



Hilltop Baptist Church
 220 S. Pennsylvania Ave
 Casper, Wyoming 82609

Mission Statement

Our mission is to:

1. See people saved.
2. See people grow in their relationship with God.
3. See people grow in their love for one another.

Church Physical Address:

2555 E. 2nd St.
 Casper, WY 82604

Mailing Address:

220 S. Pennsylvania Ave
 Casper, WY 82609

Phone Number:

307-265-6540
 Fax: 307-265-6542

Office Hours:

Pastor Rob Peterson
 Monday - Thursday
 Pastor Josiah Kiracofe
 Monday - Friday (afternoons)
 Amanda Platt
 Tuesday -Friday

Website:

www.hilltopbaptistchurchcasper.com

Email Address:

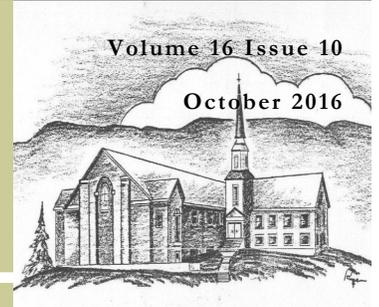
Pastor Rob Peterson: pastorrob@hilltopbaptistchurchcasper.com
 Amanda Platt: secretary@hilltopbaptistchurchcasper.com
 Josiah Kiracofe: pastorjosiah@hilltopbaptistchurchcasper.com

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School	9:30 AM
Morning Service	11:00 AM
Evening Service	6:00 PM
Youth Group - Tuesdays	5:30 PM

THE MESSENGER

PASTOR'S PEN



From the Pastor's Pen

Self-Control, A Difficult Discipline!

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

In this passage Paul speaks about becoming all things to all people in order to *WIN* some of them to Christ. When sharing the gospel with certain people he is mindful of some of their cultural sensitivities. This doesn't mean he changes the message of the gospel. However, it does mean that he's careful not to let his personality or temperament create an obstacle that would prevent the person he's witnessing to from coming to faith in Christ. I believe this means that if Paul was naturally outgoing and blunt, when he was speaking to someone who was timid and reserved he changed his presentation method. I also believe that if Paul enjoyed using big words and technical theological terms, when he spoke to a young child he changed his vocabulary. This probably also means that Paul's desire to connect with people would lead him to be willing to change his humor, his hobbies, or even his appearance! I don't believe for one second this makes Paul a "fake" person. I believe he was as genuine as can be, he was genuine in his love for people and his desire to exercise self-control for the benefit of others. Nothing could be more loving or genuine!

How about us? Are we willing to control our language, our habits, or even our humor if it might help us be more effective in our witnessing or mentoring of others? What do you think Paul means in verse 27 when he makes the reference to not wanting to be disqualified? It certainly doesn't have anything to do with his salvation—that isn't what this passage is about. It refers to his ability to connect with others! If he can't connect with others he will be disqualified from being able to *win* them for Christ. Are you ready to exercise self-control in order to strengthen your connections with others?

Let me illustrate how this works by sharing a funny experience I had with my horse this weekend. Rio is a grayish-white Arabian horse that came to live with us last spring. He's a great horse for the kids to ride, completely gentle and tame. He and I have also made a great connection! One of my favorite times of the day has now become chore time. It only takes about 10 minutes, but those 10 minutes are good for my soul! When I step out of the garage Rio looks up from grazing in the pasture and begins heading for the corral. I'll start walking faster to the haystack, and he'll start walking faster too. I'll start running, he'll start running. The whole time our eyes are locked on each other. I believe he enjoys my company, but I think he enjoys eating more! Typically, I will throw a couple flakes of hay in his trough and then jump on his back for a couple minutes while he's eating. I may run my fingers through his mane and get the tangles out, or just pat him a few times on the neck. I don't even bother with a halter, like I said, he's pretty mellow. Sometimes to see if he wants to go for a spin I'll nudge him in the flanks and he'll oblige by taking a lap around the corral and then head straight back to the hay. This past Sunday afternoon I was in the middle of this routine and decided to see if he wanted to take a bigger loop in the pasture. By putting some side pressure on his neck and leaning forward I somehow guided him through the narrow gate into the pasture. It was a beautiful day so I gave him permission to open up his gait. For a few seconds I believe we were a beautiful sight—we were trotting along at a good pace, his head and tail up high, mane blowing in the wind, me in a jockey crouch on his bare back. But then he decided it was time to eat again. He took a hard left in the direction of the hay while I decided to obey the laws of motion and continued forward through the air for a brief moment before rolling several times on the ground. From a seated position on the hard ground I watched him go back to the hay trough and honestly chuckled out loud. I wasn't hurt or upset, just a little surprised and reminded that although I thought we had a great connection his desire to eat was still stronger than his desire to connect with me. Since he is an animal after all, I'll give him a pass this time. However, as children of God we should probably be a little better at controlling our natural desires in order to nurture and grow our relationships with others for the purpose of winning them to Christ. This week, consider your behavior and do your best not to "throw" your friends by acting in ways that might be unnecessarily confusing or offensive to them. After all, your desire to strengthen your relationships ought to be stronger than any selfish, personal desire.

