

## Study Guide

**Monday, October 26 - Read John 16:7** Should I stay or should I go? Have you ever heard that song? It's a song by a band named *The Clash* that came out in the '80s. The song is all about a guy trying to figure out which option would be better: should he stay where he's at, or should he go? In John 16:7, we read a situation that sounds very similar. Jesus had just told His disciples that it would be best if He went away, because then the Holy Spirit would come to them. But the disciples obviously didn't want Jesus to leave. Try putting yourself in their shoes for a moment. Imagine leaving everything behind for Jesus, following Him for three years, and believing He was the Son of God. If He told you that it was better for you if He left, how would you feel? Confused. Concerned. Lost. Jesus knew that His disciples would feel those things. But He still told them that it would be better for Him to leave. Why? Because then the Holy Spirit would come to them. The disciples would go from having God the Son walking *BESIDE* them to having God the Spirit *INSIDE* of them. And Jesus promised you the same thing. As a Christian, you have God living inside of you. Today, how can you thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit?

**Tuesday, October 27 - Read John 16:8-11** When's the last time you tried to tell someone about Jesus, to maybe convince them of who He is and what He means to you? Maybe you never have because you feel like you need to have all of the answers, you don't want things to get uncomfortable, or you don't really know how to explain things. If you have felt that before, it's okay. Sometimes, we put too much pressure on ourselves when it comes to convincing people about Jesus. Jesus knew that we might feel overwhelmed in these situations, and so He gave all of us the solution. In John 16:8-11, Jesus explained to His disciples that the role of the Holy Spirit would be to convict people concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. Here's what this means for you today: the Holy Spirit is the only one who can change someone's heart and mind. It's not on you to do that. Your role is to share the gospel with people, to live as Jesus lived, to love as He loved, and to depend on the power of the Holy Spirit to do the rest. That should bring you so much peace—knowing you don't have to have all the answers to tell people about Jesus. What has been keeping you from sharing the gospel, and how can you trust that the Holy Spirit will change hearts and minds?

**Wednesday, October 28 - John 16:12-13** Have you ever had a friend share something with you that just made you extremely sad or angry? Maybe they told you that they were moving away, or that they had a really bad disease that didn't have a cure. When you get news like that, anything they say right after is really hard to hear. You don't want to hear about where they're moving to. You can't bear the thought of them dying. When you hear something you don't want to, your heart can feel overwhelmed and it can become hardened. This is exactly where the disciples found themselves. In John 16:12, Jesus knew that the disciples were hurting and confused because of what He had just shared with them. He knew that they would not be ready to hear more truth about what was to come. Therefore, in the very next verse, Jesus promised them that the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit, would reveal to them the truth that they were not quite yet ready to hear. Today, the Holy Spirit brings the truth about Jesus to all of our hearts. No matter how hard a heart may be, the Spirit is powerful enough to change it. Jesus' love, power, truth, grace, and mercy know no obstacles. Has your heart been hardened because of something that has happened in your life? Pray and believe that the Holy Spirit can and will bring the power of the gospel to your heart and change your life forever. Do you believe that the Holy Spirit can change someone's life?

**Thursday, October 29 - John 16:13-15** Have you ever taken a tour? Maybe you took a tour of an old monument, of a new stadium, of your school, or your parents' work. One of the great things about tours is that they come with a tour guide. The tour guide's job is to make sure you know and understand everything about what you are seeing. They have trained for this, are knowledgeable about what they're showing you, and can be trusted to answer any questions you may have. In John 16:13-15, Jesus explained to His disciples how the Holy Spirit would function. He explained that everything that the Holy Spirit would share and reveal to the disciples would be not from His own authority, but from the Father. The Spirit would bring glory to Jesus and to the Father by revealing and validating everything Jesus had ever said and done. The only reason that the Holy Spirit is able to do all of this is because He is God, which means that His information is directly from the source. He is knowledgeable and able to speak truth into your life. The Holy Spirit is the tour guide of your spiritual life. So instead of trying to live life by yourself, or trying to figure out how to be a Christian on your own, what if you relied on the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life? In what area of your life can you ask the Holy Spirit to lead you?

**Friday, October 30 - Read John 17** Notice this is the real "Lord's Prayer." The last thing on Jesus' mind and heart before he was arrested was 1) His impending sacrifice 2) His disciple and 3) Us (believers). And notice his last words of his prayer: "...that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." We know that when we pray anything in the will of God it will be answered. Since we know that Jesus' prayer WAS in the will of God, this prayer has been answered. We have to be open - that is the part we play in God answering this prayer. Jesus has prayed for you (and still intercedes for you). Allow God to work in and through you.

*Adapted from: [www.southeastchristian.org](http://www.southeastchristian.org)*

# THE COVENANT HAPPENINGS

## WORSHIP AT COVENANT

*Sundays*

**8:15** | **Traditional Service**  
AM | Sanctuary

**9:45** | **Contemporary Service**  
AM | Sanctuary

**11:00** | **Contemporary Service**  
AM | Christian Life Center Gym

*Wednesdays*

**6:00** | **1st Wednesday**  
PM | Sanctuary

**Bible Study**  
Sanctuary

## Online Campus

No matter where you are on Sundays, you can join us for worship on our Online Campus. Visit our online campus at [covenantdothan.org/locations/online](http://covenantdothan.org/locations/online) for more information.

