

SEPTEMBER 2026
BIBLE STUDY SERIES

DON'T DELAY:

*Walking in
Wisdom and Purpose*

OVERCOMING PROCRASTINATION

"See then that you walk circumspectly,
not as fools but as wise,
redeeming the time...

— Ephesians 5:15-16 (NKJV)



GOD HAS
A PURPOSE.



WISDOM GUIDES
OUR STEPS.



ACTION FULFILLS
OUR CALLING.



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY



Tuesdays
AT NOON



Wednesdays
AT 6:00 PM

Don't just make plans—walk in purpose. Your best days are not behind you!



**NEW HOPE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

A Place of Hope. A People of Purpose.



1415 Big Bethel Road
Hampton, Virginia 23666



newhopebaptisthampton.org



Dr. Christopher C. Carter, Sr., Pastor



(757) 766-3232



STUDY GOD'S WORD. GROW IN FAITH. WALK IN PURPOSE.

A portrait of Dr. Christopher C. Carter, Sr., a Black man with glasses, wearing a dark pinstripe suit, white shirt, and a dark bow tie. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The portrait is framed by a decorative, multi-layered hexagonal border in shades of gold and grey.

From The Pastor's Corner

DR. CHRISTOPHER C. CARTER, SR.

DON'T DELAY - NOW IS THE TIME

There are moments in life when we know what we should do, yet we find ourselves saying, "I'll do it later." Sometimes "later" becomes tomorrow, tomorrow becomes next week, and before we know it, valuable time and opportunities have passed us by.

The Word of God reminds us: "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time..." — Ephesians 5:15–16

This is the heart of our new Bible Study Series, ***"Don't Delay: Walking in Wisdom and Purpose — Overcoming Procrastination and Working in Wisdom."***

Together, we will explore how procrastination can hinder our obedience, stewardship, purpose, and spiritual growth, and discover how God calls us to move from *delay to diligence, hesitation to obedience, and good intentions to faithful action.*

Scripture reminds us: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." — Psalm 90:12

I encourage every member of the New Hope family to make Bible Study a priority. Try your best to come in person ready to learn, grow, and allow God's Word to transform your life or join us virtually.

And don't participate alone! Invite a family member, friend, neighbor, coworker, or someone in our community. Your invitation could be the first step toward someone drawing closer to God.

Don't delay. Let us walk in wisdom, redeem the time, embrace our purpose, and put our faith into action!

LIVE - SO GOD CAN USE YOU!

Pastor Carter

A decorative border at the bottom of the page featuring a repeating pattern of stylized, nested triangles or chevrons in white and grey.

YOU CAN OVERCOME PROCRASTINATION



DON'T DELAY:

Walking in Wisdom and Purpose

*So teach us to
number our days,
that we may apply
our hearts unto
wisdom.*

— PSALM 90:12

OVERCOMING PROCRASTINATION AND WORKING IN WISDOM

The Word of God reminds us:

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time..."

— EPHESIANS 5:15-16

Throughout Scripture, God used ordinary people who faced fear, hesitation, laziness, or delay—yet they chose to trust God and take action. Their stories inspire us to move from delay to diligence and from good intentions to faithful action.

BIBLICAL CHARACTERS WHO OVERCAME PROCRASTINATION, FEAR & INACTION

BIBLICAL CHARACTER	THEIR STRUGGLE	HOW THEY OVERCAME IT	KEY SCRIPTURES
 MOSES	Fear, insecurity, excuses	Obedied God despite feeling inadequate	Exodus 3:10-12; 4:10-13
 JOSHUA	Fear and uncertainty	Took courage and stepped into leadership	Joshua 1:6-9
 GIDEON	Fear and doubt	Moved from hiding to courageous action	Judges 6:11-16, 27; 7:9-15
 ESTHER	Fear of approaching the king	Accepted her responsibility and acted	Ester 4:13-16; 5:1-2
 NEHEMIAH	Overwhelming task and opposition	Prayed, planned, organized, and acted	Nehemiah 2:4-5, 11-18; 4:6
 PETER	Fear and hesitation	Stepped out of the boat in faith	Matthew 14:28-31
 JONAH	Reluctance and avoidance	Eventually obeyed God's command	Jonah 1:1-3; 3:1-3
 JEREMIAH	Insecurity and feelings of inadequacy	Accepted God's calling	Jeremiah 1:6-8, 17-19
 ELIJAH	Discouragement and exhaustion	Received God's provision and returned to his assignment	1 Kings 19:4-8, 15-18
 DAVID	Fearful circumstances surrounding Goliath	Took immediate action in faith	1 Samuel 17:32-37, 45-48
 ZACCHAEUS	Personal/social barriers	Immediately responded to Jesus	Luke 19:1-10
 PAUL	Past failures / persecution	Pressed forward toward his God-given assignment	Philippians 3:12-14



