



13.2026

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFTER, CA 93263

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

Mark 13:14ff

Classes in English & Spanish

**PRAISE &
WORSHIP**

9:00 Prayer Worship

Please give us your requests

9:30 Worship Service

Worship in English & Spanish

Elders

Borjas Gonzales	599-9311
Eddie Fisher	342-8337
Garry Nelson	331-3858
Mike Westbrook	910-2197
Ron Nunlist	746-6531

Deacon

Minister

Jim Young 527-7026

jimyoung2work@aol.com

Church Office 746-2205

Office Hours:

Monday ~ Tuesday ~ Wednesday
8 am to 1 pm

Thursday
11 am to 4:30 pm

Friday Out of the Office

Bulletin

Jan Nelson 332-6146

grammyjan51@yahoo.com

Sandy Westbrook 910-8143

mikewestbrook@att.net

Don't forget to check out our
website

**No te olvides de visitar nuestro
sitio web**

www.shafterchurchofchrist.com

Bible on your phone

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G

MySpectrumWiFif8-5G

password: purplelemon096



Reminder...The sign-up list for the building cleaning for September is on the back left table. Please sign up.

September 17 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

September 17 - Thursday Night Dinner @5:30 p.m. Cook - Darlene

September 24 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 1 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 1 - Thursday night dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Cook - Lori

October 3 - Men's and Ladies' Prayer Breakfasts

Men's 8:00 a.m. in the church kitchen

Women's 9:30 a.m. TBD on location

October 6 - Elders Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

October 8 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 15 - Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

October 15 - Thursday Night Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Cooking?

October 24 - Ladies Day at West Visalia Church of Christ



Create in me a new heart, O God

Psalm 51:10

Ever blamed your plight on Washington? (If they'd lower the tax rates, my business would work. Inculcated your family for your failure? (Mom always liked my sister more.) ...

Consider the prayer of David: "Create in me a new heart, O God." ...

Real change is in inside job. You might alter things a day or two with money and systems, but the heart of the matter is and always will be, the matter of the heart.

(taken from Everyday Blessings Max Lucado)

Pastor's Corner of Light Trials and Tribulations (problems)

One of the most difficult parts of the Christian life is the fact that becoming a disciple of Christ does not make us immune to life's trials and tribulations.

You might think that if He loved us, He would want our lives to be good and trouble free. But that would be wrong. The Bible clearly teaches that God loves those who are His children, and He "works all things together for good" for us ([Romans 8:28](#)). So that must mean that the trials and tribulations are part of the working together of all things for good. Therefore, for the believer, all trials and tribulations can have a divine purpose.

As in all things, God's ultimate purpose for us is to grow more and more into the image of His Son ([Romans 8:29](#)). That should be our goal as well. Everything in life, including the trials and tribulations, is designed to enable us to reach that goal. The way trials accomplish this is explained in [1 Peter 1:6-7](#): The true believer's **faith** will be made sure by the trials we experience so that we can rest in the knowledge that it is real and will last forever. Paul tells us, **Rom 5:3-5**, that growth comes through sufferings and that Christ set the example: "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" ([Romans 5:8](#)). These verses reveal aspects of His divine purpose for both Jesus Christ's trials and tribulations and ours. Persevering proves our faith. "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me" ([Philippians 4:13](#)). However, we must be careful never to make excuses for our sufferings if they are a result of our own wrongdoing. God will forgive our sins but we still have to suffer the natural consequences in this life for our sins and bad choices. God uses even those sufferings to mold and shape us for His purposes and our ultimate good if we but repent and grow closer to Him.

Trials & tribulations come with both a purpose & a reward. [James 1:2-4, 12](#) tells us of the crown of life which waits for those faithful souls who come to know and love the Lord.



Love God ~ Love Each Other ~ Love the Lost ~ Live in His Light
Amar a Dios ~ Amarse Unos a Otros ~ Amar a los Perdidos ~ Vivir en Su Luz

*Trials: Difficult times and circumstances that test your faith. “
Have Courage in Trials”.*

Many Christians have the mistaken idea that once they make a commitment to Jesus Christ, life will be smooth sailing from that day forward. This is certainly not the case. While it is true that walking with Christ will help us avoid many of the problems we used to face, we are still going to experience what the Bible calls “trials.”

