

the MAGNOLIA Messenger

Volume 44 • Number 4
WINTER 2022

His Last
Question & Answer
WE HONOR
Cecil May, Jr.

The counsel of the Lord
stands forever,
The Plans of His Heart
to all Generations.

Psalm 33:11

Family



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Mississippi's "GOOD NEWS" magazine for churches of Christ.
"Let us consider one another to provoke unto LOVE and GOOD works." (Hebrews 10:24)

from Dennis

Much of the success of The Magnolia Messenger has been the articles written by some of the best writers in our brotherhood. The most prominent of these has been Dr. Cecil May. His in-depth scriptural answers to your questions over the past forty years has been a main stay of this publication. These answers were put in book form a few years ago and should be in every preacher's library.

The same scriptures brother Cecil has taught us over these years, also teaches us to "Render to all what is due them...honor to whom honor" (Romans 13:7). Dr. May, we use this, your last Q&A article, to thank you for your many years of blessing the readers of the Messenger with your outstanding knowledge of the scriptures. You have our deepest regards as we honor you with this issue of The Messenger, a publication you helped grow to its respected place in our



brotherhood. Our prayers are with you and your health, as you await a well-deserved Heavenly Crown.

Wanting the "Question and Answer" column to continue, it was not an easy task to find a man of the quality of a Cecil May. I always had just one person in mind. After some prayerful consideration, and some persistence, I am happy to announce that Dan Winkler will be our new Q&A editor beginning next year. All who know Dan, who have listened to his sermons and lessons, will agree that he is one of the best known and loved preachers in our

brotherhood. His rich knowledge of the scriptures will provide insightful answers to your questions.

I have known the Winkler family since I was a boy. It is a real honor to welcome brother Dan to this good work. You can begin now sending questions to him at danddwinkler@gmail.com **MM**



Church of Christ - Kosciusko, MS

Published about every 3 months (as funds and time permit). Mailed without charge to all who ask to receive it and to others for whom it is requested. Contributions from churches and individuals make possible the circulation of more than 31,000 copies of each issue of the "Magnolia Messenger". Your prayers and support are requested, needed, and appreciated!

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Editor's Note: The mention of a person or church in the Messenger does NOT necessarily mean that we either endorse or approve all the person or church may believe, teach and/or do. We do not (cannot) have full knowledge of every person or church mentioned in the 'MM'; furthermore, we do not believe that our role before God is to be that of a judge. We pray, however, that we will never lend encouragement to anyone or anything in conflict with, or not in harmony with that which is plainly taught in Scripture. Your comments invited and encouraged.

(Dennis Doughty, Editor)

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NEXT ISSUES SPECIAL TOPIC

*Many of the articles in this issue
are written by the staff of the Messenger.
I am proud of these dedicated people who make
this publication possible!*

-the editor

The New Year of 2023

will begin our

45th
Year of Publication!

*Send us your thoughts about what this
publication has meant to you. Other articles of your
choosing will be welcomed.*

Send to the editor: dennis1848@bellsouth.net

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the Magnolia Messenger

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Mississippi's
GOOD NEWS
Magazine

“Let us consider one another to provoke unto LOVE and GOOD works.”

To Our Wonderful Supporting Brethren, Greetings.

We come to the end of another year of publishing The Magnolia Messenger. It has been a good year. Thank you for your continued support, without which we would not be able to continue.

We have had to face the growing cost of publishing. With each issue we have had increased costs in paper, printing, and mailing. We have resisted the temptation to go to a cheaper paper, as we want to maintain the quality and appearance of the Messenger. Your contributions have made this possible so far. We hope you will take this into consideration and increase your support to help us maintain the Messenger as the best looking and most-read publication in our brotherhood.

As other brotherhood publications fall by the wayside, we have continued to grow in outreach and influence. The addition of the Jenkins “Preacher’s Page,” the development of our webpage and Facebook page, adding sections like our “In the Spotlight” segment, and our topical issues, are good examples of our continued efforts to make this the best publication possible.

The Messenger gets results. In the last issue I wrote about a prison in Louisiana that needed someone to meet with the Christian men on Sundays, and within two weeks I had an email from a nearby church that they read of the need and had contacted the prison and were making arrangements to meet with these men on the Lord’s Day.

Whether it is helping churches find preachers, or information on mission work overseas, or encouraging Bible study through our “Question Box,” the Magnolia Messenger continues to be a great resource for Christians around the country. Next year we will begin our 45th year. We believe it can be one of our best years, but only with your continued support.

Help us continue in this good work, and even consider increasing your support as we increase our dedication to this much-loved paper.

Dennis Doughty, editor



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BIBLE

Questions & Answers

A note from Cecil May: This is scheduled to be the last question responded to by this writer in this column. I have answered questions in every issue of the Magnolia Messenger since 1980.

Readers have been very gracious, providing questions and many welcomed compliments.

This Q and A column will pass to the very capable hands of Dan Winkler. A great choice!

In future issues of the MM, I will be privileged to write a column on a subject off my choice.

I look forward to the freedom of writing on what I choose.

MM Readers' ASK: Cecil May RESPONDS

Response: The three keys to unlocking a puzzling passage are context, context, and context. The

context of Matthew 7:1-3 suggests a negative connotation for "judge." "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you pronounce, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?" There are two kinds of judgment that we are not qualified to make, because we cannot read hearts: judging motives and pronouncing final judgment into heaven or hell.



Cecil May, Jr.
Dean Emeritus;
College of Biblical Studies;
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Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female

QUESTION:

In the sermon of the Mount, Jesus said, "Judge not" (Matthew 7:1). But later He said, "Judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24). Explain, please.

He created them." So God created males as males and females as

females. A man cannot just decide to be a woman and it be so. A woman cannot decide to be a man and it be so.

I have humorously asked, "I am 90 years old; can I just decide to be 40 and it be so?"

I have been asked, "if a person has decided to be baptized and dies on his way to the baptistry, will he go to heaven?" That is one of the kinds of judgment we are not qualified to make. The Bible says the judge of all the earth will do right. He knows hearts and we do not (Genesis 18:25).

God will make the right judgment, and we can be confident of that. Almost everyone believes that there is some point at which salvation occurs. It is possible for a person to die right before that point, whether it is "say the sinner's prayer," or "be baptized." God is qualified to make that judgment, and we are not. Scripture plainly teaches that at baptism our sins are washed away (Acts 22:16). You or I are not authorized to make exceptions to that rule, but God is sovereign and can do as He wills. We are assured that He will make the right choice. **MM**

QUESTIONS?

Answers

QUESTIONS?

by Dan Winkler

If you're like me, Bible study can leave you with more questions than answers. AND, if you're like me, the answers you find can generate—you guessed it—more questions.

That's the fun of Bible study. Ask questions. Answer questions. Stimulate more questions. Grow (2 Pet. 3:18)!

The Magnolia Messenger can help us do just that. It alerts us to some of the wonderful things going on among churches of Christ. But it's much more than "newzy" magazine. It also provides us articles and columns that are designed to help us understand the Scriptures. Brother Cecil May, Jr.'s "Questions &



Answers" column evidences that and in a delightful way.

For years, brother Cecil has blessed my life. His great mind and gracious spirit flow through every helpful word that he pens. His scholarship, his kindness, his wit, his practicality and—dare

I say it—his "balance," make him one of my

favorite authors. He's just fun to read. He helps me grow. He strengthens my love for Jesus. He deepens my respect for the divine. He broadens my understanding of God's way.

Beginning with the first issue of 2023, brother May will be stepping away from his regular contributions to this column, and Dennis Doughty has asked me attend this assignment.

To say that I am honored to become the Magnolia Messenger's new "Questions & Answers" editor, would be an untruth. You're talking about a responsibility brother May has

shouldered for more than four decades. Honored? You've got to be kidding me! I'm scared to death. I can't begin to step into the shoes of this great servant. They don't fit. They're way, way toooo big.

Still, I am humbled by, and grateful for, the courtesy brother Dennis has extended and will do my best to help us better understand and more deeply appreciate the book that has come from God himself.

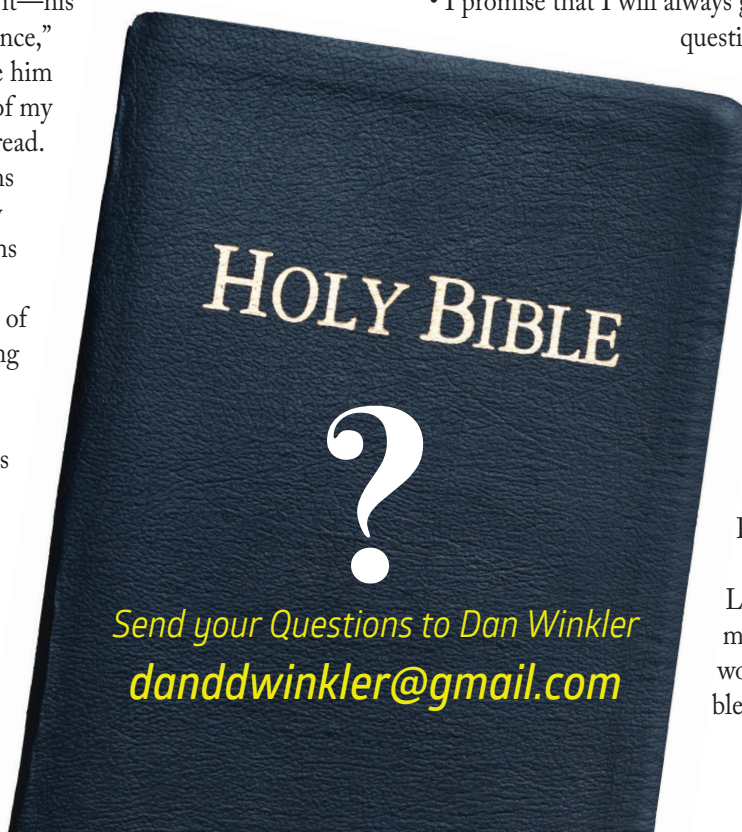
I have three requests of you.

- First, please send me your questions ... the easy ones. :-) Send them to my email: <danddwinkler@gmail.com>, I will try to answer each of them on a timely basis.
- Second, pause for a moment—right now would be great—and: (a) thank God for brother May's great work through the years and (b) ask God to help me honor the legacy of this good man's heart.
- Third, dive into the scriptures with me. Don't accept my answers at face value. Carefully and graciously consider them and the "Bible" proffered to address whatever you have asked.

In the process, I will make you three promises.

- I promise that I will always give you a Bible answer to your question. It is, after all, the light that illumines our path (Psa. 119:105).
- I promise to be kind in responding to any question or any comment you may offer—agree or disagree—to my answers. Kindness is God's way (Eph. 4:32-5:1).
- I promise to feverishly avoid brotherhood politics. A centrist posture will always be our quest, even when it's not popular. We'll model the heart of our Lord (cf. Phil. 2:5).

So, here we go. May the Lord bless each one of us as we march into the wonders of His word and the glory of His will. God bless! **MM**



Send your Questions to Dan Winkler
danddwinkler@gmail.com

CECIL R. MAY, JR.

A Friend and Colleague Worthy of Honor

by Bill Lambert, EdD

I don't think I have ever enjoyed a cup of coffee more than when I was sharing a conversation with Cecil R. May, Jr. In 1959, my family moved to Ripley, Mississippi, to work with the Beech Hill Church of Christ. I soon met Cecil R. May, Jr., the minister of the Ripley Church of Christ. I found Cecil to be a quiet man who listened more than he talked. However, when he did talk, his words were of value and went right to the heart of the question, need, or problem at hand. Whether speaking from a pulpit or in a classroom, writing in a periodical or in a book, or visiting over a cup of coffee, what Cecil said made us more familiar with the Bible and wiser for life.

Over the years, our relationship with Cecil, Winnie, and their family grew strong, especially during their years in Vicksburg and our many years in greater Jackson, MS. We shared much in discussions and conversations about the Bible and in our service to God. Cecil once honored me from the pulpit saying that he and I shared a rare "oneness" as friends and coworkers. He was not saying we agreed on everything. He was effecting on the fact that he does not reject all who don't see eye-to-eye with him; that he shares a "oneness" in Christ with those truly seeking to know and understand the Word of God, being fully convinced in their own mind, and acting in good faith—even if he disagrees with some of their conclusions—truly a "Gentleman and Scholar." Cecil always states his beliefs boldly, clearly, with strong evidence, and with courtesy and openness of mind. He expects the same from others.

In 1979, as I was serving as academic dean of Magnolia Bible College, the college needed a replacement of our president who had moved on to other fields of labor. The college board asked me to fill the role. I loved studying and teaching too much to spend a major part of my time in public relations and fund raising. I suggested that they seek the services of Cecil R. May, Jr. I reminded them he was a good scholar, faithful to the Bible, and was known

and highly respected in Mississippi and the area served by MBC. However, he informed them that he was already under contract as dean of International Bible College (now Heritage Christian University). I proposed that if he would agree to come after he fulfilled his contract, I would serve in the interim. He agreed to come, and he served as president with distinction for seventeen years--traveled extensively, labored tirelessly, preached faithfully, taught with great knowledge and insights. He was loved by students, teachers, supporters, and churches. Although I left MBC to teach at

Harding, a larger and better-known university, never has there been another colleague whom I have held in higher esteem than Cecil R. May, Jr.

