

Shore Lines of the Northfield church of Christ

February 8, 2026

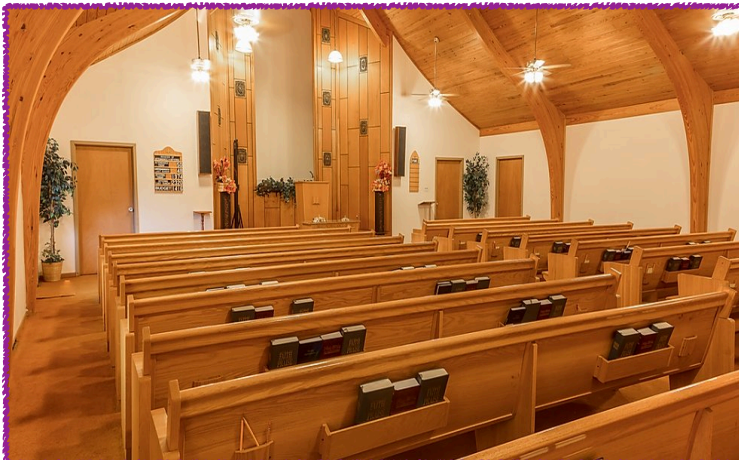
2535 Shore Road Northfield, New Jersey 08225 (609-646-1181)

Email: northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com

Web Page: www.northfieldchurchofchrist.com

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[Sunday Morning Bible Study @ 9:30AM](#)

"Seeing Jesus In The Old Testament" Lesson 7

[Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 10:30AM](#)

Men meet @ 10:20AM before services!

[Sunday Spanish Speaking Services @ 1:30PM.](#)

[Sunday Evening Youtube Service @ 6:00PM](#)

[Monday Dinner & Bible Study @ the Seim's](#)

Cancelled this Monday 9-Feb

[Wednesday Night Zoom Bible study @ 6:30PM](#)

This week studying Lesson 9... 1 Timothy 5:1-16

(Get an invite from northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com)

[GBN Link: Answering The Error](#)

[GBN Video... The Truth about drinking](#)

[GBN Video... Should Christians use gender preferred Pronouns](#)

FROM THE BACK PEW!

*How Are You Going To Win... If You Are Not Right Within!
Without Spiritual Growth... Numerical Growth Won't Happen!*

FOUR THINGS WE SHOULD NOT DO

1. Worry.

Worrying is worship to the devil. God says we shall cast our worries onto him and be anxious for nothing. So give it to God and let him take the weight of your worries (**Matthew 6:34**)

2. Speaking Word Curses Over Your Life.

Life and death are in the power of your tongue. What you speak you become, so stop speaking negatively about yourself. Instead start speaking God's word over your life so you can start to see yourself the way he does. (**Matthew 12:36**)

3. Allowing Your Fears To Control You.

The devil is a liar. God does not give you a spirit of fear. The enemy places fear and doubts in your mind to prevent you from becoming who God has called you to be. Remember God walks before you and he always will so why should you be afraid? (**2 Timothy 1:7**)

4. People Pleasing.

Stop making decisions based on what other people think about you. When you're walking with God you may not be liked because you make decisions opposite of what people think is right so focus on pleasing God. (**Galatians 1:10**)

Do You Have Room to Grow?

God's word speaks to the heart of sincere readers and says, *"You can grow."* Whether that message surfaces in biblical narratives implicitly or in New Testament epistles explicitly, this divine instruction has power (**Jas. 1:21**).

The Scriptures preach repentance for hard-hearted sinners in and out of the church, but we should notice that it also encourages growth for tender-hearted Christians. No matter who we are, how we have served, or the length of our Christian life, we can grow. God's word can make good people better.

Be Doers, Not Hearers Only

Consider how the Epistle of James addresses the spiritual needs of the church. James challenges us to view our trials as growth opportunities-something that isn't easy to do (**1:2-4**). Thankfully, ***we can grow*** in wisdom with God's help (**vv. 5-8**).

These trials of faith produce endurance and help us become or remain *"perfect and complete, lacking in nothing"* (**v. 4**). ***Yes, we can grow!***

James stresses the importance of maintaining a **spiritual** perspective even as circumstances come with unique challenges-like poverty or wealth (**vv. 9-11**). If there's a need, we can realign our spiritual outlook. James reminds us that if we are leaning toward blaming God for temptation, ***we need to grow!*** The irrefutable, bed-rock truth is this: God is untemptable, and he never tempts anyone (**vv. 13-15**). *Spiritual growth always requires that we take full responsibility for our sins.*

James does not, however, encourage Christians to just mentally agree with these points. He stresses that we need to be **doers of the word** and not hearers only. He depicts this truth with an illustration that serves as a spiritual reality check

'If someone considers himself religious and at the same time he does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart- this persons religion is worthless (1:26; my translation).

