

WORSHIP—SUNDAY—6:00 PM

Announcements.....George Clay
Song Leader.....Gavin Spurlin
Scripture Reading.....Austin Clay
First Prayer.....Glen Reece
PM Sermon.....Sam Willcut
Lord’s Supper...Kaleb Bush & Ethan Crockett
Closing Prayer.....Justin Draper

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY —7:00 PM

Announcements.....George Clay
Song Leader.....Mitchell Halliburton
First Prayer.....Dallas Eddie
Opening Prayer.....Brian Smith
Invitation.....Glen Reece
Closing Prayer.....Travis Thomas

Prepare Communion for **JANUARY**—Karen Halliburton & Diana Preston
Suggested Daily Bible Reading for January — **James 1-5**

PRAYER LIST

Opal Agee (Concordia Nursing and Rehabilitation of Smith County, Carthage, Room 705B), **Maria Anderson, Patti Birdwell** (sister-in-law of Mel Smith, upcoming surgery for brain aneurysm), **Raymelle Cole** (mother of Lesa Leonard), **Sawyer Cole** (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Billy Halliburton, Mary Massey** (friend of many) is not doing well at The Pavilion Senior Living at Carthage, **Linda Phillips** (friend of Janice Pinckley, battling pancreatic cancer), **Florence Shoulders** (friend of Patsy Turner) spent time in Macon County General Hospital in Lafayette, **Liberty West** (friend of Kimmy Bush) is home from Vanderbilt Hospital, **Ruby Mae West** (friend of many) is now living with her daughter

Remember our military and missionaries serving overseas!

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

The week of 1/20/19
Worship Sunday AM.....77
Bible Study Sunday AM.....69
Daily Bible Readers.....45
Worship Sunday PM.....61
Wednesday (1/16/19).....61
Offering.....\$3,277.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 27—Timothy & Dorcas Classes, 4:00 PM
January 27—Fourth Sunday Fellowship Supper, 5:00 PM
February 3—Men’s Business Meeting

AREA EVENTS

January 25—Mid-TN Friday Night Singing, Corinth Church of Christ, Portland, TN, 7:00 PM

January 26—Gospel Meeting with Eric Lyons, Center Grove, Gainesboro, TN, 6:00 PM

February 2—Young Men's Seminar, East Main, Murfreesboro, TN

February 22-24—CYC, Gatlinburg, TN

The Death of Jesus Christ

The death of Christ met and requited every demand of violated justice. In Romans 3:25-26, the apostle Paul wrote concerning the death of Jesus: “*Whom God set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*” His death provided the great mercy of God that could rejoice against His righteous judgment. The death of Christ made all this possible because His blood cleanses sins and separates the obedient from the non-obedient.

The death of Christ was the perfect plan for satisfying perfectly and fully the divine plan of redemption. It is only through His death that the souls of many men have taken on the quality of the righteousness of God.

The death of Christ provides us the chance to realize a nearer and closer relationship with God than we otherwise could realize. In Luke 7:41-43, Jesus tells a parable to a Pharisee named Simon. The parable is about a creditor forgiving two debtors—“*the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.*” He asks Simon, “*Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?*” Simon returned the correct answer: “*I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most.*” Jesus died for us (1 Corinthians 5:21). Those who love Him do so more than they could otherwise have loved Him.

Therefore, concerning the death of Christ, just how much does God hate sin? Look in Gethsemane and see the drops of sweat as blood (Luke 22:44). Look at Calvary and hear the mocking of sinful, cursed men (Mark 15:29-32). Look at Jesus and hear Him cry out, “*My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?*” (Matthew 27:46). Then we will see what it cost God to atone for the sins of humanity. When one understands this, there will be no hesitating to be baptized in the likeness of the death of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-4).

—Sam Willcut

Courage to Stand

Both Moses and David wrote vividly on the subject of courage and fortitude. Steadfast loyalty is a major Bible subject. A typical statement in the Old Testament on this vital matter states, “*Be strong and of good courage, fear not...for the Lord, thy God, will be with you*” (Joshua 1:9). The apostle Paul wrote similar encouragement to Christians in Ephesus (Ephesians 6:10-14). Warfare against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12) is a fierce battle that demands proper use of the “*shield of faith...helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit*” (Ephesians 6:16-17).

The Savior has promised, “*I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee*” (Hebrews 13:5). We should not fear what men can do to harm us (Hebrews 13:6). The practice of “*casting all your cares upon Him*” (1 Peter 5:7) grants us freedom to seek peace and pursue it (1 Peter 3:11). A secular song challenges our attention:

*Give me some men who are stout-hearted men,
Who will fight for the right they adore,
Start me with ten who are stout-hearted men,
And I will soon give you ten thousand more!*

When we review the biblical record of courageous folks who stood for the truth against all odds (Noah, Joseph, Joshua, Micaiah, Daniel, Stephen, Barnabas, and Jesus), it gives us hope. We, too, must have the courage to stand against Satan with steadfast faith (1 Peter 5:9) as we resist the fiery darts of the enemy of our souls (James 4:7). When we obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29), we gain inner strength so desperately needed.

*Each step I take,
I know that He will guide me,
To higher ground,
He ever leads me on.*

There are several areas in which members of the Lord’s church need to manifest truly the courage to stand, including the Bible (Psalm 119:46) and the church (Ephesians 3:11, 21).

—adapted from Johnny Ramsey