

**ELDERS**

Nathan Adkins  
937-798-3267  
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**MINISTER**

Mark Day  
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**INTERN MINISTER**

Brandon Foresha  
228-342-7312

**DEACONS**

Daniel Goshorn  
J.C. Hughes  
Brad Morris  
Nathan Parks  
David Smith  
Jeremiah Smith  
Jerry Sturgill  
Matthew Vonderheide  
Steve Wallace

**SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Study 9:45am  
Morning Worship 10:45 am  
Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

**WEB PAGE**

www.flatwoodschurch-  
ofchrist.org

**MISSIONS**

-Dustin Bolks  
**Sioux Center, Ia.**  
-Dahn Ramkelawan  
**Suriname, So. America**  
-Michael Mayo  
**Thailand, SE Asia**  
-*"In Search of the Lord's  
Way"* TV broadcast  
-Rod Goddard  
**WVSOP student**

**SEARCH TV**

Sundays 7:30 am (on Fox)

FLATWOODS CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**HERALD**

PO Box 871, 2100 Argillite Rd, Flatwoods, KY 41139

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**3 John 11**



**Beloved, follow not  
that which is evil, but  
that which is good. He  
that doeth good is of  
God: but he that doeth  
evil hath not seen God.**



**We offer FREE: 4 Bible correspondence course series by mail:**  
an 8 lesson series by Hurt, a 6 lesson series "Acts Of The Apostles"  
by Pharr, the "Studies In The Bible" 30 lesson series, and the  
20 lesson series "Getting To Know Jesus" by Pharr. Let everyone know!

## No Deceit

“Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, ‘Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!’” (Jn. 1:47). The Greek word translated “deceit” or “guile” here is δόλος, meaning, “*in whom there is nothing false.*”<sup>1</sup> Jesus highlighted the exceptional character of Nathanael in this regard; the pure honesty of this man’s heart was remarkable. Nathanael was an Israelite indeed. He did not hide his prejudices, but was quick to accept the truth when it was proven to him. “Most men lack this complete sincerity. Professing love to Christ, they still secretly love the world and the flesh; promising faithfulness, the promise does not fully bind their hearts. This δόλος kept the Jewish nation from Christ, proved the curse of Judas, almost wrecked Peter.”<sup>2</sup>

Nathanael the Israelite stood in contrast to a period in the life of the patriarch Israel, whose name was Jacob, a name which means supplanter or usurper. Though Jacob was the second-born of the twins, he usurped his brother Esau’s place. Vincent wrote, “It is an interesting fact that in Genesis 25:27, Jacob is called a *plain* man, *i.e.*, as some explain the Hebrew, a *perfect* or *upright* man, and others, a man *of quiet and simple habits*, and that the Septuagint renders this adjective by ἄπλαστος, *unfeigned, without disguise, simple, guileless*. The Greek here reads literally, *in whom guile is not.*”<sup>3</sup> Yet, if that is the meaning in Genesis 25:27, Jacob did not stay that way. The Genesis narrative goes on to describe how Jacob deceived his father Isaac into blessing him instead of Esau. Afterwards, Isaac said to Esau, “Your brother came with deceit and has taken away your blessing” (Gen. 27:35). It is easy to allow deceit to creep into our lives when we think it will benefit us. Jacob may have been a deceiver, but his descendant, Nathanael, was “an Israelite without duplicitous motives who was willing to examine for himself the claims being made about Jesus.”<sup>4</sup>

Psalm 32:2 says the blessed man is one “in whose spirit *there is* no deceit.” Nathanael was blessed because of his sincerity. When Philip found Nathanael in John 1:46, Nathanael had some prejudice against Nazareth, but he still came to see if Jesus was the Messiah. Likewise, we must not allow our prejudices to cause us to write people off. Too often we can deceive ourselves or be tempted to be somewhat false to others instead of dealing with hard truths. Some people do not accept the truth immediately, but must be convinced. Many must overcome long-held, but mistaken notions. Removing deceit from our hearts is not easy but is absolutely necessary if we will be what Jesus wants us to be.

Jesus knew what was in man, as John 2:24-25 notes, “But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all *men*, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.” Thus, He knew Nathanael (Jn. 1:48). Nathanael asked how Jesus knew him (v. 48). How did Jesus know who he really was on the inside? Jesus saw Nathanael under the fig tree. He perceived and understood his heart. To Nathanael this supernatural knowledge was enough to convince him that Jesus was the Messiah. Jesus promised Nathanael that he would see greater things that this (v. 50).

