

# BRIDGE HAPPENINGS

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE BRIDGE CHURCH

## ENDURING TEMPTATION

WRITTEN BY REAGAN SUDERS

12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. 16 Do not be deceived my beloved brethren. - James 1:12-16

In a society of passing the blame and giving excuses, it is difficult for us to take responsibility for our temptations. We say and think things like: "It's just one area of my life", "It's not a big deal", "This is just who I am", "I'm a really good person apart from that...". We love to excuse ourselves in the areas that we struggle in. Or worse, we point to other people and say "well I'm not as bad as them, their sin is way worse..." Every Christian on this planet struggles with temptation. It doesn't matter if you have been a Christian for thirty minutes or thirty years, you will face temptation. It's time to own up to it. If we want to be serious in our walk with Christ, we need to identify the areas in which we are tempted the most, and start setting up accountability for them. "Blessed is the man who ENDURES temptation...". We WILL face temptation. There is no escaping it. You cannot become immune to it while here on this earth. Our only option is to endure it. We have to be able to get up and face our temptations every day and endure them! Because if we are able to endure temptation here on earth we will be APPROVED by God! How awesome is that!? God will give us a crown of life! "...to those who love Him". This is how we show God that we love Him. We endure temptation. We deny our fleshly desires and focus on loving God. If you are a Christian, you should want to show God that you love Him. When we set aside our sinful desires we are doing just that. We are showing God that we love Him with more than just our words. We have to put action behind them!

"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed". We all have our own temptations. Not everyone struggles with the same thing, and thank goodness because we would all be struggling together! But this is why it is so important to be honest about the temptations that we are struggling with and get the accountability that we need. Don't let sin become full-grown. If you allow sin to grow in your life, it will bring forth death. If you are unwilling to endure temptation, you cannot be approved by God. Read that again... If you keep giving in when you are tempted by something, how can you receive the crown of life?

"Do not be deceived by beloved brethren". Sin is very deceptive. We have been hiding it from others and trying to hide it from God since the garden of Eden. Don't let it fool you. Wide and easy is the path that leads to destruction. You may not be able to cure yourself of all temptations, but you can have victory over sin and learn to endure by bringing those temptations out into the light. We are meant to carry one another's burdens and help each other endure. You can't hide from God. Don't let shame prevent you from receiving forgiveness and finding healing.

Don't wait. Find a brother or sister in Christ who you can be honest with. Find accountability and endure temptation. Be approved by God and receive the crown of life!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 1 - MSK MARKET  
FOOD DRIVE

JUNE 1 - CROSSOVER  
POOL PARTY

JUNE 2 - SENDING  
SERVICE FOR REAGAN  
AND MEREDITH SUDERS

JUNE 16 - FATHER'S DAY



Service times: 9:30 & 11AM  
Bible Buddies (Pre-K): 9:30AM  
Bridge Kidz (K-4th): 9:30AM  
Ground Zero (5th & 6th): 9:30AM  
Crossover Youth (7th-12th): 5-7PM

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We're attending some exciting events for Women's Ministry at The Bridge!

We have two incredible conferences that all women are welcome to attend.

The first event is on July 12th from 7-9pm at Freedom House Church in Charlotte. All women and girls ages 12 and up are welcome to attend this one night conference on "Leading Women in the Adventure of Faith" by Authentic Women! The cost to attend is \$22.85 for adults and \$12.24 for teen girls.

We will also be attending the Extraordinary Women's Conference on October 18th & 19th in Concord, NC. Speakers include: Julie Clinton, Sheila Walsh, Angela Thomas, and more! There will also be a concert by Natalie Grant.

To receive Early Bird pricing for the Extraordinary Conference, register by Sunday, June 23rd to secure your spot for \$72 + fee. You can also purchase a box lunch for Saturday for \$12.

For more information on these events and on registration, please contact Patience West at 318-451-3737.



## BRIDGE BIRTHDAYS

4 - Nan Bowman	16 - Sydney Cummings
6 - Teagan Lycans	19 - Terri Ward
8 - Julie Alsop	22 - Skyla Lopardi
10 - Victoria Weaver	25 - Vicki Greene
12 - Fam Famiglietti	28 - Tiffany Montijo
13 - Mike Mills	29 - Isabella Zwiilnske

## MSK MARKET FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST FROM 10AM-4PM

Join us at the Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market on Saturday, June 1st to help with our MSK Market! You can stop by to shop for pantry items or volunteer to assist at the table and in the collection of food items. If you are interested in serving, please contact Michael Atkinson at 704-360-8325.

## SENDING SERVICE

SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND AT 9:30 & 11AM

We will be having a Sending Service for Reagan and Meredith Suders on Sunday, June 2nd during 1st and 2nd service. Reagan recently was called to and accepted an Associate Pastor position at church in Stuarts Draft, Virginia. Their last day on staff at The Bridge will be Sunday, June 9th.

Please come out and shower them with prayers and encouragement as they close out their ministry with us at The Bridge and move forward to continuing in ministry in Virginia.

## BRIDGE ANNIVERSARIES



22 - Todd & Ashley Golden  
30 - Norman & Dea Felts

Want to keep up with what's going on at The Bridge Church? Text @bridgelkn and send to 81010. You will then receive notifications from us!

Do you have a written devotion to share? We'd love to include it in a future issue of Bridge Happenings! Contact [ministry@thebridgelkn.com](mailto:ministry@thebridgelkn.com) for more information.