After he retired from MBC, he served as the dean of the V. P. Black College of Biblical Studies for 15 years through May 2013. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree (BA) in biblical languages from Harding University, a Master of Arts degree (MA) and a Master of Divinity degree (MDiv) from Harding University Graduate School of Theology. As a preacher, writer, and educator, Cecil earned the honor of being awarded an honorary LLD from Freed-Hardeman University. He served with distinction as Bible teacher at Columbia Christian College, president and professor at Magnolia Bible College, and Dean of Heritage Christian University. He has spent most of his ninety years as a much sought-after gospel preacher--as local minister, elder, and evangelist.

Cecil has spent years as the editor of Preacher Talk, and writer of the monthly back page column "Finally Brethren" for The Gospel Advocate.

For about forty years, he has written the "Bible Questions Answered" column in the Magnolia Messenger. Cecil's column answering questions from readers contributed greatly to making the Messenger the success it is. His well-known books are *Bible Questions and Answers*, published by Faulkner University's Pillar Press, and *Providence: The Silent Sovereignty of God*, published by the Gospel Advocate in 2014.

Cecil's good family of Christian servants are a convincing witness to his Christian character. Winnie was a faithful coworker





Brother May--along with myself, Cecil III and Bill Lambert--taken at Levy a few years ago.

Brother May continues to be a major influencer in my ministry. His balanced, grace-filled approach to preaching, ministry and Bible study is an incredible legacy not only for me, but for all Magnolia Bible College alumni. I have been blessed through his example, teaching, scholarship and friendship. I will miss his participation in the Magnolia Messenger. Fortunately, through working with his son, Cecil III, I will still be able to stay in touch with him and benefit from his insight and wisdom.

-Danny Dodd

and true asset in his ministry—a true “help-meet.” As Roslyn said at the passing of her mother, “Mother and daddy were partners in everything.” He is blessed that since Winnie was escorted by the angels to paradise, Janice has blessed his life as wife and coworker. Also, the love and high esteem with which his family honors him speaks volumes about the stature of this quiet and humble man. By-the-way, how many men do you know with five generations

*I found Cecil to be a quiet man
who listened more than he talked.
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wearing their name like Cecil's family: Cecil May, Sr., Cecil May, Jr., Cecil May III, Cecil May IV, and Cecil May V? It is not academic degrees or job titles that makes Cecil R. May, Jr. worthy of honor, but his love for God and truth and his Christian character. **MM**

Bill Lambert, EdD
Professor Emeritus, Harding University

The Messenger Gets Results

In the last issue I relayed a need from a prisoner, Roland Thompson, in the Cottonport, Louisiana, facility. The warden would not let them have a worship service unless an outside person was there to lead them. Soon after the Messenger was put in the mail, I received a note from Ken Celestine Sr., the minister of the Lafayette Church of Christ, an hour from the Cottonport Prison. He then reported, then; “We're currently seeking to provide worship services as soon as we can with your prayers and help. Also Ministers Pascal Mitchell and Bill Mitchell are assisting in this Ministry.”

Recently I received this follow-up report: “Greetings from the Band of Hands Prison Ministry where we worship with the Church of Christ in Lafayette. We are currently having service every Sunday at Raymond Laborde [prison] in Cottonport, Louisiana. We have been in contact with brother Roland Thompson and he has led in worship services, please continue to pray for and support this prison ministry.”

So thankful for these good brethren who saw a need and responded to it. Thanks to our brother Roland Thompson, for his desire to worship and lead others to do so. -dd

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Family

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL THING!

In Loving memory of Voncille Neese

by Tracy Jaco, Beth Beall, Copy Editor

Family, what a beautiful thing! When a child is born, it is nourished, loved, disciplined, and taught right from wrong. As we watch them flourish, we become proud parents.

A few weeks ago, we watched a loving family tend to their mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and mother-in-law. The



Tracy Jaco



Beth Beall

gentle way they administered to her was precious in how they took shifts caring for her physical needs until she gave up her spirit to meet Jesus and go home to her heavenly family and our heavenly Father. Her family also welcomed those of us of her church family

into her home, allowing us time to share with Voncille, to encourage her and show our love.

Watching them care for her reminded us that not only because we are a physical family, but those who are a spiritual family as well, should care for one another in like manner—visit/tend to each other when one is sick, console in times of grief and pain (2 Cor. 1:1-6), nurture and encourage in the hard times, or quietly hold a hand, and/or just be a listening ear (Gal. 6:1-2; Matt. 25:35-36). Sharing those tough times makes sweeter the happy times we have shared—all those great meals, the laughter, the fun—binds us together with a bond that never ends, eternity long (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

While living in the world, most of us reading this have two families—one physical and one spiritual—and will leave both behind at some point and go to be with others in our spiritual family who have passed on, until those of the spiritual family left on earth arrive in due time. Is that spiritual family important? Of course, it is. We are promised, guaranteed, to see them if they partake in the spiritual according to God's way (1 Thess. 5:9-11).

What a great blessing it is when those of our physical family pass on/transition from this earthly life to the spiritual with God because we know we will see them again. However much we may miss the one departed, however many tears we shed over them, it

is easier knowing, that we will one day go where they are and will live together with them and God. Like King David of old said after the death of his child, "...Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me" (2 Sam. 12:23). What great hope and comfort that should be, knowing we will not only be with God our Father and Jesus, our Savior, but also with those we love and miss so much.

As earthly parents care and love their children, so our Father in Heaven loves and cares for us. Through His providential care He nourishes, loves, disciplines, and teaches us right from wrong. But, like a child growing up, there are choices to make. As parents, we often have to let our children make certain choices and learn things on their own, even though watching them pains us in our hearts. In like manner, our heavenly Father does the same for us. He allows us to make our choices—good or bad—and when we make mistakes, He is there, willing to forgive when we confess our wrongs (1 John 1:9), to heal our hurts, and/or to give us strength to make it through whatever challenge we face at a given moment (Psalm 23; 27:1, 14).

Life is a journey filled with good, bad, happy, and sad, but with our family members—physical and spiritual—that journey, that walk, is more tolerable when shared, allowing God to guide us and provide as we go along.

Sharing the journey with those we love means we make many beautiful memories. It's those memories that help us when loved ones pass on. No doubt our sister Voncille left her families—physical and spiritual—with many wonderful and precious memories. No doubt some of those memories would be what she did through the years for and with those who cared for her in her last days. Certainly, those memories were filled with examples of her love for, and her service to, God.

Let's make those beautiful memories. Let's love and encourage not just our physical family, but our spiritual family as well. May God bless us with those precious memories that will last until we all meet again in that heavenly Home.

Family! What a beautiful thing! **MM**

(Beth is a member of our staff and does all of the copy-editing for The Messenger. -dd)



Upward, Inward, Outward, **FORWARD**

by Roger Johnson

The above title was the theme of this year's **Back to the Bible Campaign** conducted by the Cox Blvd. church of Christ in Sheffield, AL. This year's campaign focused on the area near the Cox Blvd. church building. In addition to members of the Cox Blvd. church, there were about 15 campaigners from Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Texas, and Tennessee who participated. Likewise, three congregations from nearby Athens and Cherokee, AL were represented. More than 1,600 doors were knocked during the three-day campaign.



Roger Johnson

With an upward, inward, and outward view, we are now poised to move **Forward** to accomplish great things in the future for the sake of God's kingdom.

In keeping with the theme, the campaign was launched during the Wednesday night devotional with an **Upward** appeal that God would bless the effort. After all, we are asked to plant and water, and God will give the increase (cf. 1 Cor. 3:6). God, indeed, blessed the effort with six baptisms and one restoration. The angels and brethren rejoiced for those whose eternal destiny was changed during the campaign.

Not only was there an upward appeal to God, but there was also an **Inward** emphasis. Many service projects on behalf of Cox Blvd. members were included. These service projects especially focused on widows, widowers, the invalid, and those with long-term health issues. Such things as house repairs, cleaning houses (bathrooms, vacuuming, washing windows, etc.), yard work (mowing, trimming shrubs, mulching, painting, cleaning gutters, pressure washing, etc.), delivering lunch to elderly members, visiting all our shut-ins at least twice, taking food to families in need in our community were all a part of the campaign effort. Preschool and elementary-aged children baked cookies and delivered them to our shut-ins. One afternoon during the campaign, under the guidance of their parents, they were involved in door-knocking. Our teenagers also heavily participated in every aspect of the campaign. Truly, as we turned our attention inward, the bond that binds us together in Christ was greatly strengthened.

Always an integral part of every campaign is the focus on

studying the Bible with non-Christians. This was the **Outward** emphasis of the campaign. There was a total of 78 studies set and 28 of them were taught the plan of salvation. Additionally, 39 studies were left for possible future studies. In the Old Testament when Israel was on the verge of defeat, four leprous men ventured out of the famished city to throw themselves on the mercy of the Syrians who were their mortal enemies. When they arrived in the camp, they found it empty because God had made the Syrians hear a large host of chariots, horses and men coming against them. They feared the Israelites and their allies were coming against them with a huge force; thus, they all hastily fled to safety. When the lepers arrived at the empty camp and began to collect for themselves the spoils the Syrians left behind, they exclaimed, "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news" (2 Kgs. 7:9). If we withhold the good news of the gospel from others, we aren't doing right either. The campaign was an attempt to reach as many as possible with the saving message of Christ. Only God knows what the future results will be or how long in the future the seed of God's word will have its impact.

With an upward, inward, and outward view, we are now poised to move **Forward** to accomplish greater things in the future for the sake of God's kingdom. **MM**

If you are interested in having a one-day workshop to train members of your congregation how to teach others the gospel, or if you would like to have a week-long campaign, you may contact Roger Johnson at rlj126@gmail.com, Wade Hunt (Cox Blvd. preacher) at whunt@coxblvd.org, or Russ Blackwell (Cox Blvd. elder) at judrus@gmail.com

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HAROLD HAZELIP

by C. Philip Slate

The recent funeral for Harold Hazelip (1930-2022) was modest indeed when compared to others who have lived long and accomplished much. In my judgment, however, his wife, Helen, did a good thing in stipulating that his funeral be about him as “a Christian man,” not about his preaching, academic career, and television work with Herald of Truth. She knew more than any that Harold’s Christian deportment underlay all that he did. Consequently, only one person was permitted to give personal reflections during the funeral. The balance of the memorial consisted of singing hymns, prayer, and hearing Scripture read, chiefly by his grandsons.

Harold was born in Asphalt, KY, a small unincorporated community located a few miles west of the Mammoth Cave National Park. There he became a Christian (1944) and preached his first few sermons (1947). He studied at Freed-Hardeman College and David Lipscomb College (B.A.). While preaching in Louisville, KY, he earned his B.D. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His Ph.D. was earned at the University of Iowa (1967).

His Preaching and Teaching

After Harold moved to Memphis to teach at Harding University’s Graduate School of Religion, he soon began a twenty-year preaching ministry at the Highland Street church in that city. He served as Dean at Harding during his last fourteen years in Memphis. In 1986 he moved to Nashville to serve as Lipscomb’s President (1986-97).

At Harding his relationships with faculty and students was always pleasant. He was efficient in administration and gacious in judgment. His Harding students appreciated his thorough preparation and substantive lectures. Lipscomb appreciated his presidential leadership of the University as it grew in enrollment and academics.

Although he made contributions in academics, Harold always preached. He cared about the local church and the proclamation of the Word. His doctoral dissertation involved a study of Stephen Marshall’s preaching during the British Long Parliament (1640-1660). His sermons were well prepared and delivered in a calm, “extended conversation” style. That mode of delivery was both taught and exemplified by Batsell Barrett Baxter, Harold’s teacher, friend, and eventually colleague in work on the Herald of Truth television program. Many of his sermons

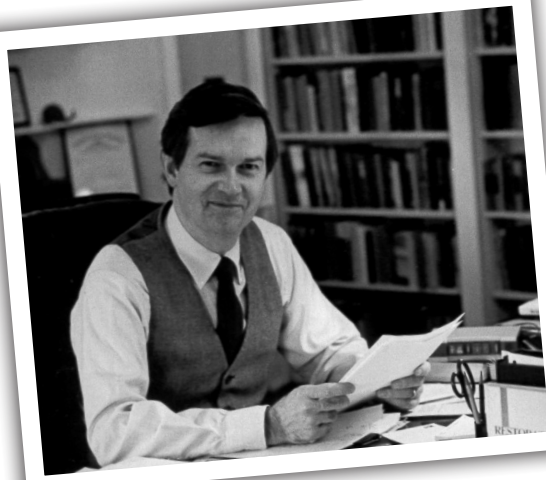
may still be heard on the Highland (Memphis) church’s website.

I knew Harold to be thoughtfully and theologically conservative. Although serious about his convictions, Harold nevertheless avoided conflict as much as possible. In his early year, he engaged in at least three public debates (Preacher of Today, II:189), but I know of none after that. He once told me that he shunned disputation and disliked conflict, “a trait I likely got from my mother,” he added. He would deal with issues as needed, always with measured words; but he avoided wrangling and disputation.