*A Journey
from Delay to Purpose*

- 1 MOSES — Stop Making Excuses
- 2 GIDEON — Move Beyond Fear
- 3 JONAH — Stop Running From Purpose
- 4 ESTHER — Don't Delay Your Assignment
- 5 NEHEMIAH — Pray, Plan & Proceed
- 6 PETER — Get Out of the Boat: Faith in Action

Remember:
DON'T DELAY.
Walk in wisdom.
Redeem the time.
Embrace your purpose.
Put your faith
into action!

Our time is a gift from God. Every day is an opportunity to fulfill His purpose.

Let's walk in wisdom and make every moment count for His glory!

Lesson 1 — “Stop Waiting: The Time Is Now”

Key Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 3:1; Ephesians 5:15–16

Focus: Recognizing the cost of procrastination.

Sometimes we keep waiting for the “right time,” when God is calling us to act with what we have **right now**.

Kingdom Principle:

- There is a season and purpose for every assignment.
- Tomorrow is not promised.
- Procrastination can cause us to miss opportunities God has placed before us.
- Wisdom teaches us to make the most of our time.

Discussion Questions:

1. What causes us to keep putting things off?
2. What opportunity might we be delaying?
3. What would change if we treated today as an assignment from God?

Action Step:

- ☐ Identify **one thing you've been delaying** and take the first step before the week ends.

Declaration:

“I will not allow delay to steal what God has placed before me.”

~NOTES~

Lesson 2 — “A Mind Made Up: Overcoming the Battle Within”

Key Scriptures: Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:8; 2 Timothy 1:7

Focus: Procrastination often begins in the mind before it appears in our actions.

Fear, perfectionism, uncertainty, discouragement, and feeling overwhelmed can keep us stuck.

Kingdom Principle:

- What we think influences what we do.
- Fear can disguise itself as procrastination.
- We don't have to feel ready to begin.
- God gives us power, love, and a sound mind.

Discussion Questions:

1. What thoughts typically cause you to delay?
2. Are you waiting for perfection before taking action?
3. What does a “sound mind” look like when facing a difficult assignment?

Action Step:

☐ Replace one recurring negative thought with a biblical truth.

Declaration:

“I have the mind of Christ. I will move forward in faith rather than remain stuck in fear.”

~NOTES~

Lesson 3 — “Work While It Is Day”

Key Scriptures: John 9:4; Colossians 3:23–24

Focus: Developing diligence and a strong work ethic.

God cares about **how** we approach the work He has given us. Excellence is not about perfection; it is about faithfulness.

Kingdom Principle:

- Whatever we do, we should do it wholeheartedly.
- Small tasks can be part of a larger purpose.
- Diligence produces progress.
- Our work can be an act of worship.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does our attitude toward ordinary work reflect our faith?
2. Where have you settled for “I’ll get to it later”?
3. What would change if you viewed your work as serving God?

Action Step:

☐ Choose one neglected responsibility and complete it with excellence.

Declaration:

“I will work faithfully, wholeheartedly, and with excellence.”

~NOTES~

Lesson 4 — “Wisdom Knows What Comes First”

Key Scriptures: Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 16:3; Luke 10:38–42

Focus: Priorities, distractions, and knowing what deserves our attention.

Sometimes procrastination isn't laziness—it's **misplaced priorities**. We can spend hours doing things that feel productive while avoiding what matters most.

Kingdom Principle:

- Everything important is not equally urgent.
- Wisdom helps us distinguish priorities.
- Distractions can consume the time needed for our assignment.
- We must learn to say “no” to some things so we can say “yes” to what matters.

