

# PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

1997 Pleasant Ridge Road  
State Road, N.C. 28676

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## vlog Topics

So Lindsey and I have been undergoing some renovations in our lives. I believe we are all either changing in this life journey or we are dying even while we live. Lindsey and I are always looking to declutter our house, start an exercise routine or eat healthier. During this season of life, we have been watching some decluttering vlogs. (If you do not know what a vlog is, it is a home video, someone has made of themselves doing something that anyone can do, but most of us are too lazy to do it so we watch someone else doing it, wishing we could be as ambitious as they are.) The vlog we were watching the other night was by a wife and mother, around our age, trying to go from “messy to minimalist.” Now, as we watch these vlogs, I like to lay on the couch and make fun of them. Many of them are people trying to teach me how to efficiently live life in a “small” house, while their house is more than 3000 square feet. Or they are trying to teach me to live on a modest budget when they are making six figures. So, I lay there on the couch and poke fun at them. But this one girl who is trying to take her family from messy to minimalist has an interesting spin on things. She has a different definition to the word minimalist. (Yes I have made fun of her and her crazy word choice but I think there is a truth here too) Her definition of minimalist is, everything that you have in your house is used. Basically, if you have 3 juicers, then you need to get rid of two of them. (Hence why I make fun of her because why would you even need one juicer? No one uses them past the second week of January.) Anyway, the concept of not allowing anything into your home that does not actively serve a purpose is probably a pretty good rule of thumb to have. As Lindsey and I have been going through our house and storage, we have found so much stuff that serves no purpose. Constantly we ask the question, why do we have this? It truly is crazy the stuff you accumulate after 10 years of marriage and 3 kids.

But while I can poke fun of people who make vlogs and I even poke fun at Lindsey and myself for being the sad suckers who watch a video of someone cleaning their closet, I believe God is teaching me a lesson. What am I allowing into my spiritual life that serve no purpose? My entertainment, my thoughts, my words, etc. so much of it does not draw me closer to God. Why would I simply sit there and allow garbage to collect all around me? When I stop and think about it, there is no good reason other than I have been duped by Satan and thereby blinded to the junk all around me. I’m not so sure about this vlogger’s use of the word ‘minimalist’ but I think she has a good point for our spiritual walk. If what we have in our mind, our heart, our soul or our life, isn’t serving the purpose of drawing us closer to God and bringing Him glory, then truly we need to purge it from our lives. Our homes should be sanctuaries of family worship not a stronghold of hidden sins.

This week, don’t just watch a sermon that tells how we should clean out our lives, get up and do it yourselves. God is worth more than just a vlog topic. I’m praying for you!

jason



## God's Blessings Aug. 16, 2020

<b>Budget Needs:</b>	\$6,796.32
<b>Budget Receipt:</b>	\$9,168.51
<b>In Memory of David Caudill:</b>	\$50.00

## God's Blessings Aug. 23, 2020

<b>Budget Needs:</b>	\$6,796.32
<b>Budget Receipt:</b>	\$3,494.40

## God's Blessings Aug. 30, 2020

<b>Budget Needs:</b>	\$6,796.32
<b>Budget Receipt:</b>	\$5,268.30

***DID YOU KNOW THE NEWSLETTER IS NOW ON THE MYPRBC.NET SITE? SAVE PRBC POSTAGE AND PAPER AND TAKE A LOOK ONLINE. PLEASE LET DANA KNOW TO TAKE YOU OFF THE MAILING LIST.***

**Pure Water, Pure Love:** has a three-fold mission: to supply missionaries with water filters, to provide the people they serve with wells that offer clean water and to supply missions teams with water filters for use on short-term missions trips. The High Spirits is sponsoring PWPL again this year and we plan to have the offering open the entire month of September. Members can mark their tithing envelopes or any envelope with Pure Water Pure Love or PWPL on the front.

***Tri-C Donations for Sept.: CANNED FRUIT***

**Men's Fishing Trip:** Will be Oct. 18 leaving at 1PM returning Oct. 21 at Atlantic Beach. Cost is \$155.

**Member Requests:** We're sorry but the church office can't act on unsigned requests. Please leave your name and number along with the request.

