

September
2021



Central church of Christ

SERVING AS GOD'S HEART AND HANDS IN THIS COMMUNITY

Mission Statement

To be God's heart and God's hands in this community and beyond.

Vision Statement

As followers of Christ, our vision is to be a God-centered, relationship-driven, small-group church committed to equipping all people to live out the life of Christ.

Contact Information

Address

801 E. Airline
Victoria, Tx 77901

Phone

361-573-9133

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
8:30-5:00
Friday
8:30-12:00

How should we as Christians respond to trials and tribulations?

The first thought that immediately comes to mind is James 1.2ff.

“Consider it all joy . . .” For many of us, that is the last thing we want to

hear. Should I be happy at the loss of

a loved one? Should I be joyful at

illness, calamity, or societal

upheaval? It is important to

remember that James is not saying

the trial or test itself is joyful, but

rather if we maintain our faith we

gain perseverance. We should be

joyful because it is through

perseverance we become more like

Christ. Immediately my mind jumps

with questions. I do not like trials. I

do not want to suffer, nor do I want

anyone else to suffer. So, why is it

through trial or testing that we gain

perseverance? Why is it that through

perseverance we come to maturity?

To sufficiently answer these

questions it is important that we also

consider the very crux of trial and

testing through Gen. 3, 1 Kings 3,

and Matt. 4.

In Gen. 3, we see the fall of man

through the sin of Adam. What was

Adam's sin? He did not hold to his

faith in the word God had spoken. If

Adam had believed God, he would

not have eaten of the tree that God

had warned would lead to death.

In 1 Kings 3, we see Solomon faced

with a choice to rule the nation of

Israel by his own wisdom or to turn

and ask God for wisdom. Where

Adam failed, Solomon succeeded by

looking to God for His wisdom to

rule, rather than seeking wisdom for

himself. Unfortunately, Solomon

eventually succumbs to the same sin

as Adam, and puts his trust in

himself rather than maintaining his

faith in what God had said.

Finally, in Matt. 4 we see the Christ,

faithfully stand on the word of God,

despite the testing of the enemy.

Where Adam, Solomon and all of us

have failed, Christ succeeded by

standing faithfully on the word of

God.

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This is the test: do we believe the word God has spoken? Will we in the day of trouble, in the midst of the test, in the most desperate of trials, hold faithfully to His word or will we trust in ourselves and abandon God? It is THE question, that only we can answer.

Now that we understand the crux of every trial, of every test, that is our decision to stand on His word, the decision to trust in Him as Almighty God or to heed my own counsel; the answers to my questions become apparent. It is only through trial and testing that these questions of faith can be answered. It is only by walking through the darkest valley and with the gravest of threats that I learn to not only trust in God, but also that those who put their faith in Him will not be disappointed.

It is only in the most desperate of times that we learn that God is dependable; He is trustworthy. It is only in the day of trouble, the day of testing, that I can truly answer whether I will stand on His promises, or give into myself. I praise God, that Christ has led the way, that we have opportunities to grow, and that in Him we find a throne of mercy, help and comfort even in the most difficult of days.

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**• Our children's and youth classes,
• Bible hour, nursery, and more need
• YOUR help to keep going.**
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**• Please reach out to us if you are
• willing to help serve or sign up at
• the welcome center.**
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Bible Hour

- 9/5 - Vahrenkamp
- 9/12 - Paul & DaLissa Spaeth
- 9/19 - Cook Family
- 9/26 - Mealer Family

To Volunteer for Bible hour contact
Mandy Vahrenkamp.
mev031012@gmail.com

Nursery

- 9/5 - Nancy Schmidt & Stormii Stevens
- 9/12 - Sarah Wideman & Patty Lowrie
- 9/19 - J.G. & Glenda Musser
- 9/26 - Chris & Ellie Velasquez

To help out with the nursery contact Pam Taylor at pam@churchofvictoria.com

Up Coming Events

- ♦ 9/13 Men's Breakfast 6:30am -Annex
- ♦ 9/13 Prime Timers Meeting
- ♦ 9/16 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am - Annex
- ♦ 9/22 New Song Class - Auditorium
- ♦ 9/23 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am - Annex
- ♦ 9/26 Finger Food & Fellowship 6pm
- ♦ 9/30 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am - Annex