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another, and the talkers still another way. So from our “lower” or more basic brain with instincts and emotions, to our “higher” or more complicated brain that controls our choices and decisions we have to create a new way to think.

The Bible, as one of the influences God uses to change our thinking and who we are, gives us new information that challenges our beliefs. It tells the runners to “go the extra mile” and informs the punchers to “turn the other cheek”. It challenges the greedy to open their hands and hearts to sharing, while teaching the meek to be bold in their faith.

We learn through Scripture and the consistent application of it to rewire our brain. We learn new ways to think and act that transform us into new people. This is something we can do, reading and applying God’s word, so that we become changed.

While we do that, God works on us through the Holy Spirit to sanctify us. We don’t know the components of that process, it is simply described in Scripture as God’s working in us. So, don’t quench God’s Spirit. Apply yourself to learning and doing his will. Then you will think and act in a way that brings him glory.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

**St John Church of Christ
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St John, KS 67576
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How do we change? That is the question that plagues us in every aspect of life. What causes some people to think that it is acceptable to lie, or others to steal, still more to be greedy? We understand most things have to do with the way we think. It is as though there is a little switch in our brains that we flip that says, “Yes, okay hit... “Switch 1: Others”, “Switch 2: Women”, “Switch 3: Family”. Once the switch is flipped then the behavior is allowed and a habit begins.

Now clearly that is an over simplification, but there is some merit to it. We create thousands and thousands of neural pathways in our brains, “grooves of thinking” or connecting links that become the “normal” of how one individual sees the world. These pathways direct our behavior. They are what cause us to believe that “running away keeps us safe” or that “punching them will keep me safe”, or that we can “talk our way out of anything”. The punchers of the world think one way, the runners

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SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
Afternoon Service—1:15 pm
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Feril's)
ELDERS: Richard Brensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Brensing

Worship Order for January 5, 2014

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
GATHERING SONG: No. 103—He Has Made Me Glad
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 5:8 (Kade Kinnamon)
SONGS: No. 766—Open Our Eyes, Lord
No. 681—More Holiness Give Me
No. 684—Nearer, My God, To Thee
No. 837—I Need Thee Every Hour
PRAYER: Terry Sallee
SONG: No. 325—Boundless Love
COMMUNION: Orrin Feril
Jerry Kinnamon
Ned Marks
Ben Sizemore
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 611—Heavenly Sunlight
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 918—Out of My Bondage (vs 1)
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich

(CCLI #2440129)

Welcome Visitors

We are pleased you have joined us in worship—please come again!
We also invite you to stay for potluck lunch today.

Wednesday Night

- Youth Group will resume this week, meeting Wednesday night at 7:30 pm at Carl & Janet's
- The adult Bible class will meet here Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Newsletter from Michael Thys

A recent newsletter from Michael and Alyssa Thys is posted on the bulletin board for you to read.

Ladies Bible Study

The next ladies Bible study is scheduled for Saturday, January 18th, at 9:00 am here at the church bldg. A light breakfast will be served. Please read through the lesson on Abigail in preparation for the class & discussion. There are still books available if you would like to join in this study.

New Memory Work for 2014—Mark 4:21-25

Pick up a pocket card today!

²¹ Jesus said to them, "Does anyone bring in a lamp in order to put it under a basket or a bed? Shouldn't it be placed on a lampstand?
²² Everything hidden will be revealed, and everything secret will come out into the open. ²³ Whoever has ears to listen should pay attention!"
²⁴ He said to them, "Listen carefully! God will evaluate you with the same standard you use to evaluate others. Indeed, you will receive even more. ²⁵ Those who have will receive more, but as for those who don't have, even what they don't have will be taken away from them."

(Common English Bible)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Jon & Vicky Mansel 1/11

Memory Work for 2014

Mark 4:21-15

Prayer Requests

Wilbur Kinnamon—moved into the Leisure Homestead at Stafford last week

Marilyn Thornburg's daughter, Joy—scheduled for surgery this Thursday, Jan 9th

Gunter Family: On Jan 14, Maxx will have a new set of tubes put in his ears, while Mason will be having a tonsillectomy

Baylee Sizemore's Aunt Suzanne—chemo

Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - scheduled for surgery in early January

Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving

Katherine Suiter—health issues

Don Rukan

Dena Mansel—health concerns

Phyllis Staub—Kenwood Plaza

Vic Staub—Kenwood Plaza

Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza

Dorothy McIntire—Pratt Care Center

Janis Murphy—cancer

Theo Birkett—Tara's mother

Margaret Marks (Ned's mother) - declining health

Rebecca Hunley—cancer

Ethan Feril—Carl's nephew; deployed to the middle east

Barbara Schuette—Marla's half-sister

Jim Sorensen—Tara's brother-in-law; brain tumor

Jim Soukup—Gingrich's son-in-law (Shari's husband)

Eunice Rice—long term care in Stafford Hospital

Heather, Dixie Hornbaker's granddaughter in England; recovering from a recent surgery

Zeb Carter—broken ankle; recent surgery