Livestream: [covenantdothan.online.church](http://covenantdothan.online.church)  
Facebook Live: [facebook.com/covumcdothan](https://facebook.com/covumcdothan)  
YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

10.25.20

*CovKids*

**Sundays at 8:15, 9:45 & 11:00 am**

Nursery & Toddlers - Nursery Hall  
2 year olds - Preschool - The Treehouse  
K - 2nd Grade - Children's Worship Center  
3rd - 5th Grade - Fellowship Hall

**Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**

Nursery & Toddlers - Nursery Hall  
2 year olds - Preschool - The Treehouse  
K - 5th Grade - Children's Worship Center

*CovStudents*

**Sundays at 5 pm**

6th-12th Grade - CLC Gym

**Wednesdays**

6th-8th Grade - 5:30-6:15 pm  
9th-12th Grade - 7:00-7:45 pm

## Welcome!

We are excited to welcome you back on campus for all worship services! Our online campus will continue as usual. Activities are available for children and students. Visit us online for worship:

Livestream: [covenantdothan.online.church](http://covenantdothan.online.church)

Facebook Live: [facebook.com/covumcdothan](https://facebook.com/covumcdothan)

YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

## November Sermon Series

Fear saturates our society. Everywhere we turn we're faced with a new security threat, informed about a new health risk, or warned about some kind of impending doom. We invite you to join us for our new series "**No Fear November**" as we unpack the presence of fear in our lives and learn to focus our fear so we can discover the kind of peace God wants for us.

## A Note From the Finance Office

We are called to be cheerful givers. Even in times of uncertainty, tithing is meant to be a joyful expression of thanks to God, not an obligation. It comes from a heart of worship that recognizes everything we have and give already belongs to the Lord. God wants us to give because it shows that we recognize He is truly the Lord of our lives.

*"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

We offer many easy options to give and we would love to share more about them with you. Contact Annette Lovrich at [annette@covenantdothan.org](mailto:annette@covenantdothan.org) or 334.944.6208 for more information on how to give with online, text to give and automatic draft options. Thank you for your continued support and generosity through this fall season.

## CONTACT US

3610 West Main Street  
Dothan, AL 36305  
334.793.4440  
[covenantdothan.org](http://covenantdothan.org)

THE COVENANT APP  
Search & download  
"Covenant UMC Dothan" on  
any phone or tablet device.





## Baptism

We believe baptism is an important step of obedience in our faith journey. It shows that we have personally trusted Jesus for our salvation, and just as Jesus was baptized on earth, we do this to follow his example. Your baptism symbolizes the new life you have found in Christ just as Jesus rose to life again. If you have questions about baptism or would like to be baptized, contact Rev. Kyle Gatlin at [kyle@covenantdothan.org](mailto:kyle@covenantdothan.org).

## Discover Your Purpose



The Growth Track was designed to help you discover your purpose to live the life God created for you. If you are wondering what your next step at Covenant is, then Growth Track is for you! Make plans to join our next class on **TONIGHT at 5 pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Shawn Shirley at [shawn@covenantdothan.org](mailto:shawn@covenantdothan.org) to sign up.

## Fall Gathering

**November 17 at 6:30 pm, Christian Life Center Gym** The Fall Gathering is a place for the women of Covenant to come together to build deep, Godly relationships with other women through worship and a meaningful message. During our time together we will also pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Help us spread the good news of Jesus out into the world by bringing items to help fill shoeboxes for boys and girls around the world. This event is open to women of all ages, so invite your sisters, mothers, grandmothers and girlfriends. To register or for more information, visit [covenantdothan.org/events](http://covenantdothan.org/events).

## Upcoming Opportunities to Serve

*Barbi Nolan, Missions Coordinator - [barbi@covenantdothan.org](mailto:barbi@covenantdothan.org), (334) 944-6217*

**Harbor Serve Day** Saturday, October 31 from 7:30-10 am - Our next Harbor serve day is quickly approaching. Here's how you can help:

- Prepare a breakfast casserole
- Provide pastries or fruit
- Help put together take-out boxes at The Harbor on Saturday morning beginning at 7:30 am (masked and safely distanced of course)
- Join the street ministry team on Saturday morning

**Love Dothan** Saturday, November 7 from 8 am-12 noon - You are invited to participate in "Love Your Neighborhood" - part of the City of Dothan's "Love Dothan" campaign. During this time we will be working in the Harmondale (also known as Lakeview) neighborhood. The coordination point will be Jerry Lee Faine Elementary School located at 1901 Stringer Street. Please bring your lawnmower, gloves, rake, shovel, weed eater, edger, or whatever tools you would like to work with so we can help our neighbors better care for their properties.

