

PASTOR'S CORNER



1 Corinthians 2:12

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE

God has equipped every Christian with all the resources he needs to live fully and effectively for Him. Yet many of us struggle to live in the fullness God desires for us. The fault is not with God who has done everything to enable us to appropriate our resources in Christ.

In the first place, God gives us His resources freely. He does not place a price tag on them. He does not even demand any level of spiritual maturity to receive them. (Although maturity will help us to better embrace and deploy our resources.) Upon our salvation God implants the desire and innate ability to live successfully for Him (Philippians 2:13).

Not only has God freely given us His resources, but He has informed us about them. God does not want His children to be ignorant. He has recorded our resources in the Bible and placed the Holy Spirit in us to help us recognize and mobi-

lize His provisions. Yet many Christians still labor in ignorance and failure, unaware of our spiritual assets. The problem is our failure to study the Scriptures and to surrender to the Holy Spirit.

As we immerse ourselves in the Scriptures, we discover that God isn't just laying demand upon difficult (some would say impossible) demand upon us. We discover instead that He has equipped us to live successfully. We just need to recognize and appropriate what is already ours. 1 John 5:18-20 reminds us that our new birth and the protection of God enables us to overcome habitual sin (verse 18). We will still be tempted to sin, but we have within us the wherewithal to successfully resist sin. We are also reminded that we are not under the power of Satan (verse 19). While Satan holds the whole world in thralldom, those born of God have escaped his cruel grip. We do not have to allow the world to squeeze us into its warped

mold. Finally, the passage affirms that we can recognize and receive real truth as we embrace our relationship to Jesus which results in eternal life. We are delivered from the dreadful agony of perpetual uncertainty. We can have confidence in God that Christians can live victoriously on earth and are assured of eternity with Christ.

May God help us to take the time to discover all that is available to us in Christ. May we study the Scriptures. Take God at His word. Rely on the Holy Spirit. And walk through life fully trusting and surrendering to Him. Then the resources that are already latent inside of us will be unleashed and we will experience the joy of the victorious Christian life.

Know what you have. Appropriate what you have. Live in joy and victory.

God bless you,
Pastor James

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER TUE @ 7 PM

APR 30

Join us via Zoom video

Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP

FRI @ 6:45 PM
MAY 3

In-person at church.
For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE 1st & 3rd SUN @ 6 PM

MAY 5 & MAY 19

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY SUN @ 11 AM

MAY 5

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service
Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

WORSHIP SERVICE SUN @ 11 AM

MAY 5

In-person service and Livestreaming on Facebook, Youtube and our webpage.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Pregnancy Resource Center of the Poconos Banquet is May 23rd @ 6:30 pm. Please see Lori for more details.
- Clarks Summit's Lyfe Conference (for ladies) will be June 7th & 8th. Please register online. See flyer at the Information Center for more info.
- VBS: Save the Date! July 15th -19th. Volunteers may sign up at the Information Center.
- Save the Date for Family Fun Day: August 3rd.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:15pm at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.

WAYS TO GIVE

Traditionally during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website.

Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes.

Thank you!