Discussion Questions:

1. What distractions consume the most of your time?
2. What is important in your life but continually gets pushed aside?
3. How can seeking God's kingdom shape our priorities?

Action Step:

☐ Create three categories: **Must Do** | **Should Do** | **Can Wait**

Then place your current responsibilities into each category.

Declaration:

“I will seek God's priorities and steward my time wisely.”

~NOTES~

Lesson 5 — “Plan It, Pray Over It, Do It”

Key Scriptures: Proverbs 21:5; Habakkuk 2:2; James 1:5

Focus: Turning intentions into action.

Good intentions are not the same as completed assignments. Biblical wisdom encourages us to **plan, prepare, pray, and proceed**.

Kingdom Principle:

- Planning gives purpose to our time.
- Prayer gives direction to our plans.
- Writing down a goal makes it visible and actionable.
- Big assignments become manageable when broken into smaller steps.

Discussion Questions:

1. What goal have you talked about but not acted upon?
2. How can breaking a task into smaller steps help?
3. What does it mean to commit our plans to the Lord?

Action Step: The 15-Minute Principle

☐ Take something you've been avoiding and commit to working on it for **just 15 minutes**.
Starting is often the hardest part.

Declaration:

“I will not merely talk about what God has placed in my heart. I will plan, pray, and proceed.”

~NOTES~

Lesson 6 — “Finish Strong: Faithfulness to the Assignment”

Key Scriptures: 2 Timothy 4:7; Galatians 6:9; Philippians 1:6

Focus: Perseverance and completing what we begin.

Starting is important—but **finishing matters**. Many dreams remain unfinished because we lose momentum when the excitement wears off.

Kingdom Principle:

- Don't abandon the assignment because it becomes difficult.
- Consistency is often more powerful than intensity.
- God honors faithfulness.
- We can trust God to help us complete what He has called us to do.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is finishing sometimes harder than starting?
2. What causes us to lose momentum?
3. What unfinished assignment needs your attention?
4. What would “finishing strong” look like in this season?

Action Step:

☐ Identify **one unfinished assignment** and establish a completion date. _____

Declaration:

“I will be faithful to the assignment. I will not quit, I will not delay, and I will finish strong.”

CLOSING CHALLENGE: “FROM DELAY TO DESTINY”

“Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.” — Colossians 4:5

Procrastination says, “There is always tomorrow.”

Wisdom says, “God has given me today.”

The goal isn't simply to become busier. It is to become **more faithful with the time, opportunities, gifts, and assignments God has entrusted to us.**

PROCRASTINATION SEARCH PUZZLE

D	W	I	S	D	O	M	B	E	F	D	U	P	K	U
M	I	G	H	T	W	O	R	K	M	A	K	R	C	R
S	S	D	L	D	A	P	L	A	Y	W	V	O	U	X
R	O	Y	Q	P	R	L	T	A	V	D	D	F	T	H
B	E	C	N	E	G	I	L	I	D	L	E	I	S	H
D	Y	M	V	R	F	E	G	I	L	I	L	T	E	Y
M	R	O	O	O	D	M	O	S	N	N	L	S	P	T
U	S	A	R	T	D	E	L	A	Y	G	I	T	O	I
G	X	P	G	B	I	U	H	S	Y	T	F	O	V	R
R	A	E	F	G	M	V	I	O	A	H	L	M	E	O
X	U	C	R	B	U	N	A	T	R	P	U	O	R	I
A	K	K	E	R	H	L	I	T	E	V	F	R	T	R
M	P	R	I	T	U	O	S	D	I	C	N	R	Y	P
F	Z	S	S	E	N	I	Z	A	L	O	U	O	E	I
A	N	A	L	Y	Z	I	N	G	P	Y	N	W	B	I

Analyzing

Dawdling

Delay

Diligence

Fear

Hesitation

Laziness

Might

Motivation

Poverty

Priority

Profit

Sin

Sluggard

Slumber

Stalling

Stuck

Tomorrow

Unfulfilled

Wisdom

Work

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

Monthly Calendar of Events



September 2026

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1 2 3 4 NEHEMIAH'S NOOK 8:30 AM 5

Bible Study Monthly Series: TBA

6 - Ofc Closed- 7 NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY 12 PM 8 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM 9 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:15 PM 10 FAMILY BOWLING 6:30 - 8:30 PM 11 12

