

Increasing Joy Ministries Inc.

"The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord..." Isaiah 29:19

June 2019

Volume 17 Issue 6

The newsletter of Increasing Joy Ministries Inc.

Mission Statement

To declare the Gospel which brings willing hearts to a saving faith in Christ Jesus and causes a life of Christ likeness through Worship, Ministry, Evangelism, Teaching, and Fellowship.



Pastors
Dr. William and
Dr. Barbara DeSue

IJM Motto:

- *Seeking The Lost
- *Strengthening The Saved
- *Serving Others



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And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:1-4)

Pentecost is significant in both the Old and New Testaments. "Pentecost" is actually the Greek name for a festival known in the Old Testament as the Feast of Weeks (Leviticus 23:15; Deuteronomy 16:9). The Greek word means "fifty" and refers to the fifty days that have elapsed since the wave offering of Passover. The Feast of Weeks celebrated the end of the grain harvest. Most interesting, however, is its use in Joel and Acts. Looking back to Joel's prophecy (Joel 2:28-32) and forward to the promise of the Holy Spirit in Christ's last words on earth before His ascension into heaven (Acts 1:8), Pentecost signals the beginning of the church age.

The only biblical reference to the actual events of Pentecost is Acts 2:1-3. Pentecost is reminiscent of the Last Supper; in both instances the disciples are together in a house for what proves to be an important event. At the Last Supper the disciples witness the end of the Messiah's earthly ministry as He asks them to remember Him after His death until He returns. At Pentecost, the disciples witness the birth of the New Testament church in the coming of the Holy Spirit to indwell all believers. Thus, the scene of the disciples in a room at Pentecost links the commencement of the Holy Spirit's work in the church with the conclusion of Christ's earthly ministry in the upper room before the crucifixion.

The description of fire and wind mentioned in the Pentecost account resounds throughout the Old and the New Testament. The sound of the wind at Pentecost was "rushing" and "mighty." Scriptural references to the power of wind (always understood to be under God's control) abound. In Exodus 10:13; Psalm 18:42 and Isaiah 11:15 in the Old Testament and Matthew 14:23-32 in the New Testament are a few examples. More significant than wind as power is wind as life in the Old Testament (Job 12:10) and as spirit in the New (John 3:8). Just as the first Adam received the breath of physical life (Genesis 2:7), so the second Adam, Jesus, brings the breath of spiritual life. The idea of spiritual life as generated by the Holy Spirit is certainly implicit in the sound of the wind at Pentecost.

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Fire is often associated in the Old Testament with the presence of God (Exodus 3:2; 13:21–22; 24:17; Isaiah 10:17) and with His holiness (Psalm 97:3; Malachi 3:2). Likewise, in the New Testament, fire is associated with the presence of God (Hebrews 12:29) and the purification He can bring about in human life (Revelation 3:18). God’s presence and holiness are implied in the Pentecostal tongues of fire. Indeed, fire is identified with Christ Himself (Revelation 1:14; 19:12); this association naturally underlies the Pentecost gift of the Holy Spirit, who would teach the disciples the things of Christ (John 16:14).

Another aspect of the Day of Pentecost is the miraculous speaking in foreign tongues which enabled people from various language groups to understand the message of the apostles. In addition is the bold and incisive preaching of Peter to a Jewish

audience. The effect of the sermon was powerful, as listeners were “cut to the heart” (Acts 2:37) and instructed by Peter to “repent, and be baptized” (Acts 2:38).

The message is the same today and just as powerful. God is still calling mankind to repent and be baptized.

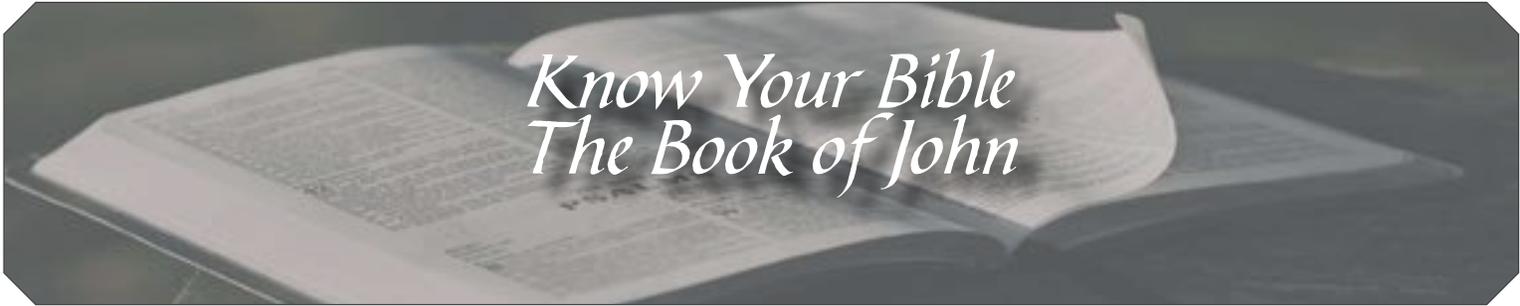
Romans 6:4 states, “Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Pastors William and Barbara DeSue