The Man

It is important to know oneself, one’s strengths and weaknesses. Harold once commented to me, “If I had lived during the Old Testament period, I would have been a priest rather than a prophet.” I could not see Harold as an Elijah, a Jeremiah or a Jonah, and certainly not a John the Baptist. Rather, he preferred to take existing entities and improve on them, to do them well. God uses all kinds of servants, doesn’t he?

All who knew Harold well appreciated his genuineness. He was not one to engage in pretense. I always found him to be fair in judgments, calm in discussions, and Christian in spirit. While a good conversationalist, he kept much to himself. He cared deeply about his family, “Helen and the boys”, as he referred to them often



I admired Harold’s attention to his “temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor. 6:19-20). I never knew him to play on any kind of athletic team, or to golf or jog. Rather, he engaged in exercises developed for the Royal Canadian Air Force since he could do them at home and thus avoid the time and money involved outside sports.

Harold had a sense of humor. He would laugh at a good joke. Once at coffee break at Harding in Memphis, the conversation involved the question whether

people always made up their beds before they left the house in the morning. Harold wryly commented, “Helen rarely makes up our bed before she leaves for school. The fact that I am still in it should make little difference!” We laughed.

A token of his common touch, along with his abilities and accomplishments, was his decision to be buried in a family cemetery in Asphalt, KY. There he awaits his resurrection on that day. **MM**

The Preacher's Page

/ PRESENTED BY THE JENKINS INSTITUTE



Dennis has this quarter's MM focusing on the Family. So for The Preacher's Page, we'll focus on families in ministry. Enjoy! Ministry and family can be challenging. Please know you are in our prayers. Let us know if we can help you.



Ministry Verse of the Month

A Good Addiction: Acts 16:15

Most translations inform us that Stephanas and his family had "devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints" (Acts 16:15). However, the

KJV (or as brother McCord would be known to say, "my Mother's Bible") says that this family had, "ADDICTED themselves to the ministry of the saints." Typically, being addicted to something is not considered healthy or wise. We often see families addicted to sports, hobbies, getting ahead, or things. Too much of some things can be bad for our families. But in this case, addiction would be a tremendous blessing to our families as well as to many others! What if every minister and his family became addicted to ministering to others? Not just the minister himself, but all of his family? This quarter's Top Ten list contains some ways we can lead our families into this beautiful addiction.

This Quarter's TOPS List

Top 10 Healthy Activities for Families in Ministry

- * Pray specifically about the challenges you each are facing
- * Play a board game or work a puzzle
- * Watch a good movie, popcorn included
- * Sit together during worship services
- * Sing fun songs in the car
- * Take a vacation
- * Discuss Sunday's sermon together
- * Make a visit to a shut-in or older member
- * Send cards to people celebrating birthdays or who are ill
- * Take some bread or a pie/cake to a new family in your community and invite them to worship
- * And a BONUS: Simply spend time together



Ministry Tech Tip

Tech can be very helpful in ministry. It can also be addictive and distracting. Since most of us do not clock in and out, everyone expects us to be available 24/7. Tech (especially text messaging) has made this more demanding. A ministry friend was recently feeling overwhelmed with the number of texts, requests, and emails that would distract him ALL DAY. I suggested he set up an auto-response for 3 hours each evening to have focused time with his family. It's very easy to set this up on your mobile device and costs nothing. Manage and use tech, do not let it use and manage you.



Help Desk Answers

Send your ministry questions to text 972 861-2434 or email TJI@TheJenkinsInstitute.com. Each question will receive a free copy of "Don't Quit On A Saturday."



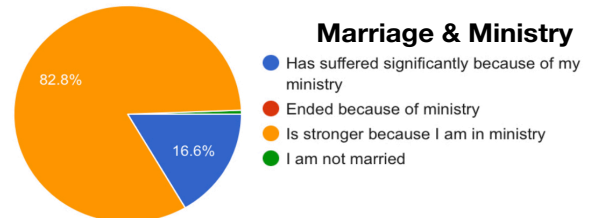
Minister's Challenge

Plan and execute at least one night each week this month for your family. Set it aside, make it holy, don't take calls, don't accept appointments. Don't let something MORE important or that you NEED to be at make you sacrifice it. This is a vital engagement.



Research Insights

We hear the "war stories" of those who were hurt in ministry, and it destroyed their children's faith in the church. Those stories are painful, and if it is yours we hurt with you. But that is not the norm. In a recent TJI Poll involving 200 ministers, 70% said that their children's spiritual life was stronger because they are in ministry, and only 19% said it had affected their children negatively. In the chart below, notice that over 80% believed their marriages are stronger because they are in ministry. You can have a happy and effective marriage while in ministry.



TJI Upcoming Events

November

- 4-6 TJI Leadership Retreat, Alex City, AL
- 11-12 DIAOKONOS Lewisville, TX
- 13-16 Gospel Meeting, South Florida Ave, Jeff
- 18-20 Marriage Retreat, Kensington Woods, Dale
- 28-December 10 Bible Lands Tour, Jeff

December

- 27-30 Exposure Youth Camp, AL, Dale

January

- 7-8 TJI Teachers' Workshop, Zion Rest, MS
- 16-19 Florida School of Preaching Lectures, Jeff

February

- 3-5 North Bradley Church Growth Workshop, Dale
- 5-10 Freed-Hardeman Lectures, Preacher Therapy
- 12-22 India BETTER Conferences
- 24-26 Challenge Youth Conference, Dale
- 27 BETTER, Denver



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Family

THE BLESSING OF A GREAT RELATIONSHIP

By *Eddie Lewis*

A young couple came into my office to talk with me about a marital problem. They had been married about three years. They were somewhat dissatisfied in their marriage. She had a terrible temper and seemed to get upset about everything that happened. They had fallen into the pattern of not talking about their problems, because she would get mad and vent her anger toward him. They wanted help.

She had come from what some call an “abusive” family. Her father was an alcoholic, and in anger he would beat the children. She could remember all the times she had tried to please her father, only to be told she was “no good.” She never knew what to expect from him, what would set off the fireworks. She never knew when or where the explosion would come. It created in her fear and hatred for her father.

The Bible says, “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 4:18). The reverse is true also. Fear has the capacity to drive out love. She hated her father, but still served him in his bitter old age. She had never faced the hatred she felt toward him, and it was affecting her whole life.

When I began to describe to her from Scripture what a Christian father was like—a servant/leader, expresses his love for his wife and children, listens to their needs, understanding, supports the family (Ephesians 5; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 Corinthians 11) she said, “My father was not anything like that.” She could not relate to that kind of father. Her experience with an earthly father had been one of abuse. It was not anything like what Scripture says it should be. She is not alone in that experience.

Our family background does affect how we relate to our present family and to God as our Father. I am not saying we can’t change our attitudes and overcome our past. But it is hard to do, and unless a person really wants to do it, it will not get done. Her

past was causing her to lose her future with her husband and her family. If she did not change and deal with her feelings toward her father, all would be lost.

We all want richer marriages! The key is to share genuine acceptance and approval of each other. One of the best sources, beside Scripture, I have found to help us see how to enrich our families is a workbook by Gary Smalley, entitled “The Blessing.” He describes a five-step plan for us to use in giving each other in the family what he calls “The Blessing.” He describes “The Blessing” as “words and actions that provide an indelible picture of affirmation in a person’s mind and memory.” It is giving to another your honor, your praise, and your love. It can empower our relationships to succeed and last a lifetime.

The idea of giving a “blessing” comes from examples in Scripture. God is described as blessing man. “So, God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them...” (Genesis 1:27, 28). “So, God blessed Noah and his sons...” (Genesis 9:1). “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing” (Genesis 12:2). “After the death of Abraham, God blessed his son Isaac” (Genesis 25:11). God still blesses people today. He has

“blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3).

It is crucial that we practice a similar “Blessing” in our families. A daily assurance of worth and acceptance of our children, spouse, family, and friends.

A blessing is powerful and can benefit those who give it and receive it. It does not have to be a big production. It can be as simple as listening when others talk, or letting your child spend the day with you at work, or admitting your mistakes, or leaving a “love note” with some cookies, or a hundred other ways of saying, “You



Eddie and Madolyn Lweis

are special; I love you; I care!"

Parents can bless their children, spouses can bless each other, friends can bless other friends, children can bless their parents, church workers can bless other members. It only takes the knowledge of HOW to do it, and the DESIRE and COMMITMENT to express your LOVE and CARE. Here are the five steps:

■ MEANINGFUL TOUCH

Researchers describe meaningful touch as a gentle touch, stroke, kiss, or hug given by significant people in our lives. Touch becomes meaningful when the one touching desires to bless the one touched and reaches out for his or her benefit, not their own.

Meaningful touch is appropriate touching. You can hug your own children, but not every child in Sunday School class. In our society with abuse, particularly sexual abuse, we need to limit touch to what is appropriate.

Before even a word is spoken, the blessing is conveyed by touch. One five-year-old told her mother she loved the way Janice tousled the top of her head when she walked by. "It makes me feel special" she said.

Touch carries the symbolism of giving a blessing. A young woman holding hands with a boyfriend means "I am taken. Do not ask me for a date." Two businesspeople shaking hands means "Welcome, I am glad you're here." A father with his hand resting on his son's shoulder in front of a broken window means "It is ok, we can get it fixed. I love you!"

Above all, touch symbolizes acceptance. In Mark 1:40-41 is the story of Jesus healing a leper. The leper came to Him begging him on his knees to heal him. "Jesus, moved with compassion, put out His hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I am willing; be cleansed.'" First, Jesus had compassion on him. Second, He touched him. That touch must have meant more to the leper than anything anyone had ever done. Why? Because it meant acceptance!

■ SPOKEN WORDS

Touch, however important, can't carry the whole load. A verbal message of acceptance, appreciation, or encouragement is needed to give the blessing. Our words also have an effect. They may not always do what we intend, but they're mighty in affecting the lives of those to whom we speak.

Positive words bless; negative words demolish. Silence can destroy someone who looks to us for a blessing. Both people and relationships suffer in the absence of spoken words of love, encouragement, and support--words of blessing.

■ EXPRESSING HIGH VALUE

To be affective, our words and actions must express our esteem for the one we are blessing and affirm that this person is valuable. It is important to place value on the person not for what they do, but for who they are. I value my daughter because she is my daughter! I value my wife because she is my wife. Not because of what they have done.

We can say or do a wide variety of things to attach high value

to another person. We can write a note and put it in a lunch box that says, "You are tops!" We approve of them just because they are here. Our presence is a great way to show we attach high value to them.

■ PICTURING A SPECIAL FUTURE

Well-meaning, but ill-informed, parents try to motivate their children with negative statements. Too many children hear, "You will never amount to anything," or "Hey, dummy, what went wrong this time?"

We can give those we bless a sense of security and confidence by conveying that the gifts and character traits they have right now are attributes that God can bless and use in the future.

The positive/negative message about one's future can be given without words, as in the case of Mike and Doug. Mike had marked musical talent and had made all-state choir. On the afternoon of Mike's performance of the year, his brother Doug had a soccer practice. Not a game, or a play-off, or a championship game, just a routine practice. Mike's dad, who had been a pro athlete, chose to go to the soccer game rather than the choir presentation. His decision told Mike, "What you are interested in, what you want to be, the talent you have, who you are is not important to me." Mike struggled all his life to feel accepted by others because of this incident and many more that, music was not as important as sports. He could never feel that what he accomplished had any merit.

■ AN ACTIVE COMMITMENT

This element is tough. It requires sticking with the program even when your child misbehaves or the person you are blessing disappoints you, and you are ready to throw up your hands in despair. It is committing time and energy to involvement in that person's life to see that the words of blessing you speak come to pass.

A commitment to carry out the blessing is essential. Everyone intent on giving the blessing needs to rely on the Lord to give them strength and staying power to confirm their children or spouse's blessing. We must commit our lives to their best interests. Express to them by hugs and kisses and words that they are important.

Finally, we must become a student of the ones we wish to bless. We must be persistent in our communication. Often, we give up too soon, particularly if we have struggled in our relationship with our children. Shared activities with others we want to bless gives us an opportunity to know them better. We find out what they like and dislike. We ask questions to get to know them. We may think we know their thinking, dreams, interests, and goals. But keeping up with changes requires constant attention.

Commitment is costly, but the rewards are worth the price. It takes demanding work, time, courage, wisdom, boldness, and creativity. But the result is a great relationship that keeps on getting better every day. **MM**

By Eddie Lewis

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from a Woman's VIEWPOINT

"In Memory of Miss June"

by Madolyn Gibson Lewis
Moorhead, Mississippi

We don't always see the value of what is in our hands until we give it to God. The house I inherited from my parents 29 years ago is now serving students as a Christian Student Center for Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead, MS. Now that you know the end of the story, let me invite you to read and see God's hand from as far back as I can go to unfold the events.



