

LOOKING  
AT  
YESTERDAY



TO SEE  
TOMORROW



# LOOKING AT YESTERDAY TO SEE TOMORROW.

ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- Romans 5:1-5

Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophet in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about *the* obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake...



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- We "boast in" sufferings= to celebrate and to take joy in for God's glory
- God's goal in us is that we would be happy in knowing him and celebrating His greatness
- Is this time of year empty and meaningless for you?
- Do you know God through Christ?



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## ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

v.3 “concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh.”

- Paul says we are to rejoice in our sufferings and that he and Barnabas were "strengthening and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said. (Acts 14:22)  
what are we to do with sufferings?
- 1) Remember that Satan would use them to shake your faith in the grace you stand in
- 2) Take joy in them- how?



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

1. Know that God brings them to you to strengthen you for us to be strengthened to endure and to not be shattered under pressure
  - Are you enduring and persevering?
  - Are you standing in God's grace?



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

2. Our faith is being "proved"
  - Tested and shown as genuine
  - Have you gained character?
  - Are you just as false, insecure, and shattered by suffering as before?



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

3. We are being given hope
  - Not a wish
  - A sure hope that God is accomplishing his good work
  - Do you have hope because of your sufferings?
  - Are you sad, despondent and a downer?



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- Take joy in your sufferings:
- Have faith- be strong- endure-  
have hope
- Don't think its strange when  
your sufferings come.





# LOOKING AT YESTERDAY TO SEE TOMORROW.

## ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- Hebrews 12:1-4

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin...



# LOOKING AT YESTERDAY TO SEE TOMORROW.

ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- The "great cloud of witnesses"
- The word is *marturia*  
Means martyr- people who have suffered and died for the faith or people who suffered greatly and endured for the faith
- The witness is their story to us of endurance and faith and suffering and perseverance
- Being cut off from this world and attached to God's ways and purposes



LOOKING AT YESTERDAY TO SEE TOMORROW.  
ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- As we look back to better see tomorrow, we must ask:
  - what will our stories be?
  - our witness?



LOOKING AT YESTERDAY TO SEE TOMORROW.

ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

Hebrews 1:4

“You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;”



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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

1. Great men of faith are celebrated because they suffered and overcame and endured- not because the faith journey was easy!
2. I can turn back or go forward

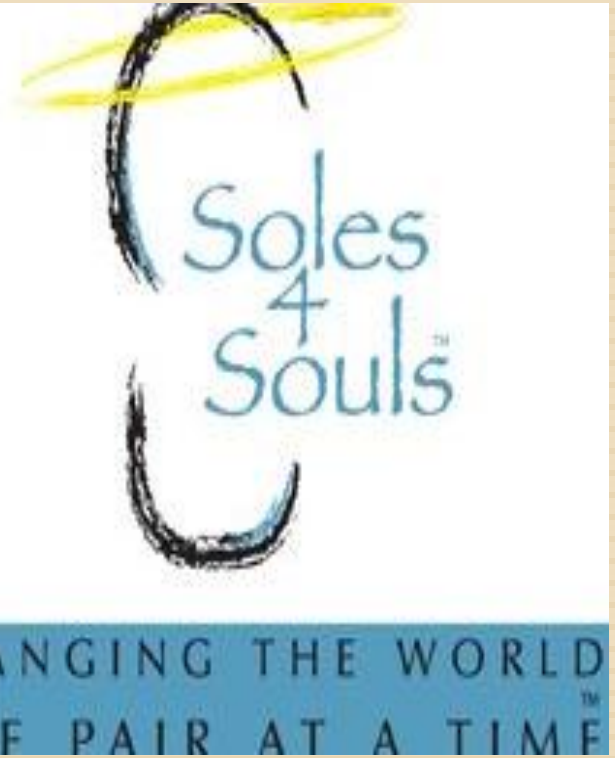


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ROM. 5:1-5; HEB. 12:1-4

- We will go forward and endure!
- We will praise God for our past and our sufferings!
- We will share the good news of Christ with all who will hear!
- We will not lose heart because we look back and know that God is with us!





...Soles 4 Souls...

Now- Dec 19<sup>th</sup>

The charity distributes shoes to people in need. Since 2005, Soles4souls has given away nearly 12 million pairs of new and gently worn shoes. We will be collecting shoes to give away in November and December. Deliver them to the Soles4Souls box by the resource center on Sunday.

# ANGEL TREE MINISTRY



A ministry to local families who can't afford Christmas gifts for their children.

Pick up your child to sponsor this Christmas season at the Angel Tree in the Sanctuary.

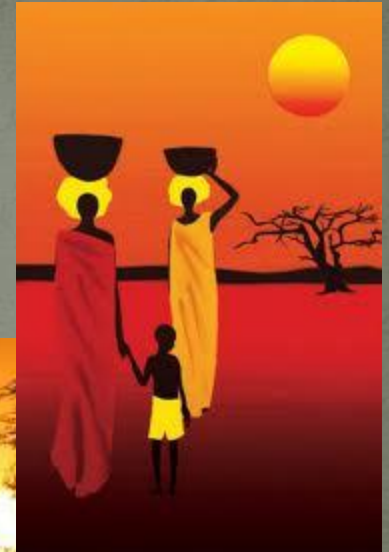
- Return gifts by Sunday, December 12th to church, WRAPPED, and tagged.





# Uganda Meeting

- December 12th
- 9er's Restaurant
- After Service
- We are planning a trip to Africa next year! If you are interested in going, make plans to be with us for this important meeting. See you there!



# **:SANCTUS STUDENT SPECIAL EVENTS:**

## **:SANCTUS CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

**Where? December 1st  
@ Greatwood Rec Center  
We will have food, drinks, games and whole lot of fun. Bring your friends, a dessert to share and a gift under \$10.00 to use in our white elephant gift exchange. You're not going to want to miss it!**

# FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

- December 19th, 5PM
- @ The Hilton Garden Inn
- Make plans to be with us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!





# SANCTUARY WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Christmas  
Progressive Dinner:  
December 6th

@ 6:30.

Sign up begins November 7th.  
See bulletin for details.

ADOPT A COLLEGE  
STUDENT: GO TO WOMAN'S  
MINISTRY TABLE OR SEE  
BULLETINS FOR DETAILS.

◉ African Jewelry Available through  
November! Purchase them today at  
the Woman's Ministry Table

**Sweet Swap:**

**When: December 16th**

**Time: 7:00**

**Where: the Greatwood Recreation  
Center. Ladies come share your  
favorite recipes at our annual sweet  
swap! See bulletin for details. RSVP  
to Mindi Sanders at [jmjj@att.net](mailto:jmjj@att.net).**

# MOTHER'S OF PRESCHOOLERS

**When & Where: Tuesday, Nov. 30th  
9-11AM @ the Greatwood Chick-fil-A**

**For: Bible study, fellowship, and encouragement.  
Bring your children! Childcare will be provided.**

**RSVP today at [info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com](mailto:info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com)**

**See bulletin for contact information.**