Faith And Works

In chapter 2, the scene changes but the appeal does not. James continues to exhort us to live our our faith, being doers and not merely hearers. Therefore, there is no way to hold to the faith of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ while showing favoritism. We should show everyone respect and compassion and reject worldly standards and habits.

Christianity, James exhorts, has to be more than pronouncements and good intentions. What good is mere talk? None! What doth it profit?" is the question about that kind of faith (**2:14, 16**). James concludes:

For just as the body is dead without the spirit, so also faith without works is dead.

In chapters 1 and 2, James invites us to evaluate ourselves in several ways. There's always some area in which we need to grow. Perhaps we value trials in a spiritual sense, but we are less active and involved in God's community than we need to be. Maybe we'd never blame God for temptations, but we might have an unbridled mouth. Whatever the issue, James appeals:

(1) look into the mirror of God's word, and (2) whatever is out of place, fix it.

Horses, Ships, And Fires

Christians strive for spiritual growth as they heed the Lord's teaching and rely on his patience. To this end, James encourages us to *"receive with humility the implanted word which is able to save your souls"* (**1:21**).

The goal is not to become better than others. That was the mindset of the Pharisee whose self-congratulating prayer went unheard (**Lk. 18:9-14**). Christians should strive for growth that makes them look more like Jesus (**Eph.4:16**). Even when progress is made, there's always more room for growth when Jesus is the standard.

James identifies speech as a human activity that challenges most people. Controlled speech, therefore, is a true sign of spiritual maturity (**3:2**). At the same time, unbridled speech says a lot about a person's shallow spirituality.

To encourage growth, James discusses the importance of speech, the power of speech, the difficulty of controlling speech, and the sad reality of uncontrolled speech in the life of a Christian (**ch. 3**).

James admonishes: *"From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters-it can't be like this!"* (**v. 10**). Just like a rider controls a horse with a bit, a pilot steers a ship with a rudder, and a forest fire stares from a spark, so *"little things"* like our words can set a life on fire (**vv. 5-6**).

He That Hath Ears

Spiritual maturity comes from listening to and applying divine instruction (**Mt. 11:15; 13:9, 43**). James shares this wisdom with us in a proverb-like statement. He says we need to be *"swift to hear,"* meaning poised and ready to listen so we may be controlled in our speech and reactions (**1:19-21**). Listening leads to learning, and learning to positive change in the heart. Deeper spirituality results in a more disciplined life and is reflected in our speech.

Solomon wrote, *"Let the wise hear and increase in learning"* (**Prov. 1:5**).

David Hubbard writes: *"No amount of graciousness, patience, or artistry in our teaching will work without deliberate concentration on the part of the hearers"* (281).

Do You Have Room To Grow?

Open your Bible regularly (**Psa. 1:2**) and listen with a humble heart (**Jas. 1:21**). God gives grace to the humble (**4:6**).

Serving Today

Bible Class: Bro. Ron Clevenger
Streaming/Audio: Russell Weems
Song Leader: Bro. Lee Christensen

Worship Order

Call to Worship (Himno)

Announcements... Bro. Russell Weems

Opening Prayer (Oracion)... Bro. William White

Hymn (Himno)

Lord's Supper (Santa Cena)... Bro. Steve Robertson

Hymn (Himno)

Reading- Luke 11:5-8 (Bro. Andy Figueroa)

Sermon- *The Persistence Of Prayer* (Mark Seim)

Invitational Hymn (Himno)

Closing Hymn (Himno)

Closing Prayer (Oracion)... Bro. Bill Shurig

Congregational Notes

- We want all members to know our plans when the inclement weather strikes around the Sunday worship or Bible class time. When services/classes are canceled we will send out email notifications that are on file and we will post notifications on out Facebook Page & Church Website.
- Sign-Up to be a Greeter.
- Volunteer To Be A Teacher For Our Youth.
- Bill Wills Is Preaching In Cape May Today.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Annual Congregation Meeting-** after services Sunday, 22-February.
- **Trip To Sight & Sound-** "Joshua" April 11th, 2026.
- Next Ladies get together will be Saturday, April 18th. No details yet.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

Proverbs 22:9

Bill Wills: (609)547-9408 or Javier Perez: (609)553-3990.

Items Needed.

Women items: **Underwear (Medium)*, socks.*

Men items: **Underwear (Large)*, clothing (pants), socks.*

Toiletries: *Tooth brushes, toothpaste, mouth wash...*

Food items: *Tuna packs & snacks individually wrapped.*

FOOD NEEDED FOR THE PANTRY!