LABOR DAY

Grandparents Day YOUTH

13 14 NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY 12 PM 15 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM 16 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:15 PM 17 18 SEASONED SAINTS ALL WHITE DINNER CRUISE 2:30 - 5:00 PM 19

*ministry engagement

COMMUNION 9/20

CULINARY MINISTRY 1ST ANNIVERSARY MINISTRY ENGAGEMENT PASTOR CARTER CHOIR/USHERS TO LZBC HPT 141ST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY (Pastor Sutherland)

20 21 NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY 12 PM 22 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM 23 CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:15 PM 24 FAMILY BOWLING 6:30 - 8:30 PM 25 MISSIONARY BANQUET HONOREE Elder Dee Johnson 26

- MEN'S DAY WEEKEND -

MEN'S DAY 27

28 NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY 12 PM 29 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM 30

Scan to Donate

New Hope Baptist Church
@NHBC1415



venmo

Thank you for Giving

OPEN/ ON CALL SCHEDULE

TRUSTEE OLIVER	AUG 31 - SEP 6
DEACON STURGIS	SEP 7 - SEP 13
TRUSTEE WASHINGTON	SEP 14 - SEP 20
TRUSTEE BROWER	SEP 21 - OCT 4

1415 Big Bethel Road, Hampton, VA 23666
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 10AM - 3PM
Office: (757) 766-3232
Dr. Christopher C. Carter, Sr. Senior Pastor
WWW.NEWHOPEBAPTISTHAMPTON.ORG

FALL into His Truth
No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

-Joshua 1:5-



PRAYER DECLARATIONS

*for Walking in Wisdom and Purpose
and Overcoming Procrastination*

So teach us
to number our days,
that we may apply
our hearts
unto wisdom.

— PSALM 90:12

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
redeeming the time..." — EPHESIANS 5:15-16

**I CHOOSE WISDOM. I WALK IN PURPOSE. I REDEEM THE TIME.
GOD'S PLAN. MY PRIORITY. HIS GLORY!**



1 I CHOOSE WISDOM EVERY DAY.

I ask God for wisdom, and He gives it generously.
I will not live on autopilot,
but on purpose.

James 1:5



2 I REDEEM THE TIME.

I make the most of every opportunity
because my time is valuable
and my days are numbered.

Ephesians 5:16



3 I WALK IN PURPOSE.

I am created for a purpose,
and I take intentional steps
toward God's plan for my life.

Jeremiah 29:11



4 I OVERCOME PROCRASTINATION.

I refuse delay and choose action.
I do today what God has called
me to do.

Proverbs 6:6-11



5 I HAVE THE STRENGTH TO DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

I can do all things through Christ
who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13



6 I LET GOD'S WORD GUIDE ME.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
I will meditate on it and obey it.

Psalms 119:105



7 I CAST OFF FEAR AND DOUBT.

God has not given me a spirit of fear,
but of power, love, and a sound mind.
I move forward in faith.

2 Timothy 1:7



8 I AM DISCIPLINED AND FOCUSED.

I discipline my mind, my time,
and my habits for the glory of God
and the good of others.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27



9 I GROW DAILY IN WISDOM.

I am becoming more like Christ
as I listen, learn, and live
God's truths.

Proverbs 4:7



10 I PRAY FIRST AND ACT BOLDLY.

I seek God's direction in prayer
and then take obedient action
without delay.

Proverbs 16:13



11 I CHOOSE FAITH OVER FEELINGS.

Even when I don't feel like it,
I will trust God and keep moving
forward.

2 Corinthians 5:7



12 ALL THAT I DO, I DO FOR HIS GLORY.

I work heartily, as unto the Lord,
knowing that my labor
is never in vain.

Colossians 3:23-24

Declaration of Commitment

Today, I commit to walking in wisdom,
living on purpose, and overcoming procrastination
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
I will redeem the time, say YES to God,
and trust Him with the results!

In Jesus' Name, Amen!



Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.
And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us
and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice
to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

— EPHESIANS 5:1-2



DON'T DELAY. WALK IN WISDOM. FULFILL YOUR PURPOSE. BRING GLORY TO GOD!