**SARCOA Santa for Seniors 2020** SARCOA Area Agency on Aging will be doing their Santa for Seniors program differently this year. Rather than an open wish list, they will be providing specific items for the Senior Christmas boxes. For the 2020 Request List, visit [covenantdothan.org/events](http://covenantdothan.org/events). Donations can be dropped off on December 4 & 5 and December 12 between 9 am and 6 pm at the former National Guard Armory, 2755 Choctaw Street, Dothan. Volunteers are needed to wrap gift boxes and assemble cleaning buckets on Tuesday, November 17 from 8 am-12 noon and 1:30-4:30 pm at the armory.

**Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child** Help us send the good news of Jesus out into the world by packing a shoebox. Each box is an awesome way for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way. Grab a shoe box from one of our displays on campus and return your packed shoe box back to the church on or before November 15. If you would like to pack a box virtually, visit [covenantdothan.org/events](http://covenantdothan.org/events) for more information.

**Volunteering at the OCC Processing Center** Another fun way to be a part of this worldwide ministry is to volunteer at the OCC Processing Center in Atlanta. We will be taking a small team to Atlanta on December 8 to work the 10 am-4 pm (ET) shift. Be prepared for fast paced work and lots of standing! We will leave Dothan at 5 am and return around 8 pm. Please contact Barbi Nolan if you would like to join us.



## Stay connected with our CovKids on Facebook & Instagram!

Facebook: [facebook.com/CovKids](https://facebook.com/CovKids)

Instagram: [instagram.com/covkids\\_](https://instagram.com/covkids_)

Our weekly lessons are available on our website at [covenantdothan.org/connect/covkids](http://covenantdothan.org/connect/covkids).



## Stay connected with CovStudents!

For the latest news and information for students, visit the CovStudents Facebook or Instagram pages.

Facebook: [facebook.com/CovStudents](https://facebook.com/CovStudents)

Instagram: [instagram.com/covstudents](https://instagram.com/covstudents)

## Small Groups

Wendy Hicks, Small Groups Coordinator - [wendy@covenantdothan.org](mailto:wendy@covenantdothan.org)

God created us to be in community with one another and experience life with other people. Small groups exist to bring people together and to make life-changing relationships relevant and accessible to God's people. Covenant offers a number of ways to get connected through small groups. Be on the lookout for our new Small Groups Directory coming soon. Contact Wendy Hicks at 793-4440 for more information.

## Covenant News & Happenings

Are you interested in receiving a weekly eNewsletter, Sermon Notes and other Covenant news by email? This is a great way to stay up to date on upcoming events, registration, prayer concerns and more. Email Courtney Hardy at [courtney@covenantdothan.org](mailto:courtney@covenantdothan.org) to sign up.

## Recent Prayer Concerns

Densie Williams, Thomas Evans, Sandy Lisenby, Sandra Matthews, Jo Peterson, Virginia Hornsby, Dwight Jeffcoat, Gene Kearley, Paul Hall, Kenneth Arnold, Lori Lamb Weathington, Sharon Jenkins, Carrie Mathis Allday, Gianna Allday, Steve Morrell, Jennette Gayer, Ava Blackburn, Beth & Tom Sherrer, Ronnie Brannon, Molly Tew, Tom Renshaw Sr., Margaret Wilson, David Cunningham, Linda Griffith, Chris Smith, John Babinski, Tim Koogler, Linda Avera, Carrie Williams, Beverly Youse, Tammy Reese, Family of Patsy Bowling, Johnathan Berry, Carla Lawrence, Wallace Family, JJ Price Family, Alan Tidwell, Terri Daughtry, Lori Burns, Dr. Bill Lies, Lisa Silcox, Natalie Faulk, Christy Goodwin Bullard, Mary Lisenby, George Stokes, Mark Arrington, William Brown, Peter Collins Jr., Jill Walden, Sue Reynolds, Hays McKay, Helon Scott, Jeanne Stringfellow, Dutch Holland, Lucy Cline, Carolyn Benton, David Johnston, Yvonne Reid, Cher Hicks, Happy Fox, Pete Shelley, Lisa Henry, Karen Medley, Gayle Moores, Lamar Spence, Martha Jane Shannon, Jerry Dooling, Tipton Family, Kathy Clark, Wynn Arkle, June Granberry, Evie Riley, Tony Justice, Richard Duncan, Sarah Grantham, Charles Meeks, JoAnn Gamble, Laurie Axtell, Allwyn Nilsson, Trip and Haley Moseley & family, Avery Wells, Jeffrey Bostwick, Scott Berry, Jennie Lawson, Scott Brown, Angie Goodson, Janis Caddell, Shelby Clark, Kendrea White, Kelly Armstrong Smith, Bobby Simmons, Michael Buntin, Bernice White, Beverly White, Audrey Miller, Carolyn Thomley, Bob Drummond, Connie Moore

**Currently Deployed** Jerrad Anderson

**Have a prayer request?** If you have a prayer request you would like to add to this list, please email Kyle Gatlin at [kyle@covenantdothan.org](mailto:kyle@covenantdothan.org).

## Contact Information Request

Connection and interaction is essential during this time of uncertainty and it is important to stay grounded in God's Word and in community with others. We want to make certain that Covenant has current information so that we may stay connected with you. If you have not already, please visit [covenantdothan.org/contact-info](http://covenantdothan.org/contact-info) to update your information or you can contact us at 793.4440.