Commemoration Celebration

2019





Know Your Bible The Book of John

Author: John 21:20–24 describes the author of the gospel of John as “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” and for both historical and internal reasons this is understood to be John the Apostle, one of the sons of Zebedee (Luke 5:10).

Date of Writing: Discovery of certain papyrus fragments dated around AD 135 require the gospel of John to have been written, copied, and circulated before then. And, while some think it was written before Jerusalem was destroyed (AD 70), AD 85—90 is a more accepted time for the writing of the gospel of John.

Purpose of Writing: The author cites the purpose of the gospel of John as follows: “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31). Unlike the three Synoptic Gospels, John’s purpose is not to present a chronological narrative of the life of Christ but to display His deity. John sought to strengthen the faith of second-generation believers and bring about faith in others, but he also sought to correct a false teaching that was spreading in the first century. John emphasized Jesus Christ as “the Son of God,” fully God and fully man, contrary to a false doctrine that taught the “Christ-spirit” came upon the human Jesus at His baptism and left Him at the crucifixion.

Key Verses: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:1, 14).

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29).

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should

not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).
“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent’” (John 6:29).

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

“And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand” (John 10:28).

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?’” (John 11:25–26).

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35).

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me’” (John 14:6).

“Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’” (John 14:9).

“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17).

“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit” (John 19:30).

“Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed’” (John 20:29).

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Brief Summary: The gospel of John includes only seven miracles—John calls them “signs”—to demonstrate the deity of Christ and illustrate His ministry. Some of these miracles and stories, such as the raising of Lazarus, are found only in John. His is the most theological of the four Gospels, and he often gives the reason behind events mentioned in the other gospels. The gospel of John shares much about the approaching ministry of the Holy Spirit after Jesus’ ascension. There are certain words or phrases that create a recurring theme in the gospel of John: believe, witness, Comforter, life – death, light – darkness, I am, and love.

The gospel of John introduces Jesus Christ, not from His birth, but from “the beginning,” before creation. John calls Jesus “the Word” (Logos) who, as God Himself, was involved in every aspect of creation (John 1:1–3) and who later became flesh (verse 14) in order that He might take away our sins as the spotless Lamb of God (verse 29). The gospel of John includes several spiritual conversations, such as Jesus’ talk with the Samaritan woman that shows Him as the Messiah (John 4:26) and Jesus’ meeting with Nicodemus that explains salvation through His vicarious death on the cross (John 3:14–16). In the gospel of John, Jesus repeatedly angers the Jewish leaders by correcting them (John 2:13–16); healing on the Sabbath, and claiming traits belonging only to God (John 5:18; 8:56–59; 9:6, 16; 10:33).

The last nine chapters of the gospel of John deal with the final week of Jesus’ life. Jesus prepares His disciples for His coming death and for their ministry after His resurrection and ascension (John 14–17). He then willingly dies on the cross in our place (John 10:15–18), paying our sin debt in full (John 19:30) so that whoever trusts in Him will be saved (John 3:14–16). Jesus then rises from the dead, convincing even the most doubting of His disciples that He is God and Master (John 20:24–29).

Connections: The gospel of John’s portrayal of Jesus as the God of the Old Testament is seen most emphatically in the seven “I Am” statements of Jesus. He is the “Bread of life” (John 6:35), provided by God to feed the souls of His people, just as He provided manna from heaven to feed the Israelites in the wilderness (Exodus 16:11–36). Jesus is the “Light of the world”

(John 8:12), the same Light that God promised to His people in the Old Testament (Isaiah 30:26; 60:19–22) and which will find its culmination in the New Jerusalem when Christ the Lamb will be its Light (Revelation 21:23). Two of the “I Am” statements refer to Jesus as both the “Good Shepherd” and the “Door of the sheep.” Here are clear references to Jesus as the God of the Old Testament, the Shepherd of Israel (Psalm 23:1; 80:1; Jeremiah 31:10; Ezekiel 34:23) and, as the only Door into the sheepfold, the only way of salvation.

