

***The Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church.
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601
HiltonBaptistChurch.org / (757)595-3300***



In our fast-paced world, filled with constant noise and distraction, hearing the voice of God can feel like an elusive quest. Yet, the Bible assures us that God speaks, and His voice, though often quiet, is profoundly significant.

Consider the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 19:11-13. After facing a whirlwind of dramatic events—an overpowering wind, a powerful earthquake, and a fierce fire—Elijah encountered God not in these grand displays but in a “gentle whisper.” This reminds us that God’s voice is not always loud or dramatic; sometimes, it’s a soft whisper that requires intentional quiet to hear.

As you seek to hear God’s voice, embrace stillness, immerse yourself in His Word, and cultivate a prayerful heart. Trust that in the quiet moments, His gentle whisper will guide and comfort you. In following His voice, you will find not only direction but also a deeper connection to the glorious Holy Spirit who speaks with love and purpose.

May you find peace and clarity as you listen for His whisper today!

***This week we continue our exciting new series
“He Promises.” You don’t want to miss one Sunday!***



Hearing God's Voice

In the quiet moments of life, amid the din of daily responsibilities and distractions, the question of how to hear and follow the voice of God is a profound one. This voice, though often subtle, holds the power to guide, comfort, and transform our lives

To hear God's voice, one must first cultivate a space of stillness and receptivity. In the rush of modern life, it's easy to overlook the gentle promptings of God. Yet, the Scriptures remind us that God often speaks in the silence.

In 1 Kings 19:11-13, God's presence was not found in the dramatic wind, earthquake, or fire, but in a "gentle whisper." This illustrates that God's voice is often soft and requires intentional quiet to be heard. Carving out time for solitude and silence allows us to attune our hearts to His subtle guidance.

Listening to God is intricately tied to our engagement with His Word. The Bible is described as "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12), offering more than historical accounts—it is God's direct communication to us. Through regular reading and meditation, we familiarize ourselves with His voice and understand His character and will. This alignment with Scripture helps us discern whether the thoughts and impressions we receive are from God or from other sources.

Prayer is another vital component of hearing God's voice. It is not merely a monologue of requests but a dialogue. In prayer, we not only present our concerns but also listen for God's responses. Often, God's answers come as a sense of peace, a renewed perspective, or a subtle nudge in a certain direction. Patience is key, as God's responses may not always align with our immediate desires or timelines.

Furthermore, God's voice can be confirmed through the counsel of wise, spiritually mature individuals. Proverbs 15:22 notes, "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed." This suggests that while personal revelation is vital, it is often validated and enriched through communal discernment. Seeking advice from trusted mentors can provide clarity and support as we strive to follow God's direction.

In essence, hearing and following the voice of God is a dynamic and transformative process. It involves creating space for quiet, immersing ourselves in Scripture, engaging in prayer, and seeking wise counsel. As we practice these disciplines, we become more attuned to God's gentle whisper and more courageous in following His path. Through this journey, we discover that God's voice is not just a guide but a source of profound connection and purpose in our lives.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

September 3, 2024

Budget \$5646.00

Budget Designated– Community Dinner \$27.00

Alma Hunt \$125.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$425.00

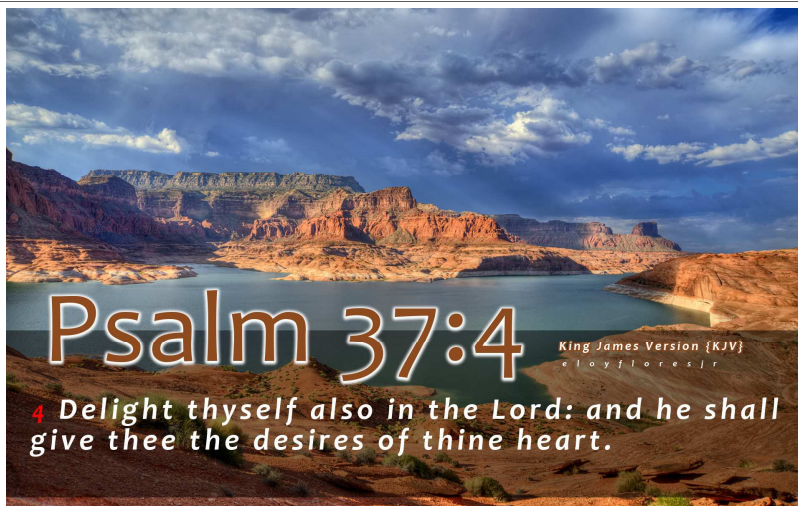
Food Pantry \$25.00

Pure Water Pure Love 25.00

Total Deposit \$6273.00

The Alma Hunt Offering –for Virginia Missions is a joint venture of Woman’s Missionary Union of Virginia (WMUV) and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV). The annual offering for Virginia missions was named for **Alma Hunt** (1909-2008), a native Virginian who was known worldwide for her missions service and her unswerving dedication to the cause of Christ.