Madolyn Gibson Lewis

As a little girl growing up in a very small MS Delta town, I was a dedicated church goer with good loving parents, T. G. And Mary Downer. They gave me a happy and secure home. I was told there were starving children in Africa, and I should eat all the food on my plate. I felt so sorry for these children that every Sunday I would come home and stand in front of a mirror and give the lesson the preacher had preached. I did this thinking that one day I could go to Africa and teach them how to get to Heaven. God saw my heart. Time passed, I became a teenager and started dating a wonderful guy, Gene Paul Gibson. He was a member of the church of Christ. Most of our dates ended in a Bible study. After much studying, stubbornness, tears and praying, I left the church I was raised in and was baptized. My family felt like I had

left them too, but I didn't.

Gene and I began our lives together raising three children and always taking every opportunity to teach my parents. Years later my parents began attending services with us, but not until they got tired of us taking their grandchildren and leaving them alone to go to worship. We never put family before God. They saw that and grew to respect our commitment to God. After sixteen years of praying and teaching, both of my parents were baptized in their seventies. My mother first and two years later at age 79, my daddy was baptized. He only lived three years after his baptism. He wanted me to come back to the baptistry when he was baptized, and I did. My six-foot, dripping-wet daddy grabbed me by the shoulders looking me straight in the eyes and said, "I have wasted most of my life, but what I have left I want to give back to God". Those words penetrated my heart and never left.

Mother lived eleven years after daddy died. I talked with her about leaving me the land and house in Moorhead, which is located directly across from the college, and giving my sister the lot in Florida. My Mother said, "Madolyn, this old house is not worth



Mr and Mrs Downer.

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anything.” I replied, “True, but let’s give it to God and see what can happen.” Honestly, I didn’t know at that time what I would do with a seventy-five-year-old wooden frame house. My daddy’s words were always with me. I just wanted to take what my parents had worked for and left to me as an inheritance and give it back to God. I had grown up in a little Mississippi delta town and realized if I had not met my late husband, I might have never heard the pure gospel that changed not only mine but my parent’s eternal lives. I wanted the church to exist in my hometown so others could be taught.

Standing at the door, looking across the street at the campus, I saw the countless young souls that I wanted to reach with the Gospel. In 1995, Gene and I opened the student center. My parents never saw that what they left behind was used to teach thousands of students. Some are preaching today. One is a nurse. Lives have been changed all because of the hearts that wanted to give back to God what they had in their hands. He sees and blesses far beyond our dreams and expectations. I never went to Africa to teach, but 80% of the college is African American. Gene died in 2019. God blessed me and the student center with Eddie Lewis when we married December 18, 2020.

This story really doesn’t end here. Just like my parents, I will never see the future that God has planned for the old house that my parents left me, a place I once called home but now is in God’s hands. You might ask, “what is in my hands?” **MM**
(mjdgibson@yahoo.com)

“Transform Ladies Conference”

by Mrs. Jimmie Timbes,

Transform is a word that describes what women do. Women transform from sisters to best friends, from girlfriends to wives, from wives to mothers, mothers to grandmothers. Women are constantly evolving into a new role—a beautiful challenging role. Much like our titles, our spiritual lives transform as well. While always a student of the word, some are transformed into teachers, mentors, servants, and disciples.



Transform Ladies Conference was born out of a need for Christian women to gather for a great spiritual feast as well as fellowship and fun. The weekend of October 14-16, 2022, brought approximately 900 women of all ages and backgrounds together in the beautiful mountain setting of Pigeon Forge, TN, to be transformed into true women of God.

Cathy Turner, JJ Davenport, and Debbie Dupuy brought amazing and inspiring lessons on the topics: “Enough Already”, “It’s All Lies” and “When What We Have Isn’t Enough”. Pam Lenz and Hannah Bradford led the multitude of voices in beautiful and uplifting praises! Nicole Young kept us all rolling in laughter as the MC for the weekend, Celine Sparks brought her gift of humor with stories to help us laugh at the funny things in our life and GSHARP, from Freed-Hardeman University, entertained the crowd with their beautiful voices. Sunday morning worship was conducted by Matt Heupel, Larry Davenport and Terry Lenz.

I was honored to be part of the Booneville group of 25 ladies who attended and agreed that they all came away from TLC truly transformed! We rented a beautiful group cabin, with an amazing view of God’s awesome creation bursting in blazing fall colors. We not only gleaned from the spiritual food of the conference, but we also had several very powerful devotionals in the cabin that stirred our souls and cemented our bond as Christian sisters. Some of the ladies’ comments were: “the lessons were such blessings”, “His heart was all over every detail, and every heart was touched, especially mine!”, “I came away from TLC a changed woman”. **MM**

The ladies from Booneville want to encourage all ladies to attend TLC next year, September 8 - 10, 2023. For more information visit: www.tlcladies.org and their Facebook page is: Transform Ladies Conference. Jimmie Timbes

Family

REMEMBERING MY DAD

By *Eddie Lewis*

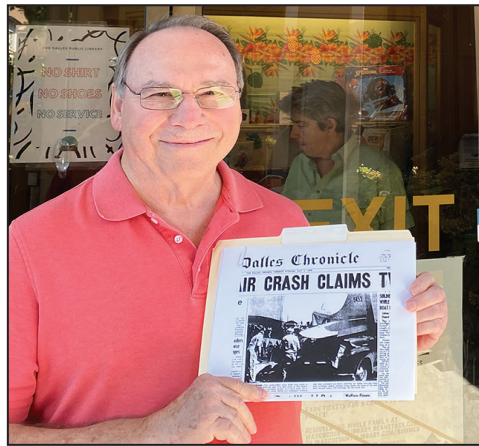
This summer Madolyn and I began a journey to Oregon to discover the story around the airplane crash that took my dad's life on May 3, 1949. I was almost three years old at the time. My dad had served in WWII as an Army Engineer in North Africa. He and the rest of his troop fought the German forces all the way to Berlin. He earned the rank of First Lieutenant.

After the war ended, my family moved to Tacoma, Washington, where I was born. Dad was stationed at Fort Lewis. I always used to say that I was such a beautiful baby they named the fort after me, but I think that was another Lewis. We moved to Oklahoma where my younger brother was born, but then moved back to Tacoma.

Dad was killed in a terrible accident as his troop did maneuvers on the Columbia River. Madolyn and I went to The Dalles, Oregon, to get the facts about what really happened and see the place my family had heard about for years but had never seen.

The Columbia River gorge is a beautiful place. Mt. Hood dominates the horizon. In the 1950s, the Army Engineers built several locks and dams along the river to promote commerce, and it changed the appearance of the river from the day when the Wasco Native Americans fished the Celilo Falls for salmon. That's an interesting story itself.

Madolyn and I began our adventure at The Dalles library. The local paper did not have copies of newspapers from that time, so we had to go to the library to look at their microfiche copies of



We visited Dalles, Oregon, to get the facts about what really happened and see the place my family had heard about for years but had never seen.

the papers. The Dalles had two papers, "The Dalles Chronicle" and "The Dalles Optimist." The Chronicle was a daily paper, and the Optimist was a weekly. The library staff became involved in our search. One lady, who had retired earlier that year, came to our rescue, and helped us print out the newspaper articles we found. We thanked them for their help and suggestions.

The articles told us that the crash had happened at Celilo Falls on May 3, 1949. The plane, an L-16, was caught in a down draft and crashed into a native American's truck parked by the falls. The area was close to the "Five Mile Marker" on the canal, that allowed boats to go around

the falls, and at the place on Highway 30 called "Dead Man's Curve." The information seemed clear so we should have been able to find the spot, but the river had changed in appearance because of the dams. The river was now called Celilo Lake.

To get information about "Five Mile Marker" on the canal and "Dead Man's Curve" on Highway 30,

we thought we could go to a nursing home and maybe some of the old timers might remember these places. We didn't have much luck except for an old railroad engineer who remembered that Celilo Falls was close to Celilo Park next to the Native American Reservation at Celilo. So, we headed to Celilo Park.

Celilo Falls was a tribal fishing area for centuries. The Native American tribes would spear huge salmon while standing on the rocks. They built platforms over the rushing waters from which they gathered fish in long-handled nets. These fishing grounds and the right to take fish from the Columbia River were reserved in 1855 treaties between the tribes and the United States Government. The dams that were completed in 1957 filled the

river basin and covered the falls, ending the fishing grounds. The government then placed the Native Americans in a reservation at Celilo.

We went to Celilo Park and viewed the area. It's on the banks of the Columbia River. We went to the reservation to talk to any of the native Americans we might see. One man talked to us about the location of the falls. He said it was in between the white buoys in the river near the park. So, we learned the spot where the crash likely took place. We went back to the park to view the area again with the new information.

It was a little emotional for me to see the spot where the crash happened. To see the river and the land and to know that dad died in a beautiful place for some reason brought comfort to me. I really don't remember my dad because I was so young when he died. I'm sure he loved me and held me and cared for me as a good father would, but I don't remember those things. It was good for me to feel his presence there and to know that as his son I tried to bring some closure for the family and see the place where his life ended.

I appreciate Madolyn's encouragement for me to make this journey. She wanted me to see the place and learn about the circumstances of the crash. I think she was as excited as I was. I'm glad we made the journey and had this wonderful adventure. I will hold this experience close to my heart. **MM**



READERS' RESPONSE

*Reasons Why We Continue
Publishing the Magnolia Messenger*

■ I am encouraged each time I receive your publication. Keep up the good work!

(Bernice Jacobs, Merkel, TN)

■ I always enjoy reading "The Messenger" and look forward to receiving it and keeping up with the "Church News" around the state & area! Keep it coming!!

(Peggy Engel, Tupelo, MS)

■ The Magnolia Messenger is always a joy to receive. I always share it with my incarcerated offenders when I attend chapel. Your work is a blessing to many at Farmington, MO.

(Michael Euer, Farmington, MO)

■ I enjoy the Magnolia Messenger so much. May you be able to keep up the good work for many years to come. I try to

put everything aside and read it as soon as the mail delivers it. Also try to do the question box that same day. Thank you so much.

(Elizabeth Dickerson, Dequincy, LA)

■ We really enjoy this magazine.

(Chris Townley, Trussville, AL)

■ We really enjoy reading the Magnolia Messenger. You do a good job on it. Keep up the good work...

(Wanda Wilemon & Kay Wilemon, New Site, MS)

■ Please keep up the good work of sharing the gospel through the Magnolia Messenger. May God continue to bless your efforts. In Jesus name.

(Kevin Lepard, Goodman, MS)

For Such a Time as This: Restoring God's People in Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther

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2023 Topics

JANUARY • That Boring List of Names

FEBRUARY • Where to Turn When There Is Nowhere to Turn

MARCH • The King Who Was Born in a Barn

APRIL • Don't Play with Sin

MAY • Happy Are the Hungry

JUNE • The Churches of Christ Salute You

JULY • Why Me?

AUGUST • You Gotta Be Dumb to Believe the Bible, Right?

SEPTEMBER • Eight Wives of the Devil

OCTOBER • Finding the Treasure (Acts 8)

NOVEMBER • Three Attractions of the Cross

DECEMBER • Curiosity May Have Killed the Cat . . .

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THE MBC LIBRARY

FINDS A NEW HOME

Moved to Southeastern School of Biblical Studies

Dennis Doughty, Editor

When Magnolia Bible College closed its doors and turned out the lights seventeen years ago, it left its great library in the dark. I became interested in this library several years ago. On two occasions I spent a week doing research and writing on projects I was working on. Al Franks and I would discuss ideas about how to best use the library, but none of our ideas ever became a reality. So, the books, many written by the greatest biblical scholars of the past one hundred years, sat silently in the dark. Its many bound volumes of our greatest brotherhood publications remained orphaned children with no one around to find the truths and histories recorded in their pages. Like a treasure waiting to be found, these 37,000 volumes sat hidden within the walls of a once great Bible College. That is, until this past October.

Wherever I have traveled, I have spoken to folks about the library to find a new home for this excellent collection. I was talking to Dr. David Lipe a few months ago and mentioned the library to him and wondered if the preacher training school in Knoxville might be interested. Dr. Lipe had been the president of the school at one time and still did some teaching there. He said he would check with them. Within the hour he called me back. The Southeastern School of Biblical Studies wanted the library. Hallelujah!

After getting permission from the eldership at Kosciusko, and



Thanks to Dr. David Lipe and his friend Shelton Jones, both gave up three days to help get this done.

after months of planning, a group of students and staff came to Kosciusko to pack up and move the library. It was no small task. Over two days 25,000 religious books were boxed up and placed in a semi-truck trailer. Card catalogs and bound volumes were taken as well.

The remainder of the library, those general topic books, were not taken and hopefully these can find a home somewhere in the future.

Thanks to Will Hanstein, the president of the school, Greg



Thanks to the group from Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies who worked so hard in moving this Library. The students are: Robert Lupo (Boynton Beach, Florida), Sam Lawrence (Kosciusko, Mississippi), Mitchell Rutherford (Davenport, Australia) Joshua Schutkowski (Cheyenne, Wyoming), Andrew Young (Adelaide, South Australia), Chad Spurlin (Morganton, North Carolina), Damion Chasmar (Oakhurst, New Jersey)





The three staff Members are: Will Hanstein, President, Dale Babinsky, Teacher, Greg Wanderman, Teacher



Wanderman, and Dale Babinsky, instructors of the school, and eight students, all who came and worked hard packing up boxes. Thanks to Glenda Franks who helped find the trailer that was used. Our thanks to Janie Wallace and her group from the Kosciusko church who provided lunch for us each day.

