**Letting Your Leaves Fall** – by Rachel Wojo – *daysprig.com – 9/19/22*

Little yellow leaves from the front yard tree dance across the porch and driveway. As their bright green color fades, it seems they fall almost as quickly as they change. I love summer affectionately and part of me longs to whisper to the tree “Hold on a little longer. Come on; you got this. Think green!” But graciously the tree listens to its Maker rather than my foolish whispers. In order to flourish in the new season, the tree must let go of its decayed leaves. They have performed well for the term, but their time has drawn to a close.

Autumn is a wonderful time to observe nature. As I watch the swirling leaves stirred by the wind, I am reminded that they display an important lesson for all of us to follow suit in a way. Just as the trees don’t stubbornly hold on to their dead leaves, so we shouldn’t hold on to any unnecessary weight in our lives. When we long to enter a new season, the old can easily inhibit the new if we allow it. God’s Word reminds us to:

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. [Ephesians 4:31,32 (NIV)](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+4%3A31-32&version=NIV)  
To get rid of negativity in our lives, we must first identify it. How can we do this?

»By reading God’s Word.

»By allowing His Spirit to show us the necessary heart changes we need.

»By being willing to shun practices such as bitterness and anger.

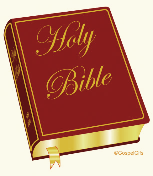
»By asking God to help us let go of the guilt from the past.

Oh, how the Lord longs to empower and strengthen us for the new season ahead! If we’re not sure of the issues detaining a kind and compassionate spirit, He will show us when we ask. And if guilt from the past is preventing this beautiful new season, we have His promises like this one to remember:  
Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:18,19 (NIV)](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+43%3A18-19&version=NIV)  
What are you holding on to that is preventing a freshness to the season ahead? Could it be that the decayed leaves are piling up and your heart needs to discard them for good? If so, why not reach out to the Lord in prayer? He longs to hear from you. Ask Him to shine light on any thoughts, circumstances, habits or other “decayed leaves” you might be clinging to. As you watch the leaves fall this season, our prayer is that you are reminded to let go of anything that would hinder a fresh relationship with God.

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| ***PRAYER LIST*** | | | | |
| Sherri Pennison | Pete & Dot Mauney | | Kat Kennedy | |
| John & Linda Eichmann | Dennis & Linda Mauney | | Kari Smith | |
| Helen LaCombe | Paula & Scott DeWeese | | Norene Clark | |
| Karen Pennison | Caleb Hare | | People of Ukraine | |
| Rowdy Yates & family | Keith Twiggs | | Bill Millican | |
| Rená Heuszel | Carol Crosby | | Rosemary Price | |
| Hormberg Family | Mary Reese | | John Posch | |
| Merle Cross | Casey Bodoin | | Candi Schulz | |
| Paul Salsgiver | John, Ollie & Susie Hadfield | | Lisa Jenkins | |
|  |  | |  | |
| ***MISSIONARIES & CHURCHES*** | | | |
| Gary Horton, USA schools | | PTs Thieme, Dean, Baumgartner | |
| Rick Hughes, USA schools | | PTs Griffin, Dunn, Bolender & Beverage | |
| Jim Myers, Ukraine | | PTs Naboth, Elijah, Tayo & Phillipe | |
| Dan & Pat Hill: Africa | | Pat & MaryAnn Cate: Muslims | |
| Jacobs’ Family, WycliffTrans. | | Corpus Christi Church | |
| Ralph LaRosa, Paul Reznicek: Philippines, GSP Bible Study, Rowdy Yates, | | | |
| Florida Corrections Institute (needs Bible classroom) | | | |
| Moses Onwubiko: Cuba, Dubai, India, Africa, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mexico … over 80 countries.  See **ANNOUNCEMENTS** on our website for updates:  [www.countrybiblechurch.us](http://www.countrybiblechurch.us)  **Bible Question: What does the bible say about fear?**  Deuteronomy 31:6; Jeremiah 29:11; Isaiah 41:10; John 14:27; Proverbs 3:5-6; Joshua 1:9; 1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:6-7; Isaiah 41:13; Psalm 55:22;  John 16:33; Romans 8:15; Hebrews 13:5-6; Psalm 56:3-4; Psalm 118:6;  Psalm 27:1  **→ →*A Look Ahead* → →**  ***October 28 - Friday Family Fun Night 6:30PM***  ***November 6, Communion & Fellowship Dinner***  **Psalm**  **118:24** | | | |

# SUNDAY

# October 09, 2022



# PRELUDE

# HYMN # 78 My Hope is in the Lord

# HYMN red floppy bk It Won’t be Long

# OFFERTORY

# SUNDAY MESSAGE Exodus - Chapter 2

**BENEDICTION**



*He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.*

*He gives the snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes. He casts forth His ice as fragments; Who can stand before His cold? He sends forth His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow and the waters to flow.*

*Psalm 147:4, 16-18*

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| **COUNTRY BIBLE CHURCH** | | | |
| **Pastor** | *Mike Smith* | **Media Director** | *Vidal Flores* |
| **Head Deacon** | *Vidal Flores* | **Pianist** | *Heather Bishop* |
| **Song Leaders** | *John Hare* | **Jr. Teachers** | *Fabian, Imogene* |
| *& Matthew Thomas* | | *Susan & Terry* | |