1 Timothy 5:8; 2 Corinthians 9:7

***** Black & Red Beans/White Rice/Cereal *****

Money donations are gladly accepted to help purchase food to stock the pantry!

Oatmeal (Regular or Instant), Box Cereals, Grits (Regular or Instant), Tuna Fish (In the packets), Beans/Peas (Dry good bags), Mash Potatos (Box/packets), Corn Meal, Flour, Cooking oil, Pasta, Sauce, Sardines, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Mac & Cheese, Soups, Canned fruits.

PRAYER REQUEST

- Linda Meredith... recovery from foot surgery.
- Prayers for the family of Dave Peters who passed away Sunday 18-Jan in Florida.
- Dalene White... recovering from fractured shoulder.
- Deb R. R... health issues.
- Debbie Shurig... praying for her health.
- Melida... multiple health issues.
- Teri Clevenger... chronic back pain.
- Natalie Weems... continuing health issues.
- Tim Height... health issues.
- Elsie Thompson... suffering from dementia.

FRIENDS & RELATIVES

- Debi R-R's sister Isabel and her son Tory dealing with major health issues.
- Terri's daughter Becca's doctor's are monitoring her thyroid.
- Gwendolyn, William Whites mothers roommate, health issues.
- Tito Montalvo (Deb Shurig's brother) needs prayers for health and good judgment in his life.
- Rhina attends Spanish speaking service, prayers for her health.
- Gary Smalls, (Ruth Stevens Son-in-law) health issues. Michelle (Ruth's daughter) is undergoing dialysis.
- From the Weems; Carolynne Searle- Stroke & loss of vision in one eye, Anthony Castagna- personal issues, Paul Huber (stepdad) health issues, Gina Palmer- lung cancer.
- Rob Mar (Linda's Meredith's cousin), Barbara Keenan (Linda's sister) Ryan Keenan (Linda's nephew) for spiritual strength & health, Jack Keenan (Linda's B.I.L.) suffering from cancer.

God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16

God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit's Word: 1 Corinthians 2:12-13

Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16

Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37

Christian's Work: James 2:24

Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	2 6:30 PM ***Monday Night Study at the Seims is cancelled due to the weather***	3	4 9:30 AM Elder Pest Control Service 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	5	6	7
8 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	9 6:30 PM ***Monday Night Study at the Seims is cancelled***	10	11 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	16 Presidents' Day 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	17	18 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	19	20	21
22 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship 12:00 PM Annual Meeting Congregational Meeting 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	23 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	24	25 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	26	27	28

WHAT'S OUR SPIRITUAL CONDITION? (III John)

Gaius:

He was
"Spiritually Healthy"
 because of a love
 for the truth.
 (vss 1-4)

Diotrephes:

He was
"Spiritually Sick"
 because of a love for
 having the preeminence.
 (vss 9,10)

Demetrius:

He had a
"Spiritual Reputation"
 because of a love
 for doing good.
 (vss 11,12)

"EXAMINE YOURSELF, WHETHER YE BE IN THE FAITH..."
 (II Corinthians 13:5)

SERMON OUTLINE

THE PERSISTENCE OF PRAYER

Luke 11:5-8

Introduction... In Our Study Of Prayer, We Have Surveyed Several Important Principles. We Must Pray: (A) In Faith, (B) Humbly, (C) In Harmony With God's Will, (D) With Thanksgiving, (E) In The Name Of Jesus. The Principle Of Prayer We Will Look At Today Is Persistence. This Principle Was Very Important To Jesus.

I. The Teachings Of Persistent Prayer

(A) The parable of the persistent friend (Luke 11:5-8)

(1) Luke 11:1-4

(2) Luke 11:9-10

(B) The parable of the persistent widow (Luke 18:1-7)

(1) Luke 18:8

(C) The teachings of Paul (Romans 12:12)

(1) Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:2

(2) 1 Thessalonians 5:17

II. Some Examples Of Persistent Prayer

(A) Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-47)

(1) Luke 22:41-44

(2) Hebrews 5:7

(B) Paul and the thorn in his flesh (2 Corinthians 10:30-33; 12:7, 10)

(1) 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

(C) The prayers of early Christians (Acts 2:42)

(1) Acts 12:5, 12

(2) Colossians 4:12

(3) 1 Timothy 5:5

(4) Luke 2:36-37

Conclusion... With such examples of persistence in prayer, we see that the the importance of persistence of prayer cannot be overemphasized. Though persistence does not ensure that God answers all that we desire, it is the key to getting the answers we need, those being; (a) Grace and Mercy to help in the time of need, (b) Strength to endure whatever it is we must face. *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find: knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."* (Matthew 7:7-8).

Notes: