



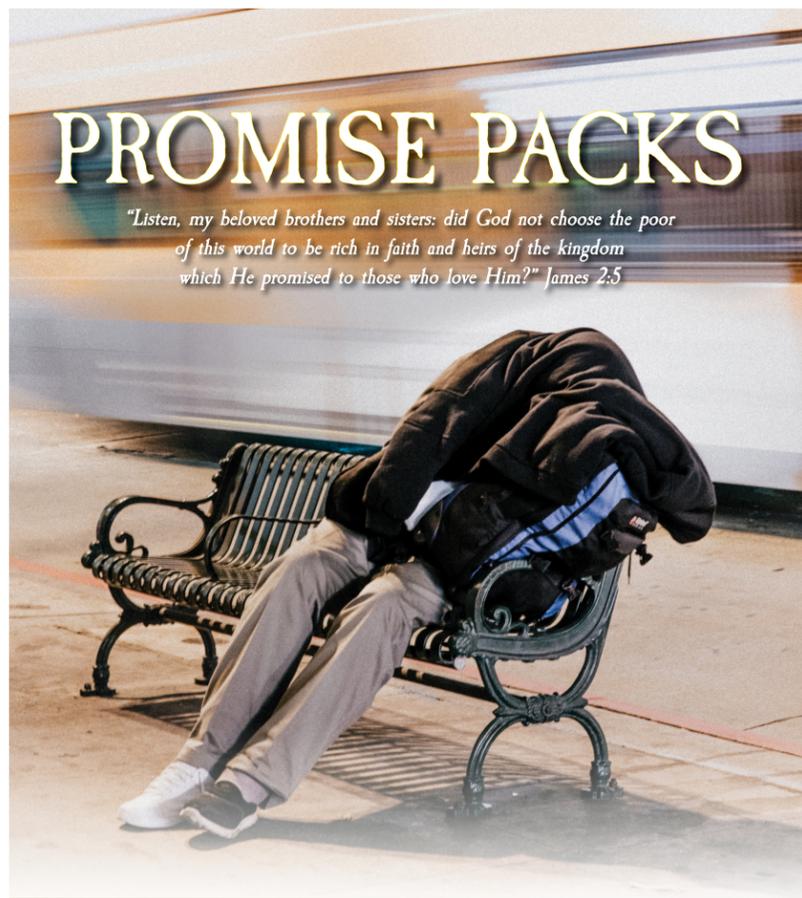
Still Drawing Pictures by Rocky Hails

Life Adult November Luncheon

November 13

Do you wonder, like me, when driving throughout the city, what is the story behind “that guy” or “that lady” with his or her earthly possessions in a small pile next to them.

On **November 13**, after taking our lunch together, we plan once again this year to fill 100 “**Promise Packs**” in the **Chapel/Café**. With these packs, we have the opportunity to load some drawstring packs with materials helpful for people who are street homeless in our city as they enter into the winter months. Included in these packs are items like a space blanket, socks, gloves, Bible, flashlights, gospel tract and “Peace Packet” among other items. Let’s be a blessing to a hundred of those who have shown up on our streets testifying, “I’m here.”



PROMISE PACKS

“Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters: did God not choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?” James 2:5

Our emphasis November 13 will be on penetrating our city’s poorest with the Gospel. We will be endeavoring to provide some of the physical and spiritual needs of the street homeless of our city.

Following our lunch we will fill drawstring backpacks with items that can minister to the physical needs brought on by the approaching winter. In addition to items for physical protection, we will be including a Bible, “Peace Packet,” and Gospel tract to minister spiritually. Some of the items are understandable, others like a glow dot can be applied to packs or shoes or hats to increase visibility by drivers of those living on the streets. Please be a part of our time together encouraging one another and helping those one-at-a-time who exist physically and spiritually impoverished.