Trials may come in the form of a crisis, a sudden illness, the loss of a loved one, or some drastic change in your life. You may go through a difficult time when you don’t feel God’s presence, when church may not be as exciting as it once was for you, or your prayers seem to go no higher than the ceiling. This may cause you to wonder if you have angered God or if he has left you. But God does not allow us to experience trials because he wants to see us suffer. Rather, he allows these difficulties into our lives to help us grow spiritually—to learn to live by faith, not by feelings. Look up the following passages to see the role trials play in our lives. Notice also God’s promise to be with us during these times of trouble.

1. **Trials Sharpen Our Faith.** Hardships develop our character and purify our faith (see 1 Peter 1:3-7)
2. **Trials Help Us Comfort Others.** Experiencing suffering deepens our compassion for others who suffer (see 2 Corinthians 1:3-7)
3. **Trials Are Survivable.** We must keep our eternal perspective through the tough times (see 2 Corinthians 4:7-18)
4. **Trials Test Our Foundation.** When we ground our lives in Christ, we can weather any storm (see Luke 6:47-49)
5. **Jesus Is with Us in Life’s Storms.** We are never outside of God’s watchful eye and his abiding presence (see Mark 4:35-41)
6. **God Gives Hope to Our Troubled Hearts.** We can have peace of mind in the middle of our greatest trials (see John 14:1-7)

This little **light** of
mine,

I’m gonna let it
shine.

This **little** light of
mine,

I’m gonna let it
shine.

This little light of
mine,

I’m gonna let it
shine,

Let it shine, let it
shine,

oh let it shine.

Harold Loes, a music minister from Michigan, may have been responsible for writing 1,500 gospel songs and composing thousands of tunes. But could any of them compare to or be as loved as “This Little Light of Mine”? It is included on the soundtracks of many of our childhoods. Even now you’re probably humming the tune under your breath while reading. Written for children in the 1920s, it was given new life when sung during the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

The lyrics seem to resonate with children and adults alike. It is a call for those of us who have the light of Jesus to share that light with the world. We are to let it shine wherever we go and on all the people who cross our paths. Loes’s message is simple and one that every Christian understands.

There are people all around us living in darkness. Some are aware of the darkness but don’t know how to change it. We have the answer. Still others stumble around and don’t even realize that they are

in the dark. Are we hoarding and keeping our light to ourselves? Or are we carrying it to all the dark corners of the world?

Let’s let those little lights shine.

Lord, show me how to shine my light even brighter for you.

Lord, give me concern and compassion for the lost that I meet today.
Open doors so I might share YOUR message!

TRAVELING

Garry & Jan continue their travels but plan to be back home Monday, the 14th

Ron & Nancy at the coast on for a couple of weeks

NEW

Earl had 28 family members join in the fishing trip in northern California for a few days

Clara, Buggies friend will be in hospital for a week recovering from the procedure she had and waiting for the pathologist results

Joyce, will be having a balloon sinus dilation Wednesday

Sally, having knee issues

Trina's **Aunt Doreen**, was put in rehab after being airlifted to Sioux Falls for a brain bleed and Tuesday she had a massive stroke and had to have surgery due to swelling and bleeding.

Continued Prayer

Borjas's grandson is having serious health issues

Brenda's knee operation is on Monday

Debra continuing with PT and has some testing coming up from the new neurologist

Joe/Lori's children as they deal with various life struggles

John and Ashley are dealing with personal family issues

Mike will be having several tests over the next few weeks; he and **Sandy** are having multiple issues.

Natalie is dealing with work stress

Pete Morris, Nelson's SIL's father, had a successful heart valve replacement on Tuesday

Rhonda, Trina's friend, has been diagnosed with stage four lung cancer

Sally's brother, **Reuben**, is struggling with back pain

Tank as he deals with health issues and **Mary** as she cares for him

Again, it is a time of political decisions as it is a "voting season" Between the conflict of our leaders and the newscasts it can make it a very stressful time.

Prayer for Overcoming Division

"God Almighty, we are a country built on the ideals of unity but find ourselves fragmented and polarized. In Your all-knowing presence, we seek guidance to bridge the gaps that divide us. Instill in us the courage to reach across the divides of opinion and belief, creating connections that foster peace. With Your grace, may we forge a path toward a united and stronger nation. Amen."