

"Owd you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32

## **Welcome Visitors** .....

We are blessed by your attendance and worshipping with us.

### **Prayer Request** ......

Jason Rowell Teddy Cauthen Pete Bridges Jeremy and Candyce Isabell Alan and Kim Wilkerson Kim Wilkerson Kenny Laminack Misty Medina Linda Rider Pat Blumer Diane Aldridge

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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Penny Hicks	8	
Blair Benefield	16	
Carlos Payne	30	
Tony/Shelia Hotalen	20	

# The Snowflake Pattern

They tell us that every snowflake is different.

How exactly one might go about proving this is hard to say, since proving such a negative is humanly impossible, but nevertheless, we must admit that nobody has ever found two snowflakes that are identical and that within the myriad number of snowflakes contained in this universe, there is a wondrous amount of diversification.



Are you following the pattern?

This is truly remarkable when you consider that every snowflake follows the exact same rules of creation and each snowflake is comprised of the exact same basic ingredients in the same proportion. Snow, being made of water, is

I AM
the LORD
your God...
You shall have
NO
other gods
before Me.



#### God's Plan of Salvation

- Hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17; Acts 16:32)
- 2. Believe what is taught (Mark 16:16; Heb 11:6)
- 3. Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- 4. Confession (Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:9-10)
- 5. Baptism (1Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Rom. 6:3-4)
- 6. After the above five steps, faithful

This Week Leading Worship:		Next Week Leading Worship:	
Sunday Morning:		Sunday Morning:	
Announcements	Cory Payne	Announcements	Kelly Cauthen
Scripture	Korbin Cauthen	Scripture	Brennan Mallory
Song Leader	Caden Mallory	Song Leader	Cory Payne
Opening Prayer	Joe Mallory	Opening Prayer	Harel Otwell
Table	Steve Cole	Table	Tony Hotalen
	Carlos Payne		Kenny Laminack
Assisting	Camp Mallory	Assisting	Carlos Payne
	Troy Stapler		Caden Mallory
Closing Prayer	Cory Payne	Closing Prayer	Cody Payne
Sunday Evening:		Sunday Evening:	
Announcements	Joe Mallory	Announcements	Harel Otwell
Scripture	Caden Mallory	Scripture	Camp Mallory
Song Leader	Harel Otwell	Song Leader	Brennan Mallory
Opening Prayer/Table	Kelly Cauthen	Opening Prayer/Table	e Tony Hotalen
Closing Prayer	Tony Hotalen	Closing Prayer	Cory Payne

comprised of two hydrogen atoms for every oxygen atom, and these atoms bond together in the same way in every water molecule. Likewise, when water freezes, no matter where it is in the world, it operates under the same physical laws as every other water molecule that freezes. Sometimes this produces blocks of ice; sometimes it produces snowflakes; but water freezes according to the preset laws laid down by the Divine Creator, everywhere and every time. And despite this uniformity of content and behavior, every snowflake ends up being beautiful and unique.

People often don't like the idea that God has a pattern, or a law, for them to follow. These individuals chaff at the idea of "commands and precepts." Culturally, there is a great deal of pushback against the idea of conformity. "Rules are made to be broken," is adopted as a mantra. The individual and individualism reign supreme. Agreeing to disagree is regarded as a high philosophical achievement and equivocation between disparate ideas and behaviors is commonplace. Conformity is perceived to be boring and stodgy. Even in theological circles, there is in some quarters a disdain for the idea of a "pattern theology." "It's not about rules," they will say, "it's about grace." The honest student of God's word, however, can hardly fail to notice the emphasis placed within the Scriptures on such concepts as obedience to commands, conformity of doctrine, and the necessity of following God's pattern for life, for worship, and for salvation.

It was God who gave Noah a detailed blueprint of how to build an ark (<u>Genesis 6:14-16</u>). It was God who repeatedly told Moses to build everything in the tabernacle according to a pattern (eg. <u>Exodus 25:9</u>, <u>40</u>, <u>26:30</u>). It was God who instructed His people not to deviate from His precepts, either to the right or to the left (<u>Deuteronomy 5:32</u>; cf. <u>Proverbs 30:5-6</u>).

#### Reminders:

Check bulletin board

www.tallapoosacoc.com

Sunday Bible study: 10AM Sunday Worship: 11AM Sunday Afternoon: 1:30PM Wednesday Bible study: 7PM

Joe Mallory, Minister 770-597-5009 Cory Payne, Bulletin 770-328-1745

Nor is this a thing unique to the Old Testament. In the New Testament, Jesus told His disciples to teach men all the things He had commanded of them (Matthew 28:20). The apostle Paul reminded Timothy of the pattern of the doctrine of Christ, saying, "Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 1:13; ESV)."

Concerning conformity, the church at Corinth was divinely cautioned that they needed to be of the same mind, all speaking the same things (1 Corinthians 1:10). There was not one Gospel given for one man, and another to a different man, but rather, as we read, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all (Ephesians 4:4-6a; NKJV)."

Each Christian is called to the same salvation, through the same plan, and is expected to produce the same sort of fruit (cf. <u>Galatians 5:22-23</u>). We are all, in Christ, put together with the same sort of ingredients, and we all need to follow the same pattern and laws.

Those who don't know better assume that such a situation must be pretty boring: plain and uninteresting, with every Christian exactly like every other Christian. But such a conclusion is not just wrong, but wildly wrong. The same God that can use two ingredients and a handful of physical laws to produce a nigh-infinite variety of snowflakes can do so much more with man, the pinnacle of His creation. There is great beauty to be found in the righteousness of Christ, and wondrous variety. No two Christians are ever going to be exactly alike, and yet we are each, if we will let Him work in us, molded and fashioned in the perfect image of Christ.

Jonathan McAnulty