Collected to Date \$125.00



Lock up/ Hall Monitor 9/8 Robbie Ayscue 9/15 Joe Caskie

Counter 9/9 Kathy Caskie 9/16 Margaret Upole

Kids Church 9/8 Tracy Venable 9/15 Lisa York

Grass Cutting 9/7 Pam and Roger Cooke 9/21 Stan Langdon

Calendar

Monday, September 2nd

Labor Day– Church office Closed

Tuesday, September 3rd

12:00pm-1pm Food Distribution

Thursday, September 4th

12:00pm- 1:00pm Food Distribution

Sunday, September 8th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and In person

Worship at HBC

Produce Giveaway

Alma Hunt Emphasis Week

Happy Birthday in September

9/4 Larry Painter

9/6 Kathy Caskie

9/6 Mary Ellis

9/6 Blake Stuart

9/6 Jeanne Surber

9/8 Robert Overman

9/12 Frank Schaubach

9/15 Jim Egnot

9/24 Roger Cooke

9/27 Jason Moriah

9/29 Betty Jean Allen

9/29 Kathy Devol

9/29 David Falls

Monday, September 9th

1:00pm-6:00pm

Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 10th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, September 11th

7:00m Bible Study

In person or Facebook Live

Thursday, September 12th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Sunday, September 15th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and Live

Worship at HBC

10:00am Sunshine Kids

Food Bank Giveaway after worship

Free and open to the public



Missions Outreach
Pam Cooke 757-660-4226

Aluminum Cans

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions.

Pray for our Missionaries– AM ,MS (Asian Pacific Rim People) Mo (Central Asian People) Vikki Franks (European People) MH, DJ, AL, NO (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) JH (South Asian People) EB, NW (Sub-Saharan African People) Zachary Schemmer (KS) Stephen Tewll (MD) Peter Bond (NC) Jared Patrick (TX)

Community Dinner, Friday, September 27th

We will be having our monthly Community Dinner on Friday, September 27th from 5:30pm-6:30pm. If you would like to help see Pam Cooke or Tara Borton (Food Bank Distribution)



American Red Cross ***Hilton Area Blood Drive***
MONDAY, September 11th

1:00pm– 6:00pm

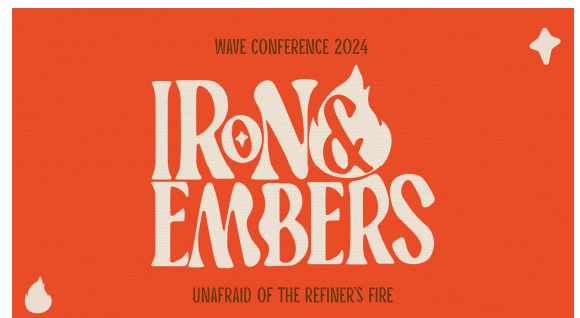
You can register on line to give

The Wave Conference is coming up soon. The evening services are free and open to the public. If you would like to go please let the church office know. We will car pool to Virginia Beach to Wave Church.

Wednesday, October 2nd 7pm

Thursday, October 3rd 7pm

Plan now to attend this special event!



Like A Hypocrite

Ray Stedman told about a young man who had stopped attending the church Ray was pastoring. The young man said that when he was at work he would sometimes lose his temper and treat co-workers poorly. Then, when Sunday rolled around, he didn't want to go to church because he felt like a hypocrite.



Stedman told his young friend, "A hypocrite is someone who acts like something he isn't. When you come to church, you are acting like a Christian. You are not a hypocrite at church."

Suddenly, the young man realized where he was being a hypocrite. He recognized that the answer was not in avoiding church but in changing the way he was at work.

The term hypocrite is from a Greek word that means "play-actor." It means we pretend to be something we aren't. Sometimes we forget our true identity as believers in Jesus. We forget that we are accountable to God. When we do that, we live the way we "once walked" (Eph. 2:2) and thus are hypocrites.