My thanks also to Dr. Lipe. David and I have been friends for a few decades, which helped make this go smoothly. When David and I would talk on the phone in making plans for this move, and realizing the big task we had taken on, we often asked each other, "Are we going to get this done?" Well, thanks to a lot of help, it got done! Now these books, which were first gathered to help train men to preach the gospel, will again be put to that very use. To God be the glory! **MM**

Send your Questions to
Dan Winkler
danddwinkler@gmail.com



Family

GOD'S FAMILY

by John Pigg

I remember several years ago hearing for the first time in my life, during a faithful Christian brother's funeral, Laney Wolfe's song, "God's family," and spiritually edified by the words, "We're part of the family that's been born again...whose love knows no end. For Jesus has saved us and made us his own. We're part of the family that's on its way home. Sometimes we laugh together, sometimes we cry, sometimes we share together, heartaches and sighs. Sometimes we dream together of how it will be when we all get to heaven, God's family." Being a part of the family of God, which is the church of Christ, is one of the greatest blessings that can be bestowed upon baptized believers, and one that should drive us to our knees in humble adoration and thanksgiving, like Paul said in Eph 3:14-15, "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named" (ESV).

Every Christian throughout the world is part of God's family. Whether the children in God's family live in China, India, or the Ukraine, Mexico, or the USA, they share a spiritual relationship with each other because they have been "born again...of the water and the spirit" (Jn 3:3,5). Paul reminded the Ephesian church, "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (Eph 2:19). God's family is not restricted to any culture, ethnicity, age, or gender. Paul wrote, "For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female" Gal 3:26-28).

God's family means we love and take care of one another, encourage and pray for one another, confess our sins to one another, and forgive one another. Sometimes we laugh and cry with one another and share our heartaches and sighs. The Corinthian church was told "for by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit" (1 Cor 12:13), so "that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together" (v. 25-26). To the Roman church Paul admonished, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those that weep. Live in harmony with one another" (Rom 12:15-16). Paul urged the Galatian churches, "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Gal 6:10).

As God's family we dream together of how it will be when we all enter "into the city of the living God" (Heb 12:22) and become a part of the everlasting family of all the saved who are "enrolled in heaven" (v. 23). **MM**

Family

THE “MYSTERY” OF MARRIAGE

by Dennis Doughty, editor

In the letter to the Ephesians, Paul reveals a great connection between husbands and wives, and Christ and the church in Ephesians 5:22-32. He explains that “the husband is the head the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church.” Because of this, as the wives are to be subject “to their husbands in everything,” so



Dennis Doughty

then “the church is subject to Christ” in everything.

This bond is based upon the love that each has for the other. “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her.” In this way the husband “nourishes and cherishes” the wife, “just as Christ also does the church.”

Paul then takes this analogy to an even greater level as he writes, “This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.” This revealed

mystery is the connection between the family and the church. Foy E. Wallace rightfully concluded, “The sacredness of marriage is seen in God’s design of it, from the very beginning, to be a figure of the union of Christ and his church; and the glorious importance of the church appears in the fact of its having been in the design of God from the very beginning.”

Husbands and wives were designed by God as a blessing to both, and in the same eternal plan, so was Christ and the church designed by God as a blessing to all mankind.

It is no coincidence that marriage and the church are linked together in many ways

in the New Testament. God does nothing by accident. Rather “the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church” (Ephesians 3:10). He designed the church, and then marriage to reflect the church. Yes, as Paul reveals, how great is this mystery!

Leaders of the church are chosen from where: The family. These leaders must be “the husband of one wife”, and “manages his own household well.” Notice the connection, “if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God” (1 Timothy 3:2-5)?

Jesus did not arrive from the clouds to begin his ministry, but rather was “born of a woman” (Galatians 4:4), into a family, growing up as the carpenter’s son, having brothers and sisters (Matthew 13:55). (Two of his earthly brothers wrote books in the New Testament: James and Jude.) Now notice, we then are born into “the household of God, which is the church of the living God” (1 Timothy 3:15); as such we are “adopted as sons” and are “children of God” and “fellow heirs with Christ” (Romans 8:14-17).

Within the church we enter a new relationship with our fellow man, that of “brethren,” [i.e., brothers and sisters]. When Paul returned the converted slave Onesimus back to Philemon, he directed him to receive him back “no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother” (Philemon 16).

In a family the children inherit their parents’ estate. So it is with the children of God who are no longer slaves to sin. “Therefore, you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God” (Galatians 4:7), “being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life” (Titus 3:7).

Praise to God that in His wisdom He gave the world two great institutions, Marriage, and the Church. Each organized as the other, each entered by birth, each based on forgiveness and love for one another, each with a great inheritance. How great is this Mystery! **MM**



Youth & Family

Can You Speak In A New Language?

by Brett Hicks,

Brenham Church of Christ, Brenham, TX

As a youth minister, I have learned that you have to grab your audience's attention early or they will tune you out. I can only assume that the title of this article sparked an interest. Did it grab your attention? We all know that problems arise all the time. Many times, the correction is simple. The difficulty lies in a person's ability to change.

We are facing a teaching crisis in the United States at the moment. This is a subject that I am well versed in because my wife has spent her entire professional life teaching in the public and private schools. Year after year, our nation continues to see a continued decrease in educators. Many are opting to retire or leave the profession altogether. Every educator I speak to says, "The kids are not the same." I am not here to debate or refute that claim. I am somewhat in agreement. Families have changed. Society has changed. Communication has changed. But, with all this change, it does not remove our duties to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creatures" Mark 16:15.

Generations differ. My parents grew up in a generation that required little confirmation. You did what you were told. The generation that followed desired a little more assurance and under-



Brett Hicks

standing. With the availability of information, today's generation wants proof, evidence, and relatability. The beautiful thing for Christians is that the Word of God is consistent. We are to not add to nor take away. So, how do we reach a changing society? Simply put, we must speak in their language. "Because I said so" will no longer work effectively.

Jesus spoke to many different people from many different backgrounds. One of the most amazing abilities that is described for us in the New Testament was Jesus' ability to present the Word of God to the people in a way that they could understand. Jesus spoke 22 different parables in the book of Matthew alone. Now, I am aware that many of us have no connection with a vineyard harvest, a Jewish wedding banquet, or herding sheep. But, the people in Jesus's audience knew exactly what He was stating; this is how he captured their attention. This is how He taught the masses. He described the message of God in a way that people could relate to. We should be doing the same today.

Please note that I am not suggesting that we open every Sunday school lesson or public devotion with a new parable. With that being said, the question for Christians today is simple. What good does it do to spread God's Word if we speak it in an ineffective language? Christians must learn to adjust, not the message, but the manner in which it is delivered if we want to see continued growth for generations to come. **MM**

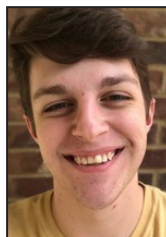
How does Lasagna help you find God?

by Jacob Compton

Youth and Family Minister

Lake Harbor Church of Christ

Have you ever had a really rough day but there is that one thing getting you through it? Maybe your mom was making your favorite dinner that night, or maybe you were going to a friend's house after school. My mom makes the best Lasagna. It takes a long time to make and she does it very sparingly. However, when she does make it...it is amazing. So, I always look forward to it, regardless of the situation because I know it is a big deal. Lasagna used to get me through some really rough days as a teen. So, why do you care about my mom's lasagna? The truth is you probably don't, but if you want a piece, I bet I could arrange that. The point is that in our individual walks with God we have to find our "thing" that



Jacob Compton

gets us through the hard days. Whether that is Prayer, Singing, Fasting, Meditating, or something unique just to you. We all need to find that one thing and allow ourselves to experience God through that. One verse I think about a great deal when thinking about this idea is Psalms 46:10. "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Just think about being still and taking that moment to exalt God. If you are on the field or court, show some sportsmanship. In the band hall, show a younger member of the band how to play their instrument a little better. In the drama club, help run lines with someone. Whatever YOUR thing is that helps you feel close to God. SHARE IT. Having something to look forward to when talking about God is very special, but sharing it with the ones you love is beautiful. After all, my mom doesn't make lasagna for just one person. It is meant to be shared. **MM**

Why Study the Old Testament?

by Ray Paseur, PH. D



Romans 15:4, 2 Timothy 3:15, and 1 Corinthians 10:8-11 give an excellent summary of why one should study the Old Testament. Paul says the Old Testament scriptures are for our learning, they make us wise, they comfort us, they are an example to us, and they admonish us.

To these very plain statements, we can list several additional reasons why we should study the Old Testament. These reasons may be gleaned, at least indirectly, from several Bible passages belonging to both testaments.

First, we must study the Old Testament because it furnishes the historical background for much of the New Testament. Books of Exodus and Numbers furnish the life situation and provide the context for Paul's warning statements in 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Exodus 23:14-17, and Leviticus 23:1. These serve at least as a starting point for an explanation of Mark 11:15-17.

The need for exchange of money and animals arose with the practice of the Jews to worship and offer sacrifice in Jerusalem three times a year. Those Jews living long distances from Jerusalem found it extremely difficult and inconvenient to bring their sacrifices (animals) with them, thus they would purchase these animals in Jerusalem. This practice was later abused and corrupted into something that angered Jesus and prompted the words of Mark 11:17.

Also, Genesis, Exodus, and Joshua furnish us with the historical circumstances which Stephen rehearses before the Jews in Acts 7:1 and following. Lack of appreciation of the detail of these Old Testament events will cause us to sometimes miss the point of the New Testament writer.

Second, we must study the Old Testament because it helps us to understand the antitype recorded in the New Testament. Persons, events, and things in Scripture, and especially in the Old Testament, are often types (hints, shadows, sketches) of what

later appear in the New Testament. The Passover lamb of Exodus 12 was the type (fore-shadow, hint) of our Passover lamb, Jesus Christ.

The Hebrew writer mentions several entities (fulfillments) of the types recorded in the Old Testament. The cities of refuge (Numbers 30:6-8) were a type of the great spiritual refuge, the church of Jesus Christ (Hebrew 6:18). Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20) and his High Priesthood were a type of the high priesthood of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 6:20). The sacrifices of the old Covenant were a type of our sacrifice: Christ our savior (Hebrews 10:8-10). The Tabernacle of the Mosaic order (Exodus 25:9) was the type of Christ's Church and service in His Kingdom (Hebrews 9:17).

Aside from types, certain passages of the New Testament only make sense when measured beside the practices of the old covenant. Hebrews 10:22, when considered against the Old Testament practice of sprinkling the blood of sacrifices on the brazen altar and on the mercy seat of the ark of the covenant, does not teach that baptism is sprinkling. Rather, it teaches that when obedience occurs and one puts Christ on in baptism, the blood is applied to that one (Leviticus 1:1-7, Hebrews 10:22, 1 Peter 3:21).

Hebrews 7:27 is sometimes misunderstood and asserted to be a contradiction of Leviticus 16:11-19, until one looks closely at Leviticus 16, Exodus 27:20-21, and Leviticus 23:28-32. We must use the information God gave us in the Old Testament if we are going to fully understand all the New Testament.

Third, we must study the Old Testament because it teaches us the nature of God. Our desire to obey or disobey God is directly related to our perception of His character and nature. If we visualize God as a covenant-keeping, faithful, loving, powerful, promise-keeping God, our reaction to His will is going to be different

than if we see Him as a weak, cruel, indifferent, “powder-puff,” promise-breaking God. Every parent knows that his children’s reception of his character is determined to a large degree on whether they respect and obey him. The same is true regarding our relationship with God.

The Old Testament tells us a great deal about God. He is creator, lawgiver, judge, and provider (Genesis 1:21,2:1ff). God is pure, holy, just, merciful, loving, and righteous (Hosea 11:9, Deuteronomy 32:4, Isaiah 42:2, Exodus 34:6, Jeremiah 3:12). When we read of man’s fall in Eden (Genesis 3) and of Nadab and Abihu’s destruction (Leviticus 10), we learn something of the nature of God. God is serious about man’s obedience, and He is not one to be trifled with. He is a God who means what He says. The Biblical accounts of God’s care for Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Israel, also reflect on God’s nature (Genesis 12,28,33-50; Exodus 1-2; Ezekiel 16).

Fourth, we must study the Old Testament because it comforts and encourages us. We learn from Job, Jeremiah, kings, and a host of other Old Testament books that God loves His children, protects them, and blesses them. He is not indifferent to their needs and wants. He rewards those who are faithful to Him. We can find great comfort in these teachings.

Fifth, we must study the Old Testament because it gives us warnings (1 Corinthians 9:27, 10:1-12).

Sixth, the Old Testament demonstrates the reality of Christ’s claims (Luke 24:25-27, John 5:46-47, Acts 17:2-3). Seventh, the Old Testament demonstrates the meaning of “by faith.” Able, Enoch, Noah, Sarah, Abraham, Rahab, Gideon,

David, and Samuel all led lives that help us to appreciate what faith is and what sacrifices must be made if we would also be faithful children of God.