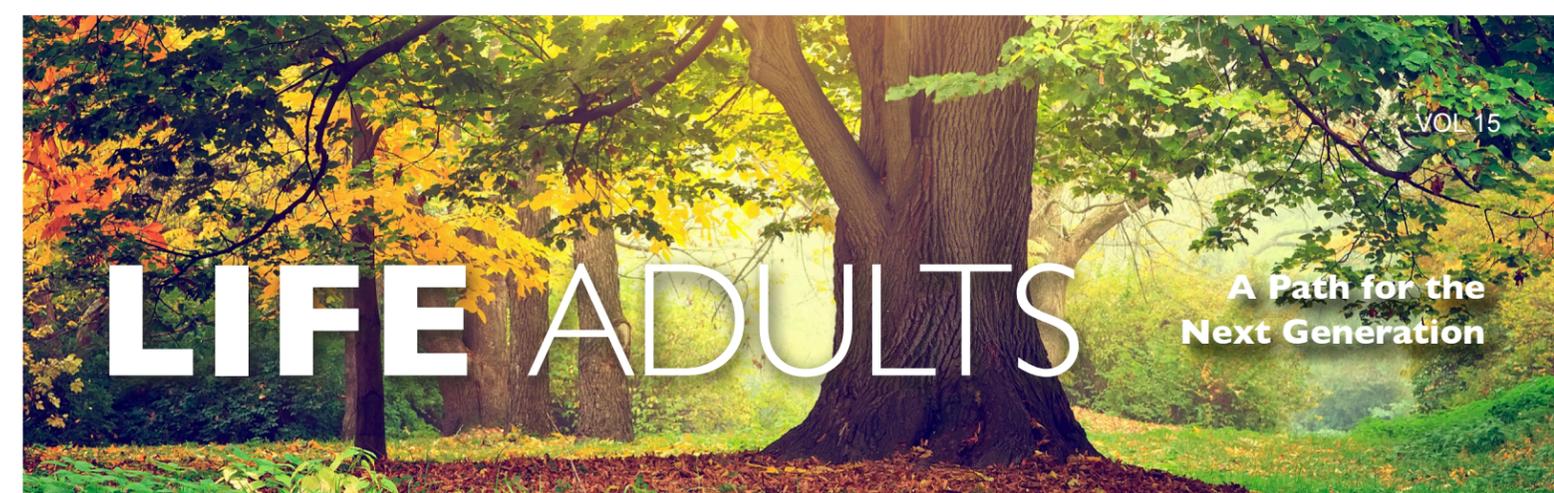
HBC LIFE ADULT LUNCHEON NOV. 13

Chapel/Café @ Noon • Sign Up is Necessary @ The Welcome Center or Call the Church Office

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LIFE ADULTS

A Path for the Next Generation

The Vine

by David Carrico

A couple of Sundays ago, there was a mention of a vine in the discussion. And that sent my mind down a different path.

In Scripture, when vines are mentioned, it's almost always in the context of a vineyard. Vineyards exist for the purpose of producing fruit. Every vine in the vineyard is placed there by the vineyard master for that purpose.



Photo by Maurizio D'Amico on Unsplash

Unless you’ve worked in a vineyard, there's something about vine cultivation that you may not know. I didn't for the longest time. You see, dealing with vines, the funny thing is that fruit only grows on new vine growth. So every spring, the vineyard master goes through the vineyard and looks at each vine, then prunes each one of them carefully, taking away enough of the older growth to provide sites for the new growth to begin. The vineyard master's goal is to give each vine its best chance to produce good fruit. And it happens every year, over and over again, time after time.

And now let's consider all of that a metaphor for something very important. Let's consider this to be a metaphor for one of the three parts of being made like Christ. Scripture talks about justification, sanctification, and glorification.

The Life Adult Ministry at Heritage is dedicated to being a path for the next generation to follow in delighting in God and declaring His glory! Our aim is to 1) continue to invest our lives in deepening our intimacy with Christ Jesus, our Savior and 2) enhance our ability to minister to others through Gospel-centered lives that embrace God’s Word. We pray our lifetime of experiences and gifting blesses our families, our church and the world around us.

Upcoming Events

- The Lord’s Supper, Oct. 23
- Fall Festival, Oct. 26
- Women’s Coffee, Oct. 29
- Prayer Meeting, Nov. 6
- Membership Matters Class Nov. 6
- Life Adult Luncheon, Nov. 13
- Happy Thanksgiving! Nov. 24
- Life Adult Luncheon, Dec. 4
- Christmas Brunch, Dec. 11



The Vine *Continued*

Justification is a one-time event that happens at the beginning of the Christ-like life, where we enter into the saving relationship with Jesus Christ and His righteousness, and purity is imputed to us for all of time and all of eternity.

