

Wash, Rinse, Repeat

I'm sure you all have seen and/or heard the phrase wash, rinse, repeat, or some of variance of it. You most likely know it is a reference to the instructions on a bottle of shampoo. It is sometimes a way of saying "repeat the cycle." If it is used literally, you are in an endless cycle of repeating the same steps. This statement is a good way to describe a cycle humanity has been in since the beginning. It's something we have talked about a little the past few weeks. The patterns that we see when we go back and look at the whole of God's story are patterns of repetition.

This week we are in the book of Judges. It's another good chunk of text that tells us so much that we could discuss deeper than just a page or two in one day. There are many words or phrases we could use to describe this particular book. Violent, bloody, x-rated are just a few that might come to mind. Wash, rinse, and repeat comes definitely to my mind. The entire book could really be summed up, rather easily, as repetitive. A clear pattern and cycle is revealed throughout the writings. The pattern of sin, bondage, and repentance was repeated over and over.

The only problem with being able to see this so clearly in this book comes when we don't realize that this pattern is still continuing today. The constant cycle of our world and even our Christian life is that mankind is always falling away and needing to be brought back into a good relationship with God. The pattern of behavior Israel demonstrates here is something we should all relate to in a variety of ways.

As believers we know what it is to repent, be restored, and repeat sinful behaviors, and continually regret our decisions. We all can relate to learning the truths of God's Word by instruction or by correction. It is a lot easier to learn by instruction than it is to learn by correction. When we are young we hear things like, "Don't touch this. It's hot." We are faced with a choice. Suddenly, we are made more keenly aware of something we have been told not to touch. The inner conflict is inevitable and the struggle is real. We either avoid touching it because we were told not to or we touch it and don't want to touch it again because it hurts. When it comes to our lives and the pattern of falling short of how we are supposed to live, we have Jesus who suffered and died taking upon himself all of God's wrath against our sin. The gift we receive in the Spirit is there to prompt us, remind us and encourage us to guard our hearts and protect our steps so we don't stay stuck in an endless cycle.

I encourage you this week to be victorious. God gives victory to those who love, trust, and obey Him (Judges 4-5). Live with a sense of peace, peace is the mere fruit of obedience to God's word. (Judges 5:31). When God calls us to do His will, He gives us the promise of His presence, His victory, and His peace.

Prayers

- **Diane Acock**—health
Lauren Babb's step-mother
- **Pauline Alvarez**—health
- **Norma Anderson**—health
Cheryl Pitts' friend
- **Dawn Clarke**
- **Paul Faires**—health
Joyce's son
- **Steven Faires**
- **Justin Gammons**
- **Nelle Hahn**—health
- **Family & friends of Bradley Reese Haile**
The Linds' friend
- **Brandon Jiron**—health
Paige Mills' cousin
- **The Johnson family**
Serena Gammons' friends
- **Curtis Jones, Sr.**—Alzheimer's
- **Curtis Jones, III**—Army
- **Mandy Kasper**—health
Winegearts' daughter
- **Jeanette Laging**—health
- **The Latham family**
- **Austin & Molly Lind**—health
Henry & Pam's son and daughter-in-law
- **Martha McCarter**—health
Lauren Babb's grandmother
- **Ted & Christalina Muniz**—marriage
- **Oretha Pennock**—health
Debbie Fougerat's mother
- **Don Pitts**—health
- **Sharon Saint**—health
Zach Babb's mother
- **Calvin Salois**—health
Winegearts' son-in-law
- **Dana Spradlin**—health
- **Casey, Barbie & Elianna Timms**—Elianna's health
- **Nancy Tuttle**—health
Peggy Walls' sister
- **Susan Williamson**—health
Lauren Babb's mother

Calvin Salois, the Winegearts' son-in-law, is having heart problems.

Mandy Kasper, the Winegearts' daughter, is having vocal chord problems.

Fred Frazier, Susan Barnick's brother-in-law, has cancer and undergoing chemotherapy.

Announcements

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Please join us immediately following morning service for our monthly fellowship meal. Everyone is invited!

DONATIONS FOR THE HEIGHTS

Donations are needed for The Heights store and auction. A drop-off box is located in the foyer. Also in the foyer is a list of suggested donations.

DIRECTORY PICTURES

Jacy Chrismon is taking family pictures for a new directory. Information forms are available in the foyer.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: LEGACY RANCH

Legacy Ranch is hosting its annual Christmas Party on **December 14**. First time volunteers must complete a volunteer packet ahead of time. For more information, please contact Charlotte Ludwig at (830) 875-6062.

SAVE THE DATE

Nov. 10—Community Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 13—ISF Thanksgiving Meal Prep
Nov. 15—ISF Thanksgiving Meal
Nov. 17—Rocky Creek Maze

Weekly Events

SUNDAY EVENING

There is a small group that meets each Sunday evening from **6-7 p.m.** The Lord's Supper is available.

TUESDAY MORNING

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

Ladies Class meets **Tuesday at noon** in the annex.

Youth Sports & Activities



MONDAY, OCT. 28

CROSS COUNTRY

GONZALES HS/SHINER HS @ REGIONAL MEET
(TEXAS A&M CORPUS CHRISTI)

JACY CHRISMON—SHINER HS CROSS COUNTRY
COACH KEVIN JOHNSON—GONZALES HS CROSS COUNTRY



Let your hope make you glad.

Be patient in time of trouble

And never stop praying.

Romans 12:12

By the Numbers

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Bible Study—34
Wednesday—24

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION

	LAST WEEK	YTD
Offering	\$1,711	\$91,618
Budget	\$2,142	\$89,907
Difference	(-\$431)	\$1,711

IF YOU HAVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS OR PRAYER REQUESTS YOU WISH TO HAVE INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN, PLEASE CONTACT: VICTORIA JOHNSON AT 325-518-9205 OR VICTORIA@GONZALESCHURCHOFCHRIST.ORG