This article has by no means exhausted the reasons why we should study the Old Testament, but I hope it has stirred us all who want to know more about the Old Testament. **MM**

(I spent some time with Dr. Passeur during a recent trip to Kosciusko. Sitting in his office in the church building, I enjoyed learning more about this great preacher and teacher. Brother Ray has a B.A degree, two Masters degrees, and earned his PH. D degree from the University of Mississippi. He taught for 24 years at Magnolia Bible College. He now preaches for the church in Forrest, Mississippi, and serves as a professor at Magnolia Bible Institute. I am proud to use this excellent article from this wonderful student of the scriptures. -dd)

In the SPOTLIGHT:

JIMMY HOPPER

By Dennis Doughty, editor

Childhood friends make some of the best friends. Jimmy and I grew up together in Pinellas Park, Florida, in a wonderful church. His dad was an Elder and my dad was a Deacon. We sat together at church (second pew), played Ping Pong, and enjoyed hanging out together. I rode my bike over to his house many a time. I always loved being around his family.

Jim went to college at Abilene Christian University where he met his wife, Marti. They went on a college campaign up to Danbury Connecticut. Afterwards they made a decision to return there to help out the church in an area where it was small and not well known. So, as part of their honeymoon, they moved to Danbury to support the church. They have been there ever since.

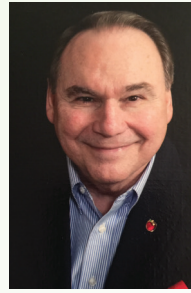
Jim taught Math and other subjects in the local high school until his retirement. He is a talented song-leader and continues to do so for the church. Jim has been the youth director, then worship coordinator, Bible class teacher, then served as a deacon and later an elder. Marti has taught children and ladies Bible classes as well. He and Marti have three sons and several grandchildren.

Jim and I have not seen each other over all these years except about five years ago when I was asked to conduct his father’s funeral. I love his family and have come to admire my old friend for leaving the deep south and going north, far from his family, to devote his life to serving the church in a difficult region. I am honored to put his life “In the Spotlight.” **MM**

This is a beautiful tree in Jim and Marti’s front yard. Being in the northeast they do enjoy some magnificent Fall foliage.



Visiting among Churches in north Mississippi



By *Eddie Lewis, Missionary to North Mississippi, 9423 Laurel Hill, Olive Branch, MS 38654. E-mail: lewis7946@gmail.com*

August 2022 through October 2022

We appreciate so much the opportunity to inform you about our mission work among the churches in North Mississippi. We appreciate the Germantown church of Christ sponsoring us in this ministry. This report covers twelve Sundays during the months of August through October 2022. I served three of those Sundays as an interim preacher for the Coffeeville church of Christ and three Sundays for the Indianola church of Christ. Both churches are looking for full-time ministers. Please be praying for them.

The first couple of weeks in August Madolyn and I took a vacation trip to Oregon. We got to do a little research on the place where my father was killed in an airplane crash when I was three years old. We gained some new information about the crash. I have shared my story in another article.

■ **August 7:** While in Oregon we attended the Klamath Falls church of Christ. Mike Gray and Dave Holler are the bi-vocational ministers for the small



Dave Holler and Mike Gray-Klamath Falls, OR

church. They have about 40 in attendance and no elders.

Mike was the speaker that Sunday. In the Bible class he was finishing a lesson on the Sermon of the Mount, Matthew 5-7. He emphasized the importance of us being faithful to the word of God.

In the worship Mike presented a lesson on "Keeping Your Heart Pure" based on Matthew 15:18-20. It was a good lesson. We enjoyed visiting with the congregation and making new friends.

■ **August 21:** I was invited to preach for the Coffeeville church of Christ. We always enjoy visiting with the church there. They continue to look for a full-time minister. This quarter in the worship I presented lessons from Nehemiah. I talked about "What Motivates You?" and "Facing Discouragement."

■ **August 28:** I was invited to preach for the Indianola church of Christ. They continue to look for a new minister. I am happy to help them during this time of transition. Jason Zuehike, one of their members, has taken the role of interim minister as they search. Jason is doing a great job and I appreciate his willingness to step into this role. During this quarter in the Bible classes, we've considered the first two chapters of Ephesians. In the worship I presented lessons for Nehemiah.

■ **September 4:** Madolyn and I visited with the Saucer Creek church of Christ near Fulton, MS. Paul Epler is the minister there. He has worked with the church for over nine years. They have

around 42 in attendance and no elders.

When I first began my mission work, I worked with the congregation for three months as an interim preacher. It was a blessing to me to get to work with the church. It was good to see everyone and of course they all loved meeting Madolyn.

In Bible class Brad Freeland, one of the members, taught the class. He was finishing up chapter five of Ephesians.



Paul Epler and Brad Freeland-Saucer Creek church

He had talked about marriage relations the week before and spent his time in this lesson talking about Christ and the church. It was a good lesson. Brad is a good teacher.

In the worship, Paul presented a lesson on the "Call We Have." He started at the beginning of the Bible and talked about the fall of man and God's plan to redeem us. He sang a couple of songs during the lesson to illustrate the love we should have in the church. It was a good lesson.

After services, we enjoyed a fellowship meal together and got to visit with all the good folks at Saucer Creek.

■ **September 11:** I was invited to preach for the Potts Camp church of Christ. Jerry Coats has been the preacher there



Eddie Lewis and Jerry Coats-Potts Camp

for 13 years. Jerry asked me to speak at both services and I was happy to do so.

They have around 40 in attendance and no elders. They are a wonderful congregation and gave us a warm welcome.

The last time I had visited with the congregation was before covid. I wanted them to meet Madolyn and she was excited to meet them. They had done some remodeling in the auditorium. It looked very nice. After services most of the congregation went to a local restaurant to eat lunch and fellowship longer. It was good to see so many old friends. In the Bible class I talked about "The Great Love of God" based on John 3:16.



Luke and Laura Quinn-Greenwood

I considered several words in the passage and talked about their meaning. In the worship I presented the sermon "Christ in You, The Hope of Glory" based on Colossians 1:27. I talked about how we are to grow in the image of Christ.

■ **October 16:** I was invited to preach for the West President church of Christ in Greenwood, MS. Luke Quinn is the minister there. He and his family were away on a trip. I was happy to have the opportunity to fill in for him. The church has four elders and about 140 in attendance.

In Bible class we studied "The Blessings from God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit" found in Ephesians 1:3-14. It's a great lesson on all the spiritual blessings we have in Christ.

In the worship I presented the lesson "Discouragement: It's Cause and Cure" based on Nehemiah 4:9-23. Nehemiah gives a five-step plan to overcome discouragement.

■ **October 23:** Madolyn and I visited with the Booneville church of Christ. Ken Forrest is the preaching minister there. He was out of town and Doug Smith, their involvement minister, preached that morning. They are also served by Steven Hodgin, their education minister, Jordan Coats, their youth minister, and Beau Gross, their bi-vocational campus minister. The church is served by four elders and has around 350 in attendance. They have a great L2L program, a weekly food and clothing pantry, and a campus ministry at Northeast Mississippi Community College. Madolyn and I were able to vis-



Beau Gross and Doug Smith Booneville

it with Beau and talk to him about their campus ministry. They have had great success this year with 100+ students coming for the Wednesday night meal and Bible study. We enjoyed visiting with the good folks there. One of the elders, Jim Estes, and his wife and daughter and three grandchildren took us out to lunch. It was great catching up with them. We appreciate so much their friendship.

In the worship Doug preached on "The Responsibility of Parents" based on Proverbs 22:6. He had a great lesson and covered the responsibilities of mothers and fathers in raising their children. Our greatest need is to provide a loving, caring environment so our children can grow physically and spiritually.

■ **October 30:** Sunday night we visited with the Cleveland church of Christ. Tim McCarter has been the minister there for several years. He also serves as one of the elders. They have around 40 in attendance. It was good to see several old friends. Tim's lesson was entitled

"Future Home of the Church in Acts." He said he saw this sign one day and wondered what is that church? He said it could be answered one of two ways. It is the church described in the book of Acts, or it is a church of action. He presented a great lesson on both thoughts.

■ **CSC@ MDCC:** We had our first Wednesday night Bible Study on August 24. We had five students to come. Two were returning students and three were freshmen. We met them at orientation, and they decided to come. We had a good study and look forward to the coming weeks. Sunday night I met with part of the football team and their coaches to conduct a short Bible study. They have their team meetings



Football team study 10-9-22



Coaches dinner 9-12-22

on Sunday nights and asked me to have an open Bible study each week during the season. This opportunity was the result of us having the coaches over for a meal one night in July and talking to them about having a special Bible study. I was excited about the opportunity. We had around 20 players to come consistently. They were very interested in learning about Christ and the church.

Continued on next page

MM - MISSION REPORT • 2022

VENEZUELA... THEN AND NOW

My lifelong friends, Steve and Jane Watson, continue this great ministry of sending supplies to churches and hospitals in Venezuela. With Cristian and Angelica, a Venezuelan couple they converted, they continue to send three to four thousand pounds of food, medical supplies, baby formula, and other needed items, every month to this starving country. Here is a brief look at this beautiful country before and after the reign of a brutal dictator.

■ Then . . .

- *A country of loving people filled with hope for the future!
- *A land of gorgeous beaches, scenic mountains and lush grass lands!
- *A prosperous people with the average

Venezuelan making an annual income of \$75,000 per year.

*A stable country with ample natural resources (largest oil reserves in South America).

■ Now . . .

- *The poorest country in South America!
- *A country that has seen app. seven million people flee! This is 20% of the population! 75% of the remaining population are facing starvation!
- *A country where the average Venezuela adult lost 25 lbs. last year due to lack of sufficient food! Starvation is rampant!
- *A country with insufficient medicines and medical care. Currently, there is a 75% shortage of medicines! We have sent

\$300,000-\$400,000 (U.S retail) to 7 hospitals, 25 physicians, several individuals who are now distributing medical supplies to those in need. Lives are being saved.

*A country where the current inflation rate is app.1,000%!



■ CSC@ MDCC:

At their team meetings they have different parts of the team come so I didn't get to meet with the whole team. We talked to them about many subjects including salvation and the church. We are hopeful that after football season is over Oct. 27th, that some of them will come to the CSC to continue to study the Bible with us. Please be praying for them.

During the months of September and October we have had from 1 to 20 students attend the Wednesday night Bible Studies. We are thankful for each student. At one study five of the ten students were members of the church, which is very unusual for us. The last Wednesday in September, the girls' basketball team came and boosted our attendance to 20.

They are all good kids and interested in learning about God's word.

On September 12 we had the coaches of the women's basketball team and the baseball team for a lasagna dinner to tell them about our ministry at the CSC. They were very interested and have been encouraging their teams to come to our Bible studies.

On September 19 we had an Ice Cream Social for the women's softball team. The girls enjoyed the ice cream. I couldn't believe that some of the girls had never had a banana split. They had fun and it was a good time of fellowship.

On September 28 we had the baseball team over for an Ice Cream Social. The guys eat a lot more ice cream than the girls. We appreciate the coaches letting us tell the team about the



Lasagna Dinner 10-22



Bible Study 9-21-22



Wednesday Bible study group 8-2022

Parents In The Pews

by Brett Petrillo

It wasn't just sympathy; it was pure empathy. It was 4 AM. My wife, three young kids, a friend, and I had been standing in line to check-in our bags at the airport and to



receive our tickets. Everyone was groggy and tired. To make matters worse, we were standing in the longest check-in line I had ever seen. The line snaked all the way through their barriers, went down the long hallway of the airport, and around the corner towards the shops and restaurants. This line could have dwarfed even the longest lines at Six Flags. The sheer magnitude of the line made everyone seriously worried about missing their flight.

As we slowly progressed, a young couple caught my attention. The wife was probably 8-months pregnant and had a little girl around 2-years-old. In addition to everything they had already endured at 4 AM that morning, the child chose this very moment to let the entire airport know that she had reached her limit. She began an epic wailing that just might have made some nearby seismographs quiver. The parents' consoling wasn't working. This little girl was done with this situation. However, since everyone had been standing in line for over an hour, they couldn't leave the line, especially since they were finally getting closer to the check-in desk. There was very little this couple could do but hope the crying wouldn't break any nearby glass.

Without a doubt, it was a moment of horror for these parents. I had walked in their shoes before, and they were sneakers I wished to never walk in again. I felt very helpless for them. So, as they finally got checked in and walked by me, child screaming the whole way, I offered what small measure of encouragement I could: "Hang in there, guys. You're doing a great job."

I've encountered countless moments like this with my own family. I've encountered them in the airport and at the grocery store. I've encountered them at my friends' homes. But perhaps more than any other, I've encountered them in the pew during worship.

It can be quite the challenge. We have felt embarrassed. We have wondered if judging eyes have fallen upon our family. We've wondered if disapproving eyes are critiquing our parenting. And more than anything else, we've had doubts if we're doing things right as a parent. And then one of the most encouraging things happens -- a sweet member will come up and say, "Hang in there, guys. You're doing a great job."

I know I'm not alone. Nearly every young parent wrestles with these very thoughts. So for all the parents out there, please hang in there. You're doing a great job! Children are a tremendous blessing from the Lord (Psalm 127:3-5), and you're bringing your children to worship the Lord. You're doing what you can to train up your children in the Lord (Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4). So keep at it!