God Bless,
Pastor Rob

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Business Meeting - There will be a special business meeting October 16th at 10:30 between Sunday School and the worship service for voting on the Nominating Committee's presentation of Amanda Platt as Treasurer, membership additions, and messengers to the annual convention.

Trunks of Treats - Will be held on Halloween, October 31st from 5:00—6:30 P.M. Please participate in this exciting church outreach. Dressing up is optional, but do bring candy to pass out to the children.

New Secretary - With very mixed emotions I need to report that we will be saying goodbye to Nicole Borden as secretary. As many of you know, Nicole also works with me in the National Guard. Due to my position as Brigade Chaplain and the fact that I now have influence over several Chaplain Assistants, and also due to a new policy that seems to be more strict defining working relationships between officers and enlisted, Nicole can no longer work with me on the civilian side. Don't worry though, we will still be seeing her smiling face in church when her other job allows! Nicole has been a great help to me and this church over the last year and a half and I'm sad to see her go. Make sure to tell her how much you appreciate her and also tell her Happy Birthday this Saturday (Oct 8th).

I began by saying I have mixed emotions. I have mixed emotions because I will be sad to see Nicole go, but I am also excited because our new secretary will be Amanda Platt. She has filled in some for Nicole and when the personnel committee approached her about taking the position she excitedly said yes! I have full confidence that Amanda will do a great job – make sure to welcome her to this new position.
 – Pastor Rob

This Month's Birthdays:

<i>James Kiracofe</i>	3
<i>Reggie Coleman</i>	4
<i>Nicole Borden</i>	8
<i>Jasper Renville</i>	19
<i>Harley Syvertson</i>	22

(If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office)

*“Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.”
 - 1 Corinthians 9:25*

Lord's Supper

We will have the Lord's Supper during the October 2nd service.

Potluck

There will be potluck October 23rd. The Mixed Adult class will be serving.

Trail Life Meetings

The Trail Life meetings will be held October 10th and 24th at 6:30 P.M.

Rescue Mission

Help us serve at the Rescue Mission on October 25th at 5:45 p.m.

Men's Breakfast

Will be held October 8th at 8:00 A.M. The guest speaker will be Rodney Austin, Pastor of Set Free Church.

Nursery Schedule for the Month

October 2nd Jessica Nesterenko
 October 9th Carla Weir
 October 16th Jamie Kiracofe
 October 23rd Linda Husk
 October 30th Caroline Guinn

October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Lord's Supper	3	4 Youth Group 5:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study 6:30 P.M.	5	6	7	8 Men's Breakfast 8:00 A.M.
9	10 Trail Life 6:30 P.M.	11 Youth Group 5:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study 6:30 P.M.	12	13	14	15
16 Special Business Meeting 10:30 A.M.	17	18 Youth Group 5:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study 6:30 P.M.	19	20	21	22
23 Potluck	24 Trail Life 6:30 P.M.	25 Rescue Mission Dinner 5:45 P.M.	26	27	28	29
30	31 Trunks of Treats 5:00-6:30  Happy Halloween	Youth Group 5:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study 6:30 P.M.				