

History of History Books

I hope your week has been good. I hope the end of the year is coming together nicely for you. This is the beginning of my favorite time of year. The weather has slowly begun to cool down, days we get to spend with and focus a little more on family are coming. It truly is a great time to acknowledge God for these changes in weather and time with family. I also love the fact that we can prepare for the coming year. I will be using this time maybe more than I have before.

With this time approaching and the fact that we have been progressing through God's story the way we have, my perspective with these familiar stories has progressed as well and I hope yours has too. Focusing on Joshua's book in chapter seven of The Story, I can't help but see a little clearer the change from the law to know the historical section of the Bible. This seems to make sense seeing that we know they truly are Israelites. They truly are a nation that God promised Abraham 600 years before. This is arguably one of the most applicable forms of this story so far. They are a nation, they received the promise of land, and they are a nation that is leading people from other nations to God.

Through this truly historical book we need to focus on a few particulars. God's upper story perspective is being lived by these people. Joshua is able to lead this nation only because he is buying into what God is saying he will do. Yes we see struggle and we see times where God isn't called upon before decisions are made, but that is what makes these people humans. It shows us that we can really follow God's will and he will make the impossible seem easy and very possible.

Rahab teaches us that we can be in line with who God is and see things from his perspective. We don't even need to witness these things before we start believing what he can do. Rahab is a gentile woman who belongs to a heritage God is very clearly wanting to get rid of. Rahab had not experienced God's power displayed in Egypt, had not seen the waters of the Red Sea. She didn't get to experience God taking care of her completely in the wilderness. That is what makes her story so amazing. She believes in God, acts on her belief, seen through what she does with the two spies, and she is saved. Not only is she saved and lives, but through her seed Jesus the Messiah will come into this world.

God is amazing and we can see in this book and section of His Story the promises being fulfilled. Let this give you hope this week. God fulfills His promises. It may take 600 years, but He is faithful to His word. I want to encourage you to find a way to trust in His word, and stay focused on Him. Challenge yourself this week somehow, someday.

Grow to God...
Grow in His Story...
Shrink to Self...
Shrink in your story...

Mark 8:34 -And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. (NASB)

Prayers

- **Diane Acock**—health
Lauren Babb's step-mother
- **Pauline Alvarez**—health
- **Norma Anderson**—health
Cheryl Pitts' friend
- **Dawn Clarke**
- **Paul Faires**—health
Joyce's son
- **Steven Faires**
- **Justin Gammons**
- **Nelle Hahn**—health
- **Family & friends of Bradley Reese Haile**
The Linds' friend
- **Brandon Jiron**—health
Paige Mills' cousin
- **The Johnson family**
Serena Gammons' friends
- **Curtis Jones, Sr.**—Alzheimer's
- **Curtis Jones, III**—Army
- **Jeanette Laging**—health
- **The Latham family**
- **Austin & Molly Lind**—health
Henry & Pam's son and daughter-in-law
- **Martha McCarter**—health
Lauren Babb's grandmother
- **Ted & Christalina Muniz**—marriage
- **Oretha Pennock**—health
Debbie Fougerat's mother
- **Don Pitts**—health
- **Sharon Saint**—health
Zach Babb's mother
- **Casey, Barbie & Elianna Timms**—Elianna's health
- **Nancy Tuttle**—health
Peggy Walls' sister
- **Susan Williamson**—health
Lauren Babb's mother

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of **Bradley Reese Haile**, the Linds' friend, who passed away on Sept. 30. Bradley was 19 years old.

Mia's surgery scheduled for Oct. 30 was postponed due to Mia having cold and flu.

Announcements

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Jeannette Laging is not doing well and would like to have visitors. We would like to take a small group **today at 3 p.m.** for a short visit. We will plan to take the Lord's Supper for her, as well.

DIRECTORY PICTURES

Jacy Chrismon is taking family pictures for a new directory. Information forms are available in the foyer.

FAMILY COSTUME PARTY

The Hendershots are hosting our annual family costume party **this Saturday at 6 p.m.** Hot dogs and Frito pies are on the menu. Chili, franks, and condiments will be provided. Please sign up in the foyer to bring buns, chips, dips, and desserts.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: LEGACY RANCH

Legacy Ranch is hosting its annual Christmas Party on **December 14**. First time volunteers must complete a volunteer packet ahead of time. For more information, please contact Charlotte Ludwig at (830) 875-6062.

SAVE THE DATE

Nov. 10—Community Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 13—ISF Thanksgiving Meal Prep
Nov. 15—ISF Thanksgiving Meal

By the Numbers

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Bible Study—38
Sunday Morning—45
ISF Residents—9
Wednesday—28

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION

	LAST WEEK	YTD
Offering	\$1,778	\$89,907
Budget	\$2,142	\$87,765
Difference	(-\$364)	\$2,142

Weekly Events

SUNDAY EVENING

There is a small group that meets each Sunday evening from **6-7 p.m.** The Lord's Supper is available.

TUESDAY MORNING

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

Ladies Class meets **Tuesday at noon** in the annex.

Congratulations to Landon Tabor who was baptized at ISF on October 9!
Congratulations to Seth Lozano who was baptized at ISF on October 16!



IF YOU HAVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS OR PRAYER REQUESTS YOU WISH TO HAVE INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN, PLEASE CONTACT: VICTORIA JOHNSON AT 325-518-9205 OR VICTORIA@GONZALESCHURCHOFCHRIST.ORG