And for the rest of the members, please keep doing what you can to encourage us parents (Hebrews 3:13). Remember that children in the worship assemble (both loud and quiet) are signs of church growth, vibrance, energy, and life. So, keep showing us love and smiles as we try to train up the next generation of leaders in the church. Keep helping us with our children when we've reached those overwhelming moments. Above all, keep praying for us. We need it more than we will ever admit. **MM**



"Surgery using many items sent from this ministry".

*A country desirous of and deeply appreciative of our assistance. Many children are now going to bed with full stomachs. And, the 'poorest of the poor' are being fed!

This effort costs a great deal of money each month for supplies and shipment costs. If you would like to help, send your contributions to Pegram Church of Christ, 5019 Walkup Rd, Pegram, TN 37143. For more information contact Steve Watson at steverwatson8@gmail.com. **MM**

CSC and our ministry. We are hopeful that some of the team will come to our Wednesday night Bible study. It was a fun evening.

On October 12 we had our annual lasagna luncheon to raise money to support an orphan boy in Haiti. As always Madolyn had a good turnout from the community and the college faculty. 100+ plates were served.

Please be praying for our ministry among the college students at the CSC. The fall semester will end the first week of December. **MM**



Wednesday study 10-5-22

Precious Memories

IN MEMORY OF

PAUL FRANKS
Ronnie & Cathy Livingston
(Marietta, MS)

CHRISTOPHER COLE
RHIANNON COLE
HAMMONS
Barry Cole
(Mathiston, MS)

TALMADGE ANDERSON
Rose Anderson
(Ellisville, MS)

JERRY LEWIS
Eugenia Lewis
(Okolona, MS)

BILL KENDRICK
Jorene Kendrick
(Brandon, MS)

WM. G. SMITH
Venice Smith
(Southaven, MS)

EVIE SMITH
Rhenda & Terry Miltner
(Coldwater, MS)

JUDY WALKER
W.E. Walker
(Clinton, MS)

GARNETT HARRIS
CHARLES PRITCHARD
Larry & Brenda Summers
(Yazoo City, MS)

DONNIE LEE
Alice Humphries
(Natchez, MS)

JAY HENLEY
GARNETT HARRIS
RAY FRANKS
BILL & BARBARA
RICHARD
JAMES BRADSHAW
Mary Henley
(Brandon, MS)

HAROLD MOBLEY
Robert & Paula Mobley
(Utica, MS)

DAVID VICK
Rita Vick
(Pearl, MS)

VONCILLE NEESE
JOE LITTLE
Bobbie Pedigo
(Prattville, AL)

LINDA CHILDS
Wand Wilemon
Kay Wilemon
(New Site, MS)

FRANK SMITH
Rita Smith
(Utica, MS)
Emma Crisler
(Port Gibson, MS)

CHARLES MATHENY
Linda Matheny
(Somerville, TN)

LORRAINE STOVALL
Alma & Jerry Mitchell
(Athens, AL)

CHARLENE STEWART
Lewis Stewart
(Statesboro, GA)

WILLIAM "BILLY"
BYRNES
HAROLD MOBLEY
John & Anita Watkins
(Port Gibson, MS)

EUNICE MABRY
Marcine Taylor
(Como, MS)

IN HONOR OF

MILTON & ANN
PHINNESSEE
Frederick Alan Jones
(Jackson, TN)

SUE HARRIS
Mary Balentine
(Savannah, TN)

CECIL & JANICE MAY
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Honaker
(Montgomery, AL)

CHARLES & JANE BEEBE
Connie Burgoon
(Canyon, TX)

FRANKS FAMILY
John & Anita Watkins
(Port Gibson, MS)

MAGNOLIA
MM
MESSANGER



WOMEN Power!

by Frank Parker, Sebring, Florida

I read an interesting article, *Under The Influence*, by Clista Heintzman, which expounded the influence of women's power over men. She cited Biblical cases of negative influence prompting men to behave in reckless and sinful ways. Of course, this did not give men a free pass on accountability!

Eve was first on her list, then came Jezebel, Solomon's wives, Esau's wives, Mrs. Job. Added to this is Haman's wife; Samson & Delilah and Herodias, Philip's wife. Note several thought provoking statements: "Ahab cowed to her wicked ways;" "The Bible says they led him away from the Lord with their wickedness;" and "A woman can make or break a man." This is clearly reflected in Proverbs 12:4: "An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones."

Let's take the positive side of Clista's last quote and note some worthy examples of women power/wife support and teamwork. Elizabeth and Zacharias quickly come to mind: "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6). They were the proud parents of another great servant, John. Of course, there is Mary and Joseph and the positive influence they had on Jesus in His early years. (Luke 2:39-42) Jesus was referred to as "the carpenter's son" and "the carpenter" (Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3). A worthy example to fathers today! A list must also include Priscilla and Aquila and their example as servants in the kingdom of Heaven. Their example of teaching Apollos "the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:24-28) and their support/friendship of Paul is a model and challenge to couple's today in the body of Christ. Of course, many more could be added to this list of excellent models of positive "women power".

But, as in the first century church and today, there is the Lois/Eunice team! This grandmother and mother cooperative had a profound influence (women power) on the life of Timothy (2 Timothy 1:5). Evidently, based on Acts 16:1-3, Timothy's father was an unbeliever and yet this team stepped forward and from a childhood taught him the Holy Scriptures. Paul's letters to Timothy plus the history in Acts shows the fruit of the Lois/Eunice efforts in this faithful grandson/son worker in the kingdom.

It is a tragedy the way politicians and society have plotted men against women. i.e., female against male! A beautiful picture of harmony is described in Ephesians 5:22-33 which the wise will follow. This is a perfect balance of "women power" and "men power" working together with mutual respect and success. A beautiful word picture of this is in Proverbs 31:10-31. Effective spiritual leaders in the body of Christ come from homes where there is this balance of "women power" and "men power" as noted in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

True is the statement, "So goes the home, so goes the nation" which is verified in history and Scripture. With the mindset of the same sex marriage and homosexual/lesbian crowd, we, as a nation, are walking on thin ice!! When you undermine the foundation, the whole collapses! So, we as the church of Christ must preach sound doctrine to build and support strong homes in an evil world. But the other half is that we must live it without shame or apology! **MM**

(frankparker27@gmail.com)

The MAGNOLIA MESSENGERS

Preacher SEARCH

MONTICELLO CHURCH OF CHRIST

A 150-yr old congregation in Monticello, Arkansas, is seeking a full-time minister. Search Committee, c/o Monticello church of Christ, P.O. Box 485, Monticello, AR 71657 Marty Baker - Cell: 870-723-5192 Work Office: 870-367-8676

THE CHRISTOPHER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Is seeking a minister for a congregation of about 33 members, located in Southern Illinois. Salary is \$36,000 per year. Please send resume, references, and a sample sermon to jurbanmail@gmail.com Or call George Marshall at (618) 218-1401.

DEERFOOT CHURCH OF CHRIST

Looking for Outreach Minister in the Birmingham, AL, area. We are about 400 members. Michael Dykes hiring.outreach@deerfootcoc.com

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are in search of a Gospel preacher, willing to work, sound in doctrine and life. Please mail resume, background, and CD to: West Walker Church of Christ 26036 Hwy 118 • Carbon Hill, AL 35549

CLINTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Clinton, MS) is currently seeking a minister who defines his ministry as preaching, teaching, and equipping others to serve. clintonmscofc@gmail.com please contact the elders at 601-924-5300

INDIANOLA CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are searching for a new full-time minister. We have office space at the building and a 3-bedroom 2-bath house within city limits in a good neighborhood. 504 Grand Ave, Indianola, MS 38751 IndianolaMSCoC@gmail.com 662-887-4025 - church building 662-207-9843 - Jason Zuehlke

SEEKING ASSOCIATE MINISTER

WESTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

Western Hills seeks an experienced associate minister to work with an established church of Christ serving the Lord faithfully on the western edge of Fort Worth, TX. 8800 Chapin Rd. Fort Worth, TX 76116 817-244-0132 • <http://www.whcoc.net> job@whcoc.net

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS COLLEGE AVE.

CHURCH OF CHRIST is looking for a replacement in the pulpit. Contact: Mack Moore 850-892-5376 or email

14TH AND MAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST

The congregation at 14th and Main in Big Spring, Texas, is seeking an experienced full-time minister. We are a well-established

congregation of over 125 active members, 3 elders, 7 deacons and a full-time associate/youth minister. 14thmaincoc@gmail.com in care of the Minister search committee. You may also call Trey Cauble at (432) 466-4885.

LITTLE MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Seeking a bi-vocational minister. We are a small congregation located approximately 5 minutes from downtown Winchester, just off Hwy 64.

Email: littlemountaincofc1900@yahoo.com (931) 636-7796 - Thomas Loudermilk (931) 247-2828 - Tim Michael

BURNSVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

We are looking for a preacher. We are small church, around 40 in attendance Contact Gary Orick, 662-660-6333.

THE CLARKE COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

is seeking a visionary minister to assist in growing God's Kingdom. Athens is a beautiful city located 70 miles from Atlanta. For more information, visit clarkecountycoc.org.

THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Associate Minister-Youth and Family Advertisement The University church of Christ at 5651 Zeigler Boulevard in Mobile, AL, currently has an opening for a full-time associate minister. Please send resumes to the following: Richard Jay - Elder • richard.jay@spireenergy.com

MERIDIAN CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Meridian church of Christ, located in Meridian, MS, is in search of a full-time minister. Meridian church of Christ, PO Box 3476, Meridian, MS 39303-3476 or E-mail to both of the following: Andy Duncan (Elder), hadunca62@gmail.com , Tom Fair (Elder), htfair1@gmail.com

PERRYVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are looking for a good grounded-in-the-truth, solid gospel preacher. We are the Perryville Church of Christ in Perryville, AR. We are about a 90-member strong congregation. Please contact: Steve Pruitt/ Elder for Perryville Church of Christ. 501-215-7241 / or stevepruitt@hodgeauto.com

SECOND STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Second Street Church of Christ in Belmont, MS, is seeking full time minister. We are fifty members serving the Lord in our community and seeking strong pulpit minister and teacher. 205-412-4377 Email: wallaceandglendawilliams@gmail.com

SOUTH HUNTINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

The South Huntington Church of Christ in Kosciusko, MS, is looking for a full-time preaching minister. Will Anderson at willanderson@yahoo.com text 662-832-0457.

ROCKY CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST

Youth Minister Search. We are in the process of losing our Youth Minister of 8 years. He is moving back home to work with his original home church. Contact: Rocky Creek Church of Christ in George County. Stan James Email: Stanjames4him@gmail.com

COFFEEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

A congregation of 45-50 members, Salary based on experience. 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms house is provided.

Jim Peters 662-675-8623

John Allen 662-473-8702

NETTLETON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Is searching for it's next preacher. Looking for a man sound in faith and a strong community worker. 3 bedroom 2 bath house is provided in town. Salary to be discussed at time of interview. Contact: minettletonpreacher2020@gmail.com Billy Pender: (662) 401-8028 Paul Waddle: (662) 523-5708

THE FARMERVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

is searching for a full-time Gospel minister. The compensation package includes a 4-bedroom/2-bath, unfurnished home if desired. Chris at: fvcofc@outlook.com • (fvcofc.org) Alternatively, send mail to: Farmerville Church of Christ, 306 East Franklin Street, Farmerville, Louisiana 71241

MANKATO CHURCH OF CHRIST

is seeking mission-minded Christians who are willing to transplant to our city in Minnesota. At this time we are seeking part time preachers, teachers, and general volunteers as we work to build a vocational ministry starting with the focus in the city of Mankato, MN. Mankato Church of Christ <mankatochurchof-christ@gmail.com>

HIGHWAY 15 CHURCH OF CHRIST

in Pontotoc, MS, is seeking qualified candidates for a full-time pulpit minister. The congregation presently has about 50 members with two elders and four deacons. Please send resumes to: John Hay jhay0831@gmail.com (901-786-4187).

CROWLEY'S RIDGE COLLEGE

We have an opening for a Director of Marketing Candidates must be a current active Christian and a member of a Church of Christ. Please submit a resume by email to: Dr. Richard Johnson, President at rjohnson@crc.edu Questions? Call or email: 870-236-6901 or rjohnson@crc.edu

by Dennis Doughty

"INSCRIPTIONS"

"Long Live the King!"

As the death of Queen Elizabeth was announced we heard the words, "Long live the King!" The Monarchy would continue. While England has lived under a monarchy, America rejected the King's rule and fought to be free from his power and instead established a constitutional republic. In effect, we wanted to rule ourselves.

Perhaps this is a barrier to us in America understanding that as Christians we must live our lives under the rule of a King. God proclaimed of his Son, "I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain" (Ps. 2:6). After his birth, the wise men came seeking "He who has been born King of the Jews" (Mt. 2:2). As Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem the people shouted, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord" (Lu. 19:38).

At his trial Pilate asked him if he were a King? "You say correctly that I am a King. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world" (Jn. 18:37). Jesus was resurrected to become our king, "the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords" (1 Ti. 6:15). Christianity is not a democracy. We bow before a King, we serve a living King, we are children of the King. Our lives are to honor our King and be subservient to his commands. LONG LIVE THE KING!