Jesus showed great miraculous signs that proved He was the Son of God (Jn. 20:30-31). However, the religious leaders, who deceitfully acted holy, rejected this plain truth and covertly plotted His death. Jesus remained true even to the cross. He serves as our example in suffering for righteousness sake as He, “Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth” (1 Pet. 2:22; cf. Isa. 53:9). The Lord Jesus can see into our hearts as well; if guile is present, He knows it.

-Mark Day

1 William Amdt et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 256.

2 R. C. H. Lenski, *The Interpretation of St. John’s Gospel* (Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Publishing House, 1961), 168.

3 Marvin Richardson Vincent, *Word Studies in the New Testament*, vol. 2 (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1887), 75.

4 D. A. Carson, *The Gospel according to John*, The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans, 1991), 160.

# News & Notes



## Sermons Today

10:45AM: Work  
 6:00PM: Contrasts in Third John  
 Scripture Reading: 3 John 11

## 2021 Dates to Remember:

- Mar 21**– donation deadline for Potter Children’s Home requested items  
**Apr 1-4**– Lads 2 Leaders  
**Apr 10**– Pine Grove, WV virtual Ladies Day- speakers: Mary Kessinger and Anna McCormick– ‘How the Christian Deals with Depression’ -10a (save the date- more details to come)  
**Apr 11-14**– our Gospel Meeting with Phil Sanders  
**Jul 26-30**– Vacation Bible School  
**Oct 17-21**– our Gospel Meeting with Allen Webster

## 7 Precautions While Here

1. Please, in the parking lot, make every attempt to **maintain a safe social distance** as you quickly enter or exit the main entry.
2. **Wear a facial covering, or mask**, that covers both your mouth and nose at all practical times. If you do not have a mask, one will be made available to you as you enter the main foyer.
3. On Sunday, please **pick up communion supplies in the foyer** before service for you and your family. **A collection box is located in the main foyer** for your contributions.
4. Please **move through the foyer quickly** to avoid crowding in the foyer. Please, remember to **social distance** (six feet) and no handshaking or hugging ... for now. And the drinking fountain is off limits for now.
5. The auditorium has every other row of pews closed off to allow appropriate spacing of households. Remember to **maintain six feet spacing in the pew** between households.
6. **Restroom access** will be allowed for only **one person at a time; parent and child exceptions are allowed**. Upon exiting the restroom, you are asked to **please disinfect** the areas of the restroom you have utilized. Sanitizing sprays are available in the restrooms. Any child under age 5 should be accompanied by an adult to ensure proper disinfecting.
7. **Hand sanitizers are available in the foyer**, as well as tissues and proper waste disposal containers.

**Potter Children’s Home  
& Family Ministries**

**Pantry Shopping List**

AA batteries  
 Applesauce  
 Band-aids  
 Au Gratin potatoes (box)  
 Beef bouillon

Pantry Items will be picked up the week of:  
**March 21, 2021**

### Gauging Our Faith

	<u>02/07/21</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>02/09/20</u>
<b>Bible Study</b>	nc	110	nc
<b>AM Worship</b>	72	160	147
<b>PM Worship</b>	58	110	82
<b>Mid Week</b>	nc	110	79
<b>Contribution:</b>	\$7385.63	\$6000.00	\$6464.12

☞ **Today's Servants** ☜

**WELCOME:**

**AM/PM:** Chris Scott

**SONG LEADER:**

**AM:** Nathan Adkins

**PM:** Jeremiah Smith

**FIRST PRAYER:**

**AM:** Mark Parks

**PM:** J.C. Hughes

**LORD'S TABLE\*:**

**Presiding AM:** Brandon Foresha

**Presiding PM:** Nathan Adkins

\*gluten-free bread

**Scripture Reading:**

**PM:** Braydon Snell

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

**AM:** John Gambill

**PM:** David Morckel

☞ **Wednesday Servants** ☜

**WELCOME:** Chris Scott

**SONG LEADER:** Brandon Foresha

**PRAYER:** Steve Wallace

**DEVOTION:** Greg Conley

☞ **Weekly Servants** ☜

**POWER POINT:** Jackson Morris

**BLDG. ATTENDANT:** Greg Conley

**COORDINATOR:** Steve Wallace

**ATTENDANCE:** John Gambill

\*\*\* **Youth Notes** \*\*\*

\*\*\* **Sundays** \*\*\*

**Pew Packers**

**5:45pm in the front  
of the auditorium**

geared to age 12 & under,  
but everyone is invited

★ **Apr. 1-4** ★

**Lads to Leaders**

**2021 Convention**



**Have you  
contacted  
a shut-in  
lately?**

**Why not  
today?**

