



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



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A Skillful Craftsman

Psalm 139 is a beautiful piece of poetry in which David lauds the complete knowledge God has of our lives. God knows every thought or word we have before we do. God is already present in every location before we get there. There is no place we are hidden from him. While many people would consider this intimidating or a "breach of privacy," the psalmist intends for this to inspire awe and comfort, not fear and dismay.

One particularly powerful section is verses 13-16, in which David meditates on the mystery of God forming each individual life in the womb with great care, precision, and love.

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

My frame was not hidden from you,

when I was being made in secret,

intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed substance;

in your book were written, every one of them,

the days that were formed for me,

when as yet there was none of them.

[Psalm 139:13-16](#)

It's fascinating to think on David's perspective of us being hidden from all sight in the womb, and yet God sees the whole process. Today, we can take snapshots of every stage of fetal development. Scientifically, we know how a baby is formed, and yet, there is still that incredible and unique insight God alone possesses. The Lord so carefully pieces together every life because every life is precious to him.

Furthermore, the idea of God "skillfully" building us in the secret places is an image that has even more far-reaching applications today than it may have had when originally written, because our Creator's skill exceeds far beyond any craftsman humanity can produce. Consider: God's skillful assembly outshines...

The detail of the master sculptor

The creativity of the master painter

The design of the greatest architects and engineers

The meticulous wiring of the robotics genius

The coding of the cleverest AI program

The skill of the most capable mechanic.

No matter how advanced we become or how refined our creative processes, the Lord who made you and me will always be the greatest fabricator. He will always envision details, nuances, and purposes that we cannot fathom. Today, be like David and soak up the beauty of the work of art that is the human being. Relish the fact that God took special time to weave together every part of your being in the secrecy of the womb. Take time to praise the ultimate Skillful Craftsman.

November 17, 2024

Sunday Morning
Opening Prayer Steve Fletcher
Closing Prayer Joey Jones

Scripture Reading Tim York

Sunday Evening
Opening Prayer Eldon Alexander
Closing Prayer Jon Dyke

Remember in prayer:

Bill Rogers (Dana's father) is doing better following a heart attack last week.

Also: Don Duncan, Randall Glaze, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Carrie Price, David Paden, Randy Tucker, Stefan Hoglund

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd, Jane Bishop, Jane York, Polly Hayes.
Millie Hardin (Macon)

Brothers Keepers Group Two will meet tonight following services.

Please check the **Holiday Dinner** sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Record for the week of November 10, 2024

10 am	11 am	1:00 pm	Wed.	Contribution
73	70	62	73	\$3614.00

Weekly Assemblies

Sunday:

Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m.
First Sunday 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Daily Bible Readings:

November 17-23 Jesus Raises Lazarus

17 John 11:1-7
18 John 11:8-16
19 John 11:17-27
20 John 11:28-37
21 John 11:38-44
22 John 11:45-57
23 1 Thess 4:13-18

Sometimes the message we communicate is not the same as the words we say. For example, we may say that we love our jobs, but every day we show up miserable and like we would rather be anywhere else. The same thing is true for our families and loved ones. I can tell them I love them all day long, but if all they see out of me is frustration and a discontent attitude, what message am I really communicating? Some of us say, "Good is good all the time", but we live our lives with the same hopeless and lost demeanor that the world does.

Peter starts his first letter with an encouraging message that has a unique result. Regardless of the trials that we must endure, every Christian should have an "inexpressible joy" because of our faith and blessings found in Christ (1 Peter 1:7,8). Later on, he commands that we should make His Word our source of nourishment because we have "tasted the kindness of the Lord" (2:2,3). For those of us who can rightfully make that statement, the only adequate response is for us to send out a *message* of His exceptional moral character (2:9); it is one of the reasons He chose us.

Do I send out a message to the world that "God is good", or do I just say it? If we truly have experienced God's love and kindness, then that should be something that others see and hear as we walk this life together. This challenge is not that we are happy all the time, but that there be a noticeable difference between us and the lost. Make a point to give God the glory in your everyday conversations and talk about His blessings – and mean it! Let's also pay close attention to our demeanor in the midst of suffering. Some – or all of us – are enduring real hardship, but God is *still* good. Let's share that with the world!

Elders: Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York

Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan

God Is Good