



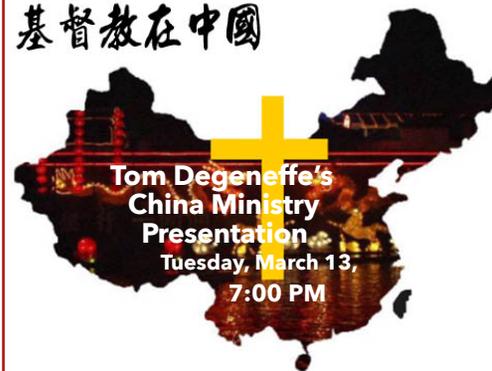
We are honored and blessed to have you worshipping with us today and we extend our warmest welcome. Our service is modeled after the New Testament pattern of worship. If you have questions or concerns please express them to us. We are all here to serve.

*Pray More,  
Worry Less.*

**Please Pray For** the health of Zandra, Gloria, Ebony, Lenard, TC, Prince, Irma and her brother, Thom and Mary Elizabeth, Sylvia, & Patrick's recovery, Victor's recovery from knee surgery. Leola's health. Lorena and family. Wanda Contreras and family. Kevin Williams & family. Donna's cousin lost his wife and has prostate cancer. Keshia's friend's aunt Lucy has stage 4 cancer. Health of Helice and her son to be. Bynum's health. Sister Kirkland's health. Dianna and family's loss, they have gone to Mexico. Stan's friends, the Peralta's for their loss. Wisdom for Dan as he makes a personal decision. Anthony and family. Gloria's health. The Bradshaw family as they travel. The Needles and Parker churches. Health of Paul Brass.



基督教在中國



**April 7th**

Start preparing NOW!  
Study the book of Ephesians.

**Order of Services**

- Singing
- Opening Prayer
- Singing
- Preaching
- Invitation Song
- Communion Song
- Communion Offering
- Announcements
- Closing Song
- Closing Prayer

**God's Plan to Save Mankind**

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Hear the Word       | Romans 10:17     |
| Believe the Word    | Mark 16:15-16    |
| Repent of your sins | Luke 13:3-5      |
| Confess His name    | Matthew 10:32-33 |
| Baptism             | 1 Peter 3:21     |
| Live Faithfully     | Revelation 2:10  |

**Schedule of Services**

- |                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Sunday Bible Class    | 10:00 AM |
| Sunday Worship.       | 11:00 AM |
| Wednesday Bible Class | 7:00 PM  |



## What Do You Bring to Worship?

Patrick Morrison

The Old Testament required all Jewish males to appear in Jerusalem three times per year to worship and offer sacrifices. *“Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty”* (Deuteronomy 16:16). It was imperative that those who made the journey to Jerusalem to worship God not come before Him empty-handed. The Old Law even made provisions for those who could not afford to offer the customary sacrifice for sin of a lamb or a goat (Leviticus 5:7-11). From the wealthiest prince to the lowliest pauper, all were to come before God in worship with something to offer. Herein lies a fundamental principle of our worship to God: Worship is something that we offer, something that we bring before God, and when done in accordance with His Divine will, we know that such offerings will be acceptable to Him. The idea of worship has been lost on many within our generation. For most it is a time to be entertained. Worship has become just another spectator sport, a place to be seen or something to check off the to-do list. It is a shame to see those who claim to love the Lord coming to worship with nothing to offer. Some sit as silent as the tomb while

praises are being sung to our Heavenly Father. **Empty-handed!** Some cling tenaciously to the material wealth with which God has blessed them as the time for giving back to Him as He has prospered us comes. **Empty-handed!** Some pass notes, talk or daydream as God’s Word is being read or proclaimed. **Empty-handed!** Some slip in, take some unleavened bread and fruit of the vine, thinking they are observing the Lord’s Supper, and slip out, ignoring the rest of the worship of Almighty God. **Empty-handed!** Some show up every once in a blue moon [infrequently] and expect everyone to notice the effort they put forth to be there. **Empty-handed!** Brethren and friends, how can we *“offer... unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing”* (2 Samuel 24:22)?

**Worship is not about man. It has never been about man. It will never be about man. Worship is about bowing the knee in reverence to God and coming before Him with that which we know will please Him. We dare not come empty-handed.** *“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise unto God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name”* (Hebrews 13:15). *“But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple”* (Psalm 5:7). *“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the*

*beauty of holiness”* (Psalm 29:2). *“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker”* (Psalm 95:6). *“I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord”* (Psalm 116:17). *“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name”* (Psalm 138:2). *“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ”* (1 Peter 2:5). *“Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him”* (Psalm 2:8).

**The worship of the God of Heaven demands that we come before Him with something to offer, something that all can afford: our prayers, our praise, our time, our talents, our money and ourselves!**

### Jesus Advanced

By Mark McWhorter

Luke 2:52, *“And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”* This verse is at the end of the retelling of His trip to Jerusalem when He was 12-years-old. He went with his parents to observe the Passover. After His parents fulfilled their responsibilities, they started traveling back to Nazareth. After a day and a half, they realized that Jesus was not with the caravan.

They returned to Jerusalem to look for him. They found him in the Temple sitting with the doctors of the law. He was asking and answering questions.

His parents stated their anxiety toward Him by stating they sought Him *“sorrowing.”* They did not understand His extreme interest and yearning to know the Father’s will. He was a carpenter’s son, but he wanted to know the Scriptures. Yet, His desire to formally study the Scriptures did not stop him from obeying His parents. *In verse 51 we read, “And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them...”*

That is when our verse above is revealed. In the verse, the word *“advanced”* is the Greek word derived from the act of pioneers cutting down trees in front of an advancing army. Jesus hewed down all obstacles in the way of his growing mind. The use of this word lets us know that Jesus expended great effort in growing in wisdom and stature. He gave a great deal of energy in making sure He was right with God and with all men. It is important that we are told He was doing this when He was 12-years-old. Parents should expect big things from their children in spiritual matters.

Follow Jesus’ example. Be studious. Give effort in making sure you know God’s will and in getting along with others. And if any of this is hard to understand, ask an adult to help you.

