

# THE BETHEL CONNECTION

August 11, 2021

Lead Pastor: Don Whipple; [whip1030@gmail.com](mailto:whip1030@gmail.com); 765.404.6070  
Associate Pastor: Matthew Dodd; [mattcdodd@gmail.com](mailto:mattcdodd@gmail.com) ; 419.572.6842  
Director of Kid's Ministries: Kelly Hines; [bethelbiblekids@gmail.com](mailto:bethelbiblekids@gmail.com); 765.210.1206  
Ministry Assistant: Melody Perez; [bbcwinamac@gmail.com](mailto:bbcwinamac@gmail.com); 574.225.0288  
Bethel Bible Church 6966 West SR 14 Winamac, IN 46996

We are making some changes to our services/events for this coming Sunday, August 15, due to the funeral for our beloved Mike Leman. We will be having worship service on Sunday at 9:15 AM, but no Sunday School Hour. We will have our promotion Sunday next week. This will allow time for the church to be prepared for the afternoon services for Mike. In addition, we will be postponing our church picnic until the following Sunday, August 22.

Funeral services for Mike Leman are as follows: Visitation will be from 12 Noon – 8 PM EDT Saturday, August 14, 2021 at Frain Mortuary Quarry-Ulbricht Chapel in Francesville, IN. Funeral Services will be held at 2 PM Sunday, August 15, 2021 at Bethel Bible Church. **The family does request that all guest to the funeral home and church observe social distancing and wear facemasks.**

Pray for the entire Leman family with the loss of Mike. Pray for Tina especially, that she would rely on God to give her the strength & endurance needed during this time. Pray that Tina would continue gaining strength daily.

Please continue to pray for all those who have lost loved ones in recent months: Bob & Carrie Fritz, Dorothy Hagen, Jan Good, Cindy VanWeinen. Pray for that perfect peace that comes from God to protect their hearts & minds.

Thank you for continuing to pray for Alyssa Kreitl. Her surgery went well; the family is very pleased with the doctor who did the surgery. Pray for her healing in the coming days. She is expected to be in Pittsburg for another week.

Baby Magnolia continues to do well and gain weight and strength. Pray for her oxygen levels to keep increasing. Thank you for the continued prayers.

Thanks for continuing to pray for Don & Char. They are doing better. Pray daily for strength to continue to return to their bodies.

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And God spoke all these words, saying: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me." – Exodus 20:1-2

## Happening this week:

Sunday, August 15: Worship service @ 9:15 am

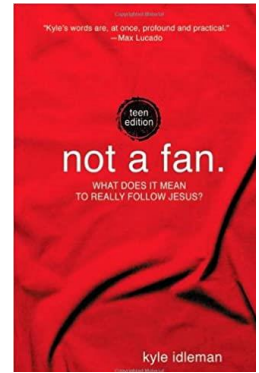
Saturday, August 21—Elders Meeting @ 7:00 am

Sunday, August 22: Promotion Sunday for Sunday School, Church picnic at the Hines' home after church



This month's Book Look brought to you by Vicki Peter

## Not a Fan: Becoming a Completely Committed Follower of Jesus by Kyle Idleman



STOP! This is not a light, easy to skim through book. It could turn your world upside down. Kyle Idleman cuts hard and quick at the idea of merely accepting Jesus' invitation for eternal life without actually making an effort to follow Him. His premise that many who call themselves Christians (followers of Christ) are just fans not true followers is based on the passage in Matthew 7 in which Jesus says

**many** will one day hear "Depart from me, I never knew you." The reader is challenged on what a fan of Jesus looks like and how this is different from a follower. He says, a fan "wants to be close enough to Jesus to have eternal life, but not so close that it requires personal sacrifice. "A follower makes a decision every day to deny himself and choose Jesus...even if it costs everything." The last two sections of the book invite and challenge the reader to understand and commit to living Luke 9:23, *"If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."*

Jesus calls anyone to follow Him and is clear on exactly what we are agreeing to when we decide to follow.

Reading Not a Fan will really challenge you to evaluate your standing before God. So many think they are Christ-followers but may not have realized "what they signed up for", and as a result are not truly followers. I love how so much of the book was NOT his opinion but Kyle's dissecting Jesus' invitation to follow Him. The author helps us see where we stand in relation to Jesus' invitation and what we need to do to be genuine followers. By the end of the book, you will be challenged to "die daily". The book is not a feel-good kind of read. But a tough, hard look at ourselves and what Jesus called us to.

Recommend? ABSOLUTELY! But it will not be comfortable. I believe every believer needs to read this for him or herself and every parent, grandparent, teacher should read this to help our young people understand to what Jesus calls us.

FYI: Kye Idleman has updated the original book with an additional chapter. I suggest getting the updated and expanded version. The first time I "read" the book it was an audiobook. That actually was great because it was on my mind throughout the day. Then I went back and read the hard copy. Glad I did it that way.



If you would like to help serve/clean up meals for our Simple Suppers, beginning September 8, please contact Melody. We would love to have a rotation of folks/families helping so that those who do serve still have time to attend a class each week.

**Giving at Bethel:** We believe that God provides the resources for gospel ministry through the generous and sacrificial giving of his people. You'll notice that we don't pass an offering plate or set aside a specific time to collect an offering during our worship service. You are encouraged to give anytime by using a giving option that fits best for you. You may use the giving box located on the back wall of the auditorium for gifts of cash or check. You may also give through our website ([www.bethelbiblechurch.org](http://www.bethelbiblechurch.org)), your online banking bill pay or send your offering to the church office in the mail. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel here at Bethel.

