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Unfortunately, life is lived at a fevered pitch. Things come upon us with a fury and we react without thinking. We get angry then explode, we become hurt then abandon people, we are wronged and retaliate. These sinful reactions come from a twisted reasoning that we've adopted in life. We believe that we can "protect" ourselves by "pushing others away" through attacks.

To change that to a reaction of forgiveness requires that we retrain ourselves. Jesus and the apostles called this repentance. Repentance is seeing the fallacy of an old approach and trusting God's statement about what is better.

There is nothing easy about it, but it is very straightforward. When wronged, we learn to choose forgiveness and reinforce that with returning a blessing to the one who misused us. That isn't easy, but it is necessary. Necessary because it restores us to godliness. Necessary because it transforms us into his perfect image and out of our brokenness.

The challenge becomes even more extreme when the harmed caused us and others becomes more extreme. But there is no "unless it hurts this much" exemption.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

**St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
St John, KS 67576
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Sin is a transgression of law, the breaking of the things God has placed in this world to reveal righteousness. That is fancy "church" language, perhaps we can make it easier.

We were created from the beginning in the image of God. God wanted us to be like him right from the start. The things that he forbids or expects of us come right out of what he is like. We aren't liars because God doesn't lie. We are generous, because God is generous. When we are generous, that eliminates the options of greed, stinginess, or covetousness. We love those around us for multiple reasons, they are also made in God's image, God is love at his very essence, and love helps us to develop tolerance, patience, understanding (because love covers a multitude of sins).

When we pull back from an event, examine it carefully, think through the implications, and evaluate the impact on others and ourselves, we will usually make the right choice.

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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 12, 2014

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 68—Give Thanks
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 12:1-2 (Garland Mansel)
SONGS: No. 662—All to Jesus I Surrender (vs 1)
No. 664—Take My Life, and Let It Be (vs 1, 2, 3)
No. 552—Have Thine Own Way (vs 1, 2)
No. 553—I'll Live for Him
No. 555—Seek Ye First

PRAYER: Terry Sallee
SONG: No. 366—By Christ Redeemed
COMMUNION: Tom Turner
Clint Kinnamon
Ben Sizemore
Orrin Feril

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 594—Live for Jesus
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 947—Jesus is Tenderly Calling (vs 1)
PRAYER: Chris Mansel

(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 be at 7:30 pm at Carl & Janet's
- The adult Bible class will meet here at 7:30 pm

Ladies Bible Study

The next ladies Bible study is scheduled for this 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 !

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!

Terry & Joy Sallee 1/14

Memory Work for 2014

Mark 4:21-15

Prayer Requests

Marilyn Thornburg's daughter, Joy—surgery last week
Gunter Family (Tulsa, OK) - On Jan 14, Maxx will get a new set of tubes in his ears & Mason will get a tonsillectomy
Curt Kinnamon—hospitalized recently
Baylee Sizemore's Aunt Suzanne—chemo
Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - health concerns
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving
Katherine Suiter—health issues
Dena Mansel—health concerns
Phyllis Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Vic Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Dorothy McIntire—Pratt Care Center
Wilbur Kinnamon—Leisure Homestead at Stafford
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; recent surgery

Many have been sick with respiratory illnesses—we need to be mindful of our friends, neighbors and church family who have been suffering from winter sicknesses.

Church Website - www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org