



# The Creek Courier

Weekly Update May 28, 2020

*Loving God*  
*Learning Together*  
*Leading Others*

## God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

No doubt you have heard the expression, "God helps those who help themselves." This is perhaps one of the most quoted phrases that's not found in the Bible. Actually, it was the English political theorist Algernon Sidney (1698) who originated the now familiar phrase; Benjamin Franklin later used it in his Poor Richard's Almanac (1736).

So, is there any merit to this prerequisite claim for God's help?

A brief study of God's Word reveals a more accurate statement to be "God helps those who cannot help themselves," which is what grace is about. Romans 5:6 sums it up quite well. ***"For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly."***

Could we have helped ourselves? No, Romans 5:6 indicates "we were helpless"!

Perhaps, you have heard some version of this story before... Caught in the flood waters of an overflowing river, a man made his way to the roof of his house. He prayed in earnest that God would rescue him. A little while later, a rescue helicopter happened upon the stranded man and offered assistance. The man sent them away while explaining that he was waiting for God to rescue him in answer to his prayer.

This somewhat comical illustration points out the truth of the matter; God does everything, but we do something. That's just a way to express the relative importance of our role Vs God's.

We cannot help ourselves, but according to Ephesians 2:4-5, ***"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace!"***

Romans 4 makes it clear that we cannot earn righteousness; there is nothing that we must do as a precondition for God's help. In fact, for the one who works, the payment is a mere exchange or obligation for the work completed. Thanks be to God that we have been given something of far greater value than mere payment for our works! For righteousness is the free gift from God that surpasses anything that we could earn. Romans 4:4-5 ***"Now to the one who works, pay is not credited as a gift, but as something owed. But to the one who does not work, but believes on him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited for righteousness."***

-William Hoyle

Pastor Tim and your deacons stand ready to help with any needs you might have. On-call deacon for the next week is William Hoyle and he can be reached at 252-204-4228 .  
Pastor Tim can be reached at 252-432-6780 .

## Prayer Reminders

### Associate Pastor Search Committee

Lauren Fuller	Tony Norwood
Steven Tuttle	Wendy Wilson
Hartwell Wright	Pastor Tim

### Financial Secretary Search Committee

Kathy Denton	Gordon Wilder
Danny Wright	Pastor Tim

### Sunday Worship

Drive-In  
Radio Frequency  
FM 107.5

Facebook Live  
[New Sandy Creek](#)

## Christ Kids

Meeting on Facebook Messenger Chat  
Wednesday evenings at 7.  
Go to group, "Christkids", and join in.

## Graduate Sunday June 14

### Churchwide LifeGroup 7:30 p.m. Saturday

On [Facebook Live](#) Led by Danny Wright

Scripture for Saturday, May30: Romans 5:6-12



### Virtual Vacation Bible School Coming In June

## ACTS Pantry Needs

Boxed pasta, canned spaghetti sauce, 18 oz. jars peanut butter, jelly, any type of canned goods: fruit, beans, vegetables, soups, meats (preferably with pull tops).

Items may be dropped off at ACTS at 201 South William Street M-F between 8:30 and 3:00. You can also call them for a special drop off time at 252-492-8231.

If you are unable to drop off your items, please contact Jackie Ayscue by text at 252-767-3257 or by e-mail at [jayscue@hotmail.com](mailto:jayscue@hotmail.com).