

## In Our Prayers...

*\*Requester's name is in parentheses*

**Rosalee Cundiff family (Jeanie Mooring)**—passed away Tuesday, August 15, 2023

**Pat Korodaj**— Medical testing

**Jeremy Korodaj** — Fell off his bike, back problems

**Donna Castleman**—Heart attack, dementia

**Bob Stroud family (Mooring)**— Bob passed away

**Brandy Womack (Sutherlin)** — Health issues

**Teen suicides**

**Connie Holley** — In Pagosa: losing weight, trouble walking.

**Abby Rose (Larry McKesson)** — Fibrous Dysplasia

**Paula Dahlke** — Glaucoma

**Sailor Raymond (Renee Long)** — 3 mos old, Heart surgery, Complications

**Tara Van Ausdall (Jeanie Mooring)** — Complications from Rheumatoid Arthritis

**John Dicks (Virginia Roberts)** — Cancer, Not faithful

**Ukraine (Debbie Sutherlin)** — family of Oksana

**New Christians** — growth

**Health concerns-** — Jimmy Mooring, Rosa Lee Cundiff, Ruth Sutherlin, Koben Puckett

**Workers for the “Harvest” (Elders, Teachers, Preachers)**

**Door for the Word**

**Additions:**

---

---

---

The church of Christ in Durango  
meets at:

**2100 West 3<sup>rd</sup>  
P.O. Box 633  
Durango, CO 81302**

(970) 247-0865

### Worship & Studies

#### Sunday

Bible Study- 9:30 a.m.  
Worship- 10:20 a.m.  
Afternoon Worship- 1:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Study- 7 p.m.



September 3, 2023

Vol. 6, Issue 36

## Enjoy the Glory of God's World

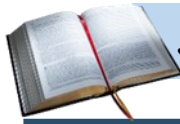
The view from the slopes of Purgatory ski resort is breathtaking on a clear summer afternoon. Add a picnic lunch and a few hours just to relax in sunny seventy-degree weather and you have the recipe for a time to enjoy the wonders God has made. Yet, swarms of mosquitos clouds of dust from a road nearby may bring a disappointing conclusion.

In contrast to easily frustrated pleasures, King Solomon taught that the key to enjoying life in God's world is to enjoy our "toil" in it (Eccl. 3:12, 13 ESV). How are we to take pleasure in our "toil"? Isn't that part of the curse God made in response to Adam's sin (Gen. 3:17-19)?

Perhaps an answer to this question comes in light of our recent study of Genesis 1 on Wednesday evenings. We have understood that part of being made in the "image" and "likeness" of God is to follow his example in going about our work (Genesis 1:26, 27). Enjoying God's creation, then, means working with it and in it after the manner of the Creator Himself.

In our study, we observed seven features of God's work as Creator

*(Continued inside)*



*Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:3*

*Ecclesiastes 3:10-13*

*10 I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. 12 I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; 13 also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil--this is God's gift to man. (ESV)*

*News and Announcements*

**Men's Business Meeting** This Saturday, September 7, at 7 a.m. Meet downstairs across the street for breakfast and for discussion of church business.

**Four Corners Men's Bible Study** Aztec Church of Christ, September 12, 10am — noon. Dutch treat lunch afterward. Jeff Foster of Gallup, NM will introduce the letters of Peter.

**Seniors "Safe Driver" Course** September 12. Limited space available. See information posted in foyer.

**Weekly Bible Reading Schedule**

Sept 4	Mon	I Cor. 14:21-40	Psalms 143-145
Sept 5	Tues	I Cor. 15:1-28	Psalms 146-147
Sept 6	Wed	I Cor. 15:29-58	Psalms 148-150
Sept 7	Thurs	I Cor. 16	Proverbs 1-2
Sept 8	Fri	II Cor. 1	Proverbs 3-5
Sept 9	Sat	II Cor. 2	Proverbs 6-7
Sept 10	Sun	II Cor. 3	Proverbs 8-9

*Enjoy the Glory of God's World*

*(Continued from front)*

that Man as God's image can follow in our own work. In his book *Through New Eyes*, James B. Jordan similarly finds five features in God's work that Man must imitate to enjoy the creation. To this a sixth is added that applies to Man and not to God. Limited space allows only a brief introduction to each of these features.

First, the worker **takes hold** of the object that they will work on. Jordan finds this in God's speaking ("and God said"), because the Word of God is the One through Whom God works (Prov. 8:30; John 1:3). However, it seems better to associate this step with the "moving" presence of God the Holy Spirit with the "formless and void" earth (Gen. 1:2 NASB).

Second is what Man properly does but God does not: **giving thanks** for the gift of the creation and the opportunity to work with it. Also, giving thanks is a confession of Man's dependence upon God. In the context of taking up food to eat, Paul specifies giving thanks as necessary for enjoying its blessings (1 Tim. 4:4, 5).

Third, the worker **restructures** the object of their work. In this Man imitates God's work of separating and transforming creation into something more glorious than before (Gen. 1:7, 17, etc.).

Fourth, the worker **distributes** the results of their work. The Creator sets the example for this when He gave "dominion" or "rule" to certain creatures. To the sun God gave the day, and to the moon God gave the night (Gen. 1:16). God gave to Man dominion over the earth and everything in it except Man (v. 28).

Fifth, the worker **evaluates** their work. Repeatedly, Moses writes, "and God saw that it was good," (Gen. 1:21 ESV).

Sixth, the worker **enjoys** their work. This dovetails the evaluation of work well done with the rest that is well deserved when the work is complete. So, "God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good." And, when "God completed His work...He rested," (Gen. 1:31, 2:2).

By imitating the Creator according to this six-fold pattern, we can glorify Him as the "image" for which we were created. Let us strive for God to see all that we make of our lives to be "very good."

— Nathan Wheeler