Let's not let our old ways make us act like someone we're not. Instead, through God's grace, let's live in a way that shows we are "alive together with Christ" (v.5). That's a sure cure for hypocrisy.



The Last Impression

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands.

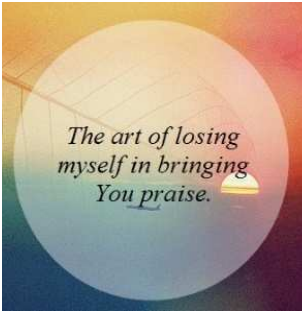
He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



Lose Yourself Though Worship

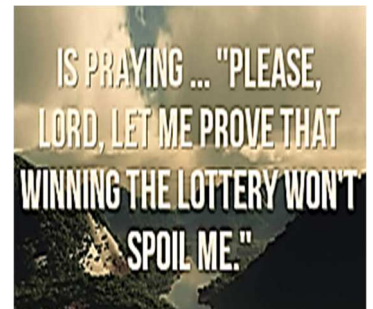
Never lose your sense of wonder, or you'll lose your motivation for worship. Unless you believe God is all-powerful, ever-present and approachable, you'll live in a state of anxiety believing that everything depends on you. You'll fail to be generous because the source of your security is in yourself. You'll avoid confronting those who need it, because without the certainty of God's acceptance you yourself will become a slave to people's opinions.

There's one thing that's guaranteed to restore your understanding of how big and wonderful God is – worship. God created us so that when we experience something awe-inspiring we need to praise it, to wrap words around it. We don't worship God because He needs it, but because we do.

Without worship our perception of Him is incomplete; we forget how great He is; we overlook our calling and become self-involved. We lose our sense of wonder and gratitude by plodding through life with blinkers on, and we become self-reliant, stubborn and proud. So, each day let us pause and say, "*Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool...*" (Psalm 99:5)

The Last Impression

A woman named Edna finds herself in dire trouble. Her business has gone bust and she's in serious financial trouble. She's so desperate that she decides to ask God for help. She begins to pray...' God, please help me. I've lost my business and if I don't get some money, I'm going to lose my house as well. Please let me win the lotto.



Lotto night comes and somebody else wins it.

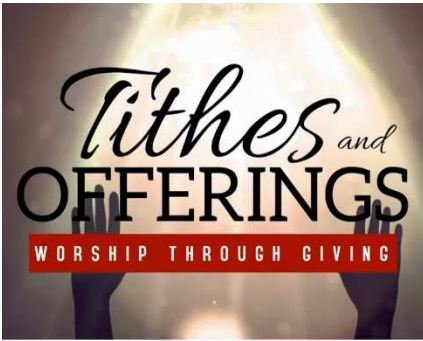
Edna again prays.... 'God, please let me win the lotto! I've lost my business, my house and I'm going to lose my car as well.'

Lotto night comes and Edna still has no luck.

Once again, she prays, 'My God, why have you forsaken me?? I've lost my business, my house, and my car. My children are starving. I don't often ask you for help and I have always been a good servant to you. PLEASE, just let me win the lotto this one time so I can get my life back in order.

Suddenly there is a blinding flash of light as the heavens open and Edna is confronted by the voice of what sounds like God Himself:

“Edna, how about you meet Me halfway on this... *Buy a ticket!*”



Demonstrating Our Love for God Through Our Giving

Giving is more than just a financial transaction; it's a spiritual act of worship. When we give, we acknowledge that everything we have is a gift from God. By offering a portion back to Him, we show our trust in His provision and our desire to honor Him with our resources. Our giving becomes a reflection of our relationship with God—a way of saying, "I love You, Lord, and I trust You."

When we give out of love, it transforms our perspective. We no longer see giving as an obligation, but as an opportunity to participate in God's work. Whether we're giving to the church, to those in need, or in service to others, our generosity becomes a powerful testimony of our love for God. It shows that our hearts are aligned with His, caring for the things He cares about and desiring to see His kingdom advance.

As you consider how to demonstrate your love for God, reflect on your giving. Is it done with a joyful heart, out of love and gratitude? Remember, God doesn't measure the size of our gift, but the size of our heart. When we give from a place of love, we not only bless others, but we also draw closer to the heart of God, deepening our relationship with Him and reflecting His love to the world around us.

***God is doing some exciting
new and powerful things
through the faithful people of
God at HBC...***

***Please remember your
commitments and giving and
be part of the miracle!***

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