## OPT-IN FOR TITHING

## ENVELOPES 2021

**To reduce waste, please let me know if you want to use PRBC Tithing Envelopes in 2021.**

**There is a sign up sheet in the vestibule or call the office or email [Deaston@myprbc.net](mailto:Deaston@myprbc.net).**

**THE DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS**

**OCTOBER 5, 2020. THANK YOU!**

## Service Times

### Sunday

- 9:45 am - Family Sunday School (youth building)
- 10:00 am - Sunday School
- 11:00 am - Worship Service

### Wednesday

- 7:00 pm - Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 pm - Youth Bible Study - **Closed**
- 7:00 pm - PRKidz - **Closed**

**Still want to listen from the safety of your car?**

**Join us at 106.3FM in our parking lot.**

**Question: "Does God want us to be happy?"**

**Answer:** Happiness is an emotion arising from an inner conviction that all is right with our world. It is a sense of well-being, joy, or contentment. Everyone wants to be happy, but happiness, as our ultimate goal, can be elusive. People may make decisions based on what they think will make them happy, then experience despair when happiness never comes. People who assume that God wants them to be happy may justify activities clearly prohibited in the Bible by arguing that such choices are necessary for happiness. But is our personal happiness God's ultimate goal for us? Does He even want us to be happy?

We were created by God in His image, and it is His design that creates our innate desire to be happy. We know happiness is possible because God is happy, and we are like Him. When God created the first man and woman, He placed them in a garden and filled it with everything they needed to be happy ([Genesis 1:29–30](#); [2:8–9](#)). But they fell for the lie that happiness is contingent upon having everything they wanted ([Genesis 3:1–6](#)). Their failure to acknowledge God as their Source of happiness led to sin and banishment from the Garden of Eden ([Genesis 3:23–24](#)). From that day on, humanity has struggled to regain the sense of happiness that Adam and Eve experienced in the presence of God.

God wants us to be happy but not at any cost. His goals for us are higher, broader, and more lasting than fleeting happiness ([Isaiah 55:9](#)). In fact, the pursuit of happiness is not a theme of the New Testament. Instead, we find repeated commands to deny self ([Mark 8:34](#)), take up a cross ([Luke 9:23](#)), and consider oneself dead to sin ([Romans 6:6–7](#)). These instructions may appear contradictory to the idea that God wants us to be happy. How can we be happy when we must choose the opposite of what we desire?

Spiritual laws are as real as physical laws, and there is a spiritual law governing happiness. God's path to happiness goes a different direction from the path we would naturally choose. Sinful actions can usually be traced to one foundational lie: that we will be happier if we do this thing. But God says, "How happy is the one who does not walk in the advice of the wicked or stand in the pathway with sinners or sit in the company of mockers!" ([Psalm 1:1, CSB](#)). God delights in confounding the wise by using foolish things to accomplish His purposes, weak things to shame the strong, and lowly and despised things to magnify His glory ([1 Corinthians 1:27–28](#)). The psalmist says that we are happiest when we are delighting in God's promises and commandments ([Psalm 112:1](#)).

The truth is there is a "[God-shaped vacuum](#)" in the heart of every person, and that void can only be filled by God through Christ, not by any created thing. Happiness is a gift from God that can be fully known only in proper relationship with Him.

God does want us to be happy, and He has provided all we need for life and godliness through Christ Jesus ([2 Peter 1:2](#)). He has designed the human heart to experience its greatest ecstasy in worship, its deepest satisfaction in serving, and its greatest love through the power of the Holy Spirit. When we are living in fellowship with Him, we can expect to be happy regardless of our temporary circumstances ([Philippians 4:11–13](#)). Our goal is the prize awaiting us in eternity, so we can endure earthly difficulties while remaining full of hope ([2 Corinthians 4:17](#)). When our joy and hope are based on that which cannot be taken away, we have found true happiness, and God is pleased.