



A MEANINGFUL LIFE IN A MEANINGLESS WORLD
The End Game
Ecclesiastes 12:1-14 - Message #12

1. Remember to _____ for God
2. Remember Life is _____
3. Remember God's _____
4. Remember to be _____ to God
5. Remember God Will Make All Things _____

TAKE HOME TRUTH

*A meaningful life is only lived with
God at the _____.*

Coming Up ...

December 24—Children & Adult Choir Presentation
December 31—Special Guest
Pastor Keith Sova



Growing Deeper
Small Group Discussion Questions

1. What are some practical ways to remember your Creator?
2. What must our response be when our “house” begins to fall in disrepair? Ps 73:25-26; 2 Cor 4:16-18. Other scriptures?
3. How has Ecclesiastes delighted you? How has it poked you?
4. What is your take away as we conclude this series?

Just a Moment

with Pastor Fred

“The observation of Christmas having been deemed a sacrilege, the exchanging of gifts, and greetings, dressing in fine clothing, feasting and similar satanical practices are hereby forbidden, with the offender liable to a fine.”

Some cultural war post canceling Christmas? No, it was an announcement by the Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1659. The observance of Christmas has had a complicated past. I read with interest and was convicted by a post written by Scott Hubbard from Desiring God. I quote freely from him.

Not much was written about the celebration of Christmas on December 25 for the first several centuries. Early Christians attempted to baptize the winter pagan holiday of Saturnalia with the birth of Jesus. During the Dark Ages the holiday was known for its debauchery – involving behavior most of us would find offensive. Hence the Puritan prohibition above. About 200 years ago things began to change. Christmas became less raucous and more family friendly. And yet even today we find a different kind of danger threatening Christmas.

Today we often celebrate a Christ-less Christmas. The holiday is about gifts, good food, music, family and traditions. Nothing wrong with these. I enjoy them. But if we're not careful Jesus will be strangely absent from the holiday celebrating his very birth. Have I “reduced Christmas to mild church attendance, an inclination to charity, and a loving family around the fire? ... [Do] I need reminding that goodwill without a good God means little? A large heart without a large Christ remains too small to save ... If Christians of old had to guarded against debauchery, we have to guard against commercialism.”

No, I don't want to cancel Christmas. I am looking forward being with family. But I do want the holiday to be a time of careful thought and serious worship of the King of kings.



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Becoming fruitful disciples
Of Christ for God's glory.

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED
**WONDERFUL
COUNSELOR
MIGHTY GOD**
EVERLASTING FATHER
Prince of Peace
ISAIAH 9:6

Prelude
Call to Worship
Advent Reading

*He Shall Reign Forever More
Joy Has Dawned Upon The World*

*He Has Come For Us
Magnificat*

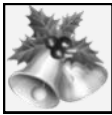
Scripture Reading & Prayer

*Emmanuel
Cindy Price & Amanda Wilson*

*The End Game
Pastor Fred Froman*

O Come Let Us Adore Him

Benediction
Special Prayer



THE LORD'S DAY December 17, 2023

Corporate worship welcomes you to bask in the grace that is yours because of the sacrificial life and substitutionary death off Jesus Christ.

*Loving God,
Loving People*

Infant/Toddler Nursery

Sunday School / ABF: Sue Froman, Mary Ann Krepps
Worship Service: Sue Depoorter, Kaylen Elliott,
Ronda VanSumeren

This Week

Small Groups Meet this Week

Today

9:00am	Coffee & Fellowship
9:30am	Sunday School / ABF
10:30am	Worship Service
11:35am	Special Business Meeting
11:40pm	Pictures in the church office

Tuesday, December 19

6:30pm	Ladies' & Men's Bible Studies
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Wednesday, December 20

11:30am	Senior Saints at Buddies in Holt
6:30pm	Elders Meeting
7:00pm	Praise Team

Announcements

Special Business Meeting after our service to affirm the proposed strategic plan for 2024-2027. Copies are on the kiosk. Also, we will vote on changing our quorum from 50% to 40%.

Immediately following the business meeting—anyone available to go to Dobie Road to sing a few Christmas carols to Phil Walrath—come!

We need your picture! Stop in the office after church to take an updated picture for our photo wall and online directory.

Senior Saints Christmas Luncheon will be Wednesday at 11:30am at Buddies in Holt. Questions? See Ron Gerard.

Next Sunday! *The Proclamation of Christmas* will be an adult and children's choir presentation at 10:30am. Invitation cards are on the kiosk. No Sunday School or Adult Bible Fellowships that day or December 31.

Need an idea for a Christmas gift? Give that loved one a cookbook from HBC! Only \$15 at table by the kiosk.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nic Martin	December 20
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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Matthew & Katherine Moore	December 14
Doug & Kelly Troxell	December 18

Special Opportunity for Bells HBC is the sending church for Josh & Carissa Bell who serve in Senegal. The Bells were asked to provide a "wish list" - see link below. Local friends, Jeff & Melanie Wyman will visit the Bells in January and have agreed to take these gifts to them for us. The items on the list will be shipped directly to the Wyman's home. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Krepps or Cindy Price for assistance. <https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2AGQ38HOXV9ZC>

The Church on a Mission is a new expository series beginning January 20 on the book of Acts. The mission Jesus gave his apostles is the same as today—to be witnesses throughout the world.

Are you interested in knowing more about HBC? Come to Discovering God's People, Sunday, **January 14** from 5-7 pm. This class is the first step in church membership. Please sign up at the kiosk.

HBC Men's Laser Tag, Sunday, January 14 at 2:30 pm. Cost \$32. See Joe Cecil for more information.

Coming Up ...

Undeck the Halls	Jan 7
Counseling Team	Jan 27
Church Potluck & Annual Business Mtg	Jan 28

Prayer Requests

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4:2

General Requests & Praise

- Josh & Carissa Bell in Senegal
- Our other missionaries at this time of the year
- Katherine Moore - residency program
- Those seeking certification with ACBC
- For HBC to grow deeper spiritually and reach out to others
- For one another during the holidays

Physical Needs

- Bob Helmuth - cancer, palliative care
- Cecil twins, Susan & Naomi — continued growth
- Cherie VanValkenburgh - anemia
- Cheryl Woodruff (Melissa Hurley's step-mom) - lung cancer
- Ethan Cecil—future surgery
- Karla Ruest—recovering from back surgery
- Myra Fuehring (Kelly Troxell's mom) - cardio ablation Thurs
- Joanne Croy—fractured arm
- Josh Bell - back pain management
- Sherry Back (former member) - palliative care
- Stef Bolthouse (Froman's daughter) - endometriosis, appt Fri

Praying Biblically - Ephesians 3:14-20

- Thankful for the family of God I have around me
- For God to strengthen me
- That I be rooted and grounded in love
- For me to have a deeper understanding of Christ's love
- For God to do more than I would ask or think
- For God to receive glory in the church

Prayer For Our Government

Law Enforcement Officers & families

Prayer Individual of the Week

Mickey Lilly

Shut in of the Week

Herb & Rita Twichell



Greeters for December 17

Sheila Adcock
Billie Collins
Jim & Julie Rizzardi