The Jews believed in the resurrection and, in fact, used the doctrine to try to trick Jesus into making statements they could use against Him. But His statement at the tomb of Lazarus, “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25), must have astounded them. He was claiming to be the cause of resurrection and in possession of the power of life and death. None other than God Himself could claim such a thing. Similarly, Jesus’ claim to be “the way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6) linked Him unmistakably to the Old Testament. His is the “Way of Holiness” prophesied in Isaiah 35:8; He established the City of Truth of Zechariah 8:3 when He was in Jerusalem and preached the truths of the gospel. As “the Life,” Jesus affirms His deity, the Creator of life, God incarnate (John 1:1–3; Genesis 2:7). Finally, as the “true Vine” (John 15:1, 5), Jesus identifies Himself with the nation of Israel, who are called the vineyard of the Lord in many Old Testament passages. As the true Vine of the vineyard of Israel, He portrays Himself as the Lord of the “true Israel”—all those who would come to Him in faith (cf. Romans 9:6).

Practical Application: The gospel of John continues to fulfill its purpose of evangelizing the lost (John 3:16 is likely the best-known Bible verse) and is often used in evangelistic Bible studies. In the recorded encounters between Jesus and Nicodemus and the woman at the well (chapters 3–4), we learn much from Jesus’ model of personal evangelism. His comforting words to His disciples before His death (John 14:1–6, 16; 16:33) are still of great comfort in sorrowful times. Jesus’ “high priestly prayer” for believers in chapter 17 is also a wonderful source of encouragement for believers. John’s teachings concerning the deity of Christ (John 1:1–3, 14; 5:22–23; 8:58; 14:8–9; 20:28) are helpful in apologetics and provide a clear revelation of who Jesus is: fully God and fully man.

A Healthy Faith:

Honey, I want to try Keto....

I remember the day like it was yesterday. It was in July 2017. There was an immediacy to the statement and almost immediately, the chips, cookies, cake, candy and anything that was “carb loaded” became fodder for the kids, but not me and my wife. I remembered looking at a picture of myself on an outing we took the children in previous years. With a look of shock, I gazed at the pounds I had packed on from life’s events, worry and stress. I had to do something and then I made up my mind... “Keto... here we go!”

Ok...I jumped headlong into the lifestyle change as I was used to working out and eating right. But no one told me about the effects of cutting out sugars, starches, carbs, sweets, and anything that would give me immediate satisfaction. No one told me about the “flu-like” symptoms, the grogginess, the tiredness and the continual watching what I eat. There was tons of rest, beef broth and foods with substance, not substitutes. I complained, but, like a champ, my wife kept making wholesome dishes that tasted great, gave tons of energy and almost tasted like all of the things I cut out. Some foods, I even discovered that looked like they couldn’t be a part of the plan, were actually “friendly”. I was always overheating, which meant that calories were burning off.

We both began to workout together, cook together and even said we didn’t miss any of the food additives we cut out. My wife became my compadre in this whole keto food thing and something happened.

You guessed it, with all of the getting rid of the bad food additives, applying more focused healthy eating, coupled with household collaboration and the goal of exercise, pounds shed and there was muscle gain.

So what’s the spiritual lesson here about a keto lifestyle change?

When we first find salvation, there is an immediate decision to start cutting out the things that are unhealthy. Whatever those additives are in our lives, they are slowly

killing us from the inside out. We all have faced it and come to the decision to change our lives.

Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

But then, no sooner than we make a decision, there is an internal struggle. The pressure is great against your new found purpose, but God sends us his Word, the Holy Spirit to keep us and fellow saints, who are encouraged to press forward. We also find that the Word comes with truth we can digest. So, now we encourage others that they can make it too.

2 Timothy 2:15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

But don’t forget that we have to apply a healthy spiritual workout through daily prayer, the food of the Word and staying focused. What will happen is the praise reports will flow and keep others encouraged.

Proverbs 15:30

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones healthy.

Has the keto lifestyle been easy...NO... has it been of some serious health benefits...?
MOST CERTAINLY!

Has this spiritual walk been easy...NO... has it been good for me to be on this spiritual life’s journey...YES!

