

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith”

Hebrews 12:2a

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For those who have never worn glasses or contact lenses, it may be difficult to completely appreciate their benefit. When I was told I needed glasses back in fourth grade, I was devastated. What I failed to realize was that glasses would vastly improve my vision. It wasn't until I put them on that I truly understood how bad my vision had been. Everything instantly became clearer and crisper. I could make out the jagged edges on the leaves of trees and even colors seemed more vivid. It was hard to believe I hadn't noticed what I was missing.

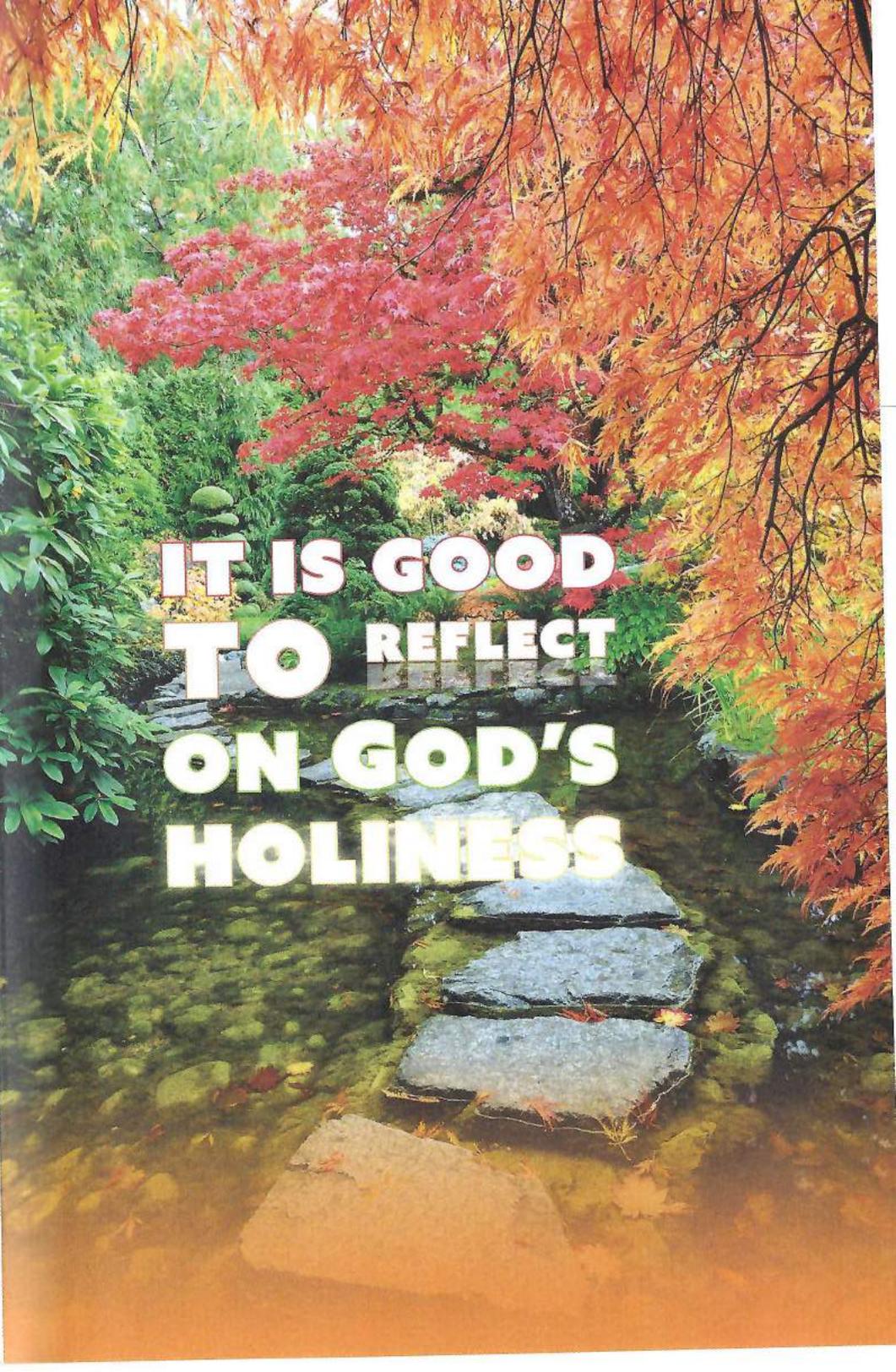
There is a parallel here to our faith. Many of us walk through our daily lives in a blur and don't even realize it. We are so used to seeing things from our current perspective that we miss out on the perfect vision God can provide. When we place our faith in Christ, it's like putting on eye-glasses for the first time. Our vision becomes clearer, transcending all areas of our lives.

But we cannot simply put on our first pair of glasses and be done with it. Over the past 40-some years, I've had to get my eyes re-examined. That's because over time, my eyes grow lazy and my vision slowly deteriorates. Without updated prescriptions and new corrective lenses, I slip back into settling for vision that is less than perfect. And so it is with our faith walk.

If we want to continue to make a difference and see things from God's perspective, we must continually re-examine our “vision.” These are things that challenge us in our walk, such as truly loving our neighbors, getting involved in a local church, becoming part of a small group, reading God's Word, going on a mission trip—any number of things that push us to see the heart and perspective of God with more clarity.

Steve Hallblade

Japanese garden, British Columbia, Canada ©2009 foto friends, courtesy Shutterstock · Printed in USA



**IT IS GOOD
TO REFLECT
ON GOD'S
HOLINESS**



Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

October 17, 2021

Call to Worship

Invocation

Pastor Don Mauldin

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 225 Come Christians Join to Sing

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Worship in Song

Hymn #17 Our Great Savior, #18 Let's Just Praise the Lord

Offertory Prayer

Joe Morgan

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sermon: "What Do You See?"

Mauldin

Scripture: II Kings 6:15-20

Pastor Don

Hymn of Benediction

Don't forget to Shine, Shine, Shine!

Covenant News

Scripture for Today is II Kings 6:15-20

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. ¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. ¹⁸ As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, "Strike this army with blindness." So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked. ¹⁹ Elisha told them, "This is not the road and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will lead you to the man you are looking for." And he led them to Samaria. ²⁰ After they entered the city, Elisha said, "LORD, open the eyes of these men so they can see." Then the LORD opened their eyes and they looked, and there they were, inside Samaria.

There are 5 Sundays in October which means we will be restocking Pine Grove with paper products, laundry detergent, etc.

Our ministry for October is SWAG. The Southwest Advocacy Group is a grassroots non-profit organization. In short, our goal is to improve the well-being of residents in SW Gainesville. Specifically, we provide supports and resources for a self-reliant, resilient, and successful life.