"Full of Sap and Very Green"

The lifetime Missionary, Joe Cannon, was in his eighties and in poor health when his elders advised that he not return to the mission field. He went anyway, replying, "I can be just as weak and tired over there as I can be here." The great Canadian preacher, J. C. Bailey, after preaching for 40 years, at age 60, began mission work in India. His first five years over 20,000 were baptized. He continued to preach in India until he was 87 years old.

Moses was eighty years old when he stood before the burning bush. He would set a nation free and lead them to the promise land. "Although Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died, his eye was not dim, nor his vigor abated" (De. 34:7). Just because we are drawing Social Security, does not mean God is finished with us. Just the opposite. It is in our senior years that God has us trained to do some of our greatest work.

The Psalmist compared the Righteous to "a cedar in Lebanon," saying, "They will still yield fruit in old age; They shall be full of sap and very green" (Ps. 92: 12, 14). It is the faithful senior citizens that lead our churches, care for the sick, travel to foreign lands to reach the lost, and are a strong influence on their grandchildren. Look to the older Christians in your congregation, how dedicated they are to the Lord, and realize there is still a lot of sap flowing through those old veins!

I started writing this weekly column for our class newsletter. Now sixteen years later, it has grown to over seven hundred readers each week. These short articles are designed for bulletin use, and are also a good source for devotional and sermon material. If you would like to start getting it each week, send me an email at dennis1848@bellsouth.net -dd

"Love The Brotherhood"

A Unique Effort in Preaching the Gospel

In the last issue we highlighted the work Brandon Glover and David Lipe do each year. Brother Glover turns his large shop building in Jasper, Alabama, into a meeting place and invites neighbors and friends to come and hear Dr. David Lipe preach. They did it again this past October with great results.

David writes, "Two years ago we had about 40 in attendance. This year we ranged from 164 on Sunday to 116 or more each night." He adds, "We set up a study with a young woman from the community and baptized her."

David's wife Linda reported, "What a great way to end the effort! One baptism from a private study David had today. 135 in attendance and a lovely lady who turned 85 today. So many special friends here. Last night was amazing! We had 160 local



attendance and 4 who joined by Zoom from Utah. The lessons are more class-setting than preaching. People can participate and ask questions. It's a great way for people to invite friends and neighbors who might not come to a traditional gospel meeting. The singing was wonderful. And, there were a couple of unexpected guests, too. Meal provided afterwards by Blackwater BBQ and members of the Blackwater Macedonia congregation."

We commend Brandon for using his facility each year to reach out to his community. What Brandon Glover does, with David Lipe preaching each night, is in the same evangelistic spirit we find in the New Testament. Paul preached in the Areopagus on Mars Hill. We read of that success too, as "some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Dameris and others with them" (Acts 17:34).

I hope this effort inspires others to turn their businesses, garages, or barns, into places people can come and hear the gospel! **MM**

You Are Invited to

The Delta Enrichment Series January 28, 2023

*at the the Cleveland church of Christ
212 Ronaldman Road Cleveland, MS*

(662) 843-5073 www.clevelandcofc.org

Speaker: John J. Deberry, Jr.

These Sent In Answers to QB, Last Issue

1. Christopher Carroll
2. Evelyn Baker
3. Marcine Taylor
4. Geneva Barid
5. Herschel Ford
6. Nancy Floyd
7. Shirley Carroll
8. Sarah Hill
9. Alice Humphries
10. Carolyn Mitchell
11. Ray Parham
12. Carolyn Harvill
13. Dorothy Brunson
14. Cheri Moore
15. Ann Cockroft
16. Katie Burns
17. Clifford Byrd
18. Dorothy Mallet
19. Glenda Kees
20. Emile & Peggy Rollins
21. Shelia Grant
22. Judith Franks
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27. Ella McElroy
28. Mary Laurent
29. Betty Bryant
30. Joe Holmes
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49. Sharon Huckaba
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51. Luther Williams
52. Michelle Simpson
53. Mable Leah Hodges
54. Veratis Reed
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60. Florine Riley
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65. David Rutter
66. Bill Moore
67. Charlotte Rauchle
68. Wm. & Atlean Snow
69. Wanda Cochran
70. Perkins Cochran
71. Terry Miltner
72. Rhenda Miltner
73. Maggie Terry
74. Janice Griffin
75. Linda Swan
76. Aiden Lindley
77. Christiana Lindley
78. Beulah Rupert
79. Bernita Booker
80. Doyce Britt
81. Lynn Bicknell
82. Martha Bell
83. Carla McKinney
84. Hilda Laster
85. Jim Vermillion
86. Eddie Vermillion
87. Carolyn Jackson
88. Elizabeth Hines
89. Shelia Ganier Williams
90. Daniel Carter
91. Elizabeth Dickerson
92. Peggy Vinson
93. Suzette Endris
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95. Linda Dalton
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97. Wilma Lakey
98. Jesse Bankhead
99. Brenda Green
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103. Iris Posey
104. Mary Grigsby
105. Brenda Magee
106. Rylee Sigle
107. Dorsey & Margie Burton
108. Karen Williams
109. Ruby King
110. Michael Euer
111. Brady Walton
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146. Maggie Edmonds
147. Christene Holliday
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151. Gregory Hawkins
152. Stacey Hawkins
153. Melinda Hawkins
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155. Laura Brannon
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157. Steve Moore
158. Garry Gooch
159. Gayle Carlock
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161. William Pyron
162. Jim & Judy Hill
163. Peggy Crouch
164. Sharon Praytor
165. Rudy Nell Parham
166. Becky Etheridge
167. Rick Bishop
168. Gayla Lang
169. Gloria Boyd
170. Vera Spencer
171. Sherry Johnson
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173. Bonnie Howell
174. Laverne Becker
175. Edward Yancey
176. Dorothy Winslett
177. Frederick Alan Jones
178. Georgia Taylor
179. George Lowrey
180. Admiral & Ruth Tidwell
181. Wanda Jent
182. Juanita Slaughter
183. Billy Willingham
184. Bert Tingle
185. Vickie Comer
186. Jean Lewis
187. Elijah Tigner
188. Exie Motes
189. Evelyn Netterville
190. Jesse Brent
191. Emma Graham Spiva
192. Beverly Miles
193. Carolyn Stanford
194. Mary Lewis
195. Paul & Elsie Bryson
196. Wild Pounds
197. Sandra Graves
198. Amy Hutson
199. Ann Gilliland
200. Ed Lyon
201. Linda Cook
202. Julius Lee Wales
203. Kathy Bordelon
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206. Sherian Martin
207. Lillie Williams
208. Steven Nelson
209. Mary Turner
210. Patrilla Maddox
211. Missy Ivey
212. Pat Moore
213. Billye Wiygul
214. Rose Lee
215. Pat Shadle
216. Peggy Engel
217. Bobbie Loggins
218. Jimmie Brown
219. Mary Ruth Goff
220. Linda Miller
221. Michele Elliott
222. Peggy Hartman
223. Nadine Patton
224. Sarah Greene
225. Bonnie Holcomb
226. Glenda Wilson
227. Sharon Dantzler
228. Bonnie Skates
229. Claranett Hathorn
230. Lee Ehret
231. Henry Norris
232. Bertha King
233. Shelvie McGuire
234. Rosie Taylor
235. Bobbie Clayborn
236. Faye Stanford
237. Luccile & Eddie Clark
238. Betty Van Buren
239. Glenda & Danny Wooldridge
240. Gail Saxon
241. Vannie White
242. Alberta Fuller
243. Ruby Cameron
244. Betty Skinner
245. Princess Watson
246. Betty Stanford
247. Rebecca Mays
248. Laura Nanney
249. Mary King
250. Dee Kepler
251. Dan Daniels
252. Carolyn Miller
253. James Thornton
254. Cathy Todd
255. Sue Tyner
256. Joe Pybas
257. Evon Ford
258. Vivian Covington
259. Kaye Wise
260. Charlotte Langley
261. Linda Jeans
262. Imogene Grayson
263. Scott McKinney
264. Ron Alexander
265. Linda Gentry
266. Velma Isom
267. Marie Lively
268. Earnice Jones
269. Charles Rutherford
270. MacArthur Mullins
271. Millie Ann Goode
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274. George Wooden
275. Steven Tutor
276. Blaise Fernandez
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278. Averi McKinney
279. Carson Alexander
280. Ainsley McKinney
281. Jon McKinney
282. Carrie Wall
283. Lynn Grisham
284. Sandra Grisham
285. Reagan Hall
286. Mary & Annalynn Walters
287. Ellen Welsh
288. Glenda Jefcoat
289. Barbara Nickerson
290. Shirley Burnett
291. Levi Burnett
292. Ryleigh Holliday
293. R. Rogers
294. Fannie & Douglas Johnson
295. Claude Williams
296. Mary Jacobs
297. Joyce Reich Gray
298. Mary Adams
299. Ruby Silvers
300. Betty Shackelford
301. A J Morris
302. Ruby Morris
303. Brayla Michael
304. Anita Butler
305. Annette McManus
306. Linda Jackson
307. William Free
308. Darryl Sterling
309. Kim Wallace
310. Gay Null
311. Althea House
312. Scott Balentine
313. Carolyn Perry
314. Donna Gulley
315. Grace Childers
316. Dillie Pearl Horton
317. Ella Gentry
318. Eva Almon
319. Ellen Goff
320. Billy Alford
321. Estelle Glover
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323. Shirley Bostick
324. Bronwen Pollard
325. Barbara Burton
326. Danny Stacks
327. Alice Dempsey
328. Joyce Broyles
329. Jewell Trice
330. Lola Tittle
331. Lesha Lott
332. Rachel Pruitt
333. Mary Henley
334. Jane Barnett
335. Doris Fletcher
336. Doris Darnell
337. Glenn Newell
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361. Mary Evans
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367. Vera Mae Winfrey
368. Sadie Bruce
369. Tanya Fayard
370. Earnestine Britnell
371. Roscoe Slate
372. Mitchell Gurley
373. Dana Holtzlander
374. Judy Gurley
375. Josephine Carter
376. Jimmy Dillinger
377. Bonnie Dixon
378. Clyde Bradford
379. Floyd Goode
380. Mary Barr
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382. Herman Pikes
383. Charlane Stanfield
384. James Burden
385. Cora Taylor
386. Elizabeth Todd
387. Wanda Meador
388. Luke Madison
389. Mary Whitehead
390. Frank Winding, Jr.
391. Phyllis Norton
392. Kelly Key
393. Natalie Stewart
394. Janie Green
395. John Brooks
396. Anne Shelton
397. Johnnie Jumper
398. Charles Norwood
399. Sue Mason
400. Bobbie Goodknight
401. Earl Franks
402. Stephanie Slaydon
403. Wes & Rhoda Jeans
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406. Kayleigh Blackmon
407. Missy Blackmon
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409. Keitha Hare
410. Johnnye Blackmon
411. Dorothy Franks
412. Kimberly Franks
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415. Bruce Blakemore
416. Judy Ramey
417. Travis Dillinger
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Church of Christ
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Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090

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Question Box DECEMBER 2022

Family

A BLESSING FROM GOD

Match the following families using the scriptures given below:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| _____1. Abraham and Sarah | A. Timothy |
| _____2. Adam and Eve | B. Isaac |
| _____3. Abraham and Keturah | C. Samuel |
| _____4. Eli | D. Gad, Asher |
| _____5. Elimelech and Naomi | E. Shem, Ham, Japheth |
| _____6. Elkanah and Hannah | F. Cain, Abel, Seth |
| _____7. Lois, Eunice | G. Dan, Naphtali |
| _____8. Noah | H. Esau, Jacob |
| _____9. Isaac and Rebekah | I. Hophni, Phinehas |
| _____10. Jacob and Leah | J. Joseph, Benjamin |
| _____11. Jacob and Rachel | K. Mahlon, Chilion |
| _____12. Jacob and Zilpah | L. Manasseh, Ephraim |
| _____13. Jacob and Bilhah | M. John the baptizer |
| _____14. Joseph and Aseneth | N. James, Joses, Simon, Judas |
| _____15. Mary and Joseph | O. Zimram, Jokshan, Medan,
Midian, Ishbak, Shuah |
| _____16. Zacharias and Elizabeth | P. Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah,
Issachar, Zebulun |

FOR HELP, READ:

Genesis 4:1-2	Genesis 21:3	Ruth 1:2
Genesis 5:3	Genesis 25:1-2, 20-26	1 Samuel 1:3-5, 20
Genesis 6:10	Genesis 35:23-26	Luke 1:13
Genesis 11:26	Genesis 41:50-52	

Prepared by Glenn & Beth Beall, foyfoyirish@gmail.com

Please Send Your Answers To Us

(Print your name... Please. Thank you!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Bible Winner

Marie Lively
from Jackson, TN



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HOLY BIBLE



Send your Questions to
Dan Winkler
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NOTICE: Each person who sends in answers will be recognized in the next issue of the "MM" (see page 31). ALSO, by random drawing, the name of ONE student will be selected to receive a beautiful New Study Bible.

"The Question Box"

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MESSENGER Addresses: Changes or Additions: Send info to: glendafranks@yahoo.com