I’m not recommending the keto lifestyle as we all have to come to terms with our own health requirements. But what I can only tell you is that it worked for me and we all have to find our way

I can recommend a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and that is healthy spiritually for us all. We have a long way to go, God’s work to fulfill and a destiny with Him if we believe.

Yupper!

Brother Wenston DeSue

You Are Invited to

Increasing Joy Ministries' Honoring Our All Star Fathers Annual Event Bar-B-Que

Saturday, June 15, 2019

**“Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.
Deuteronomy 5:10**

**Increasing Joy Ministries
2515 37th Street East (Mendoza Rd)
Palmetto, Florida**

Time: 11am to 1pm

**Men and their sons are invited
Free Admission and Meal
RSVP by June 10, 2019 is greatly appreciated at:
941-721-0684 or increasingjoy@verizon.net**

Pray without ceasing



**Cobee Lamonte Crawford
High School Diploma - Braden River High**

**Zeneca Hayles
High School Diploma - Southeast High**

**Tavionne Watson
High School Diploma - Manatee High**

*Marriage Ministry
Refreshner*

**Sunday, June 23, 2019
9:15 - 10:30 A.M.**

Vows Renewal

**Sunday, June 23, 2019
10:00 - 10:30 A.M. (pictures)
(Reception after church)**

FOOD

COMMODITIES

**Distribution
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2019
Time: 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider...

**If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please call
941-721-0684 or e-mail us at increasingjoy@verizon.net**

Selah!

A pharisee is hard on others and easy on himself, but a spiritual man is easy on others and hard on himself.
A.W. Tozer

Day by day we should weigh what we have granted to the spirit of the world against what we have denied to the spirit of Jesus, in thought and especially in deed. Albert Schweitzer

Just as a servant knows that he must first obey his master in all things, so the surrender to an implicit and unquestionable obedience must become the essential characteristic of our lives. Andrew Murray

Nowhere can we get to know the holiness of God, and come under His influence and power, except in the inner chamber. It has been well said: "No man can expect to make progress in holiness who is not often and long alone with God." Andrew Murray

Thou must be emptied of that wherewith thou art full, that thou mayest be filled with that whereof thou art empty. Augustine

Give me the love that leads the way, the faith that nothing can dismay, the hope no disappointments tire, the passion that will burn like fire, Let me not sink to be a clod: Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God.
Amy Carmichael

Oh, the fullness, pleasure, sheer excitement of knowing God on earth! Jim Elliot

Our praying, to be strong, must be buttressed by holy living. The life of faith perfects the prayer of faith.
E.M. Bounds

To become Christ-like is the only thing in the whole world worth caring for, the thing before which every ambition of man is folly and all lower achievement vain. Henry Drummond

APOSTLE'S CREED

According to Christian Apologetics & Research Ministry; this creed arose out of the early Western church and should be thought of as a summary of the Apostles' teaching rather than directly attributable to them. Originally it was essentially a baptismal confession and had several variations. The form used today dates from the eighth century and reads as follows:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried and He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again and sitteth at the right hand of the Father, From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen"
*Catholic meaning the universal church.

The Ten Commandments

- I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
- III. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.
- IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- V. Honour thy father and thy mother.
- VI. Thou shalt not kill.
- VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- VIII. Thou shalt not steal.
- IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.

Mission Statement

To declare the Gospel which brings willing hearts to a saving faith in Christ Jesus and causes a life of Christ likeness through Worship, Ministry, Evangelism, Teaching, and Fellowship.

Increasing Joy Ministries

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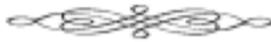
www.increasingjoyministries.org



The father of the
righteous shall
greatly rejoice: and
he that begetteth
a wise child shall
have joy of him.
Proverbs 23:24

June 2019 Upcoming Events

Soaring Singles Teaching - June 2nd, 9th & 16th
Father's All-Star Luncheon - June 15th
Marriage Refresher & Renewal - June 23rd
Corporate Prayer - 2nd Friday



July 2019

Women's Ministry Get-A-Way
Corporate Prayer - 2nd Friday

Ministry Schedule

Sunday 10:45 AM
Worship Service

First Sunday 4:00 PM
Communion Service

Tuesday
Prayer 6:15 PM
Worship Service
7:15 PM

Prayer (2nd Fridays)
6:30 PM

Lunch In The Word
Wednesdays 11:00 AM