Likewise, glorification is also a one-time event where we are taken to Heaven by means of the ultimate resurrection and are gifted with an eternal body. We will inhabit this body for all of eternity as we companion with the Holy Trinity and worship God in His fullness and holiness forever. It is the conclusion of being made like Christ.

Sanctification, however, is not a one-time event like justification and glorification. It is a lifelong process, occurring every day of our lives beginning with our justification and concluding with our glorification. And every one of those days, the Spirit of God seeks to make us more like Christ, paring away those parts of us that are not like Christ, seeking to remove those old growth parts of us that hinder our growth, much as the vineyard master removes the old growth from the vines. He prunes away the old calloused growth in order to bring us to the place where we can have new growth, growth that will produce fruit, fresh fruit, bountiful fruit, the harvest of new lives that is the ultimate fruit of the Spirit.

We should welcome the hand of the vineyard master as he touches our vines tenderly,



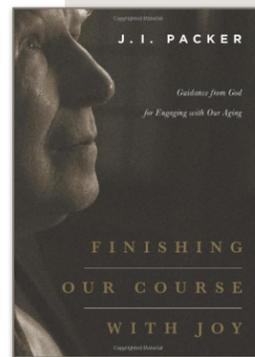
as he reaches out to prune away the old vines and make us new and ready to bear fruit.

We should welcome the cutting away every day of those things that are not of Christ, of those things that represent stagnation and death.

We should thank God that He cares enough for us that He invests His time, and His care, and His love in husbanding us to bring us to the place where we will ultimately be like His Son, Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

We should desire the pruning. We should crave the pruning. It should be the greatest joy of our hearts to seek after the pruning, so that we can be like Christ, and so that we can bear fruit by the will of the Father and to the glory of God. Hallelujah!

David Carrico is an ordained deacon and elder and was called to teach not quite forty years ago. He has been team teaching in the Hope class for the last eight years. He's also a professional writer who is sometimes inspired to write short articles on biblical topics.



Pick Up Your Copy!

Read *Finishing Our Course with Joy* by J. I. Packer, and be challenged “to embrace old age as an opportunity for continued learning, careful planning, and heartfelt discipleship. Packer’s “pastoral words and personal stories encourage us to press on toward the upward call of God with endurance and grace.” Better yet, read this book with someone else in person or over the phone.

We handed out copies of this book at the retreat on the 8th. If you did not get a copy, please pick one up at the Welcome Center.

Our Life Adult Retreat Giving Project

At the end of our retreat a few weeks ago, we wanted to extend the ministry of the Life Adults to include the generations who follow. The note below accompanied your cash gift of \$1482 to a Heritage single mom and her kids:

Dear _____,

The senior adult ministry at Heritage, known as the Life Adults, is committed to ministering to not only our older adults, but to those who are coming behind us. At our recent retreat we appealed to those attending to seek the Lord about investing in the family of a single mom with children, that is all the information that they were given. Enclosed is a gift from God through them to you and your children to be used however best helps your family. They do not know your identity, but they know that single moms carry burdens most will never know and they wanted to help. May you receive this as it was given, from the hand and heart of Jesus.

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth” ~1 John 3:16-18.

Life Adults

Life Adult Christmas Luncheon December 4

It may seem early to look at a Christmas carol, but our **Life Adult Christmas Luncheon** is only six weeks away! Amazing as that may sound we are looking forward to gathering, immediately after the worship service, on **December 4** in the **Chapel/Café** for a delicious meal and a time of worshipping the “new-born King”!

The original hymn text for “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” was written as a “Hymn for Christmas Day” by Charles Wesley. Below is how it appeared originally. The carol is based on Luke 2:14, “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among people with whom He is pleased.”

*HARK how all the Welkin rings
"Glory to the King of Kings,
"Peace on Earth, and Mercy mild,
"GOD and Sinners reconcil'd!

Joyful all ye Nations rise,
Join the Triumph of the Skies,
Universal Nature say
"CHRIST the LORD is born to Day!*



Illustration: William-Adolphe Bouguereau

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship centered around honoring the incarnate Son of God. (By the way, “Welkin” is a term for sky or heaven just in case Jonathan has us singing the original.)