretary***

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New Year's Day

I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer creed;  
I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed;  
I will cease to sit repining while duty's call is clear;  
I will waste no moment whining, and my heart shall know no fear.  
I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise;  
I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze;  
I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread;  
I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead.  
I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown;  
I will not deny his merit, but I'll strive to prove my own;  
I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine-  
I will cease to preach your duty and be more concerned with mine.

-S.E. Kiser in St. Andrew's Cross