

WORSHIP—SUNDAY—6:00 PM

Announcements.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
Song Leader.....Steve Anderson
Scripture Reading.....Taner Cook
First Prayer.....Jeff Crockett
PM Sermon.....Sam Willcut
Lord’s Supper....Brian Smith & Gavin Spurlin
Closing Prayer.....Kaleb Bush

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY—7:00 PM

Announcements.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
Song Leader.....Justin Draper
First Prayer.....Roger Draper
Opening Prayer.....Brian Smith
Invitation.....Sam Willcut
Closing Prayer.....Mitchell Halliburton

Prepare Communion for **FEBRUARY**—Teresa Clay
Suggested Daily Bible Reading for February — **James 1-5**

PRAYER LIST

Opal Agee (Concordia Nursing and Rehabilitation of Smith County, Carthage, Room 705B), **Patti Birdwell** (sister-in-law of Mel Smith, upcoming surgery for brain aneurysm), **Rachel Bush** is recovering at home after a stay at Vanderbilt Hospital, **Sawyer Cole** (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Billy Halliburton** is home after a brief stay in the hospital, **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) is in Carthage Hospital, Room #101, **Ruby Mae West** (friend of many) is now living with her daughter

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

The week of 1/27/19	
Worship Sunday AM.....	87
Bible Study Sunday AM.....	76
Daily Bible Readers.....	44
Worship Sunday PM.....	71
Wednesday (1/23/19).....	50
Offering.....	\$5,439.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 3—Men’s Business Meeting after AM Bible classes
February 24—Timothy & Dorcas classes
February 24—Fourth Sunday Fellowship

AREA EVENTS

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

February 10—Singing, Drapers Crossroads, Lafayette, 2:00 PM

February 15—Mid-TN Friday Night Singing, Findlay, Sparta, 7:00 PM

February 22-24—CYC, Gatlinburg, TN

April 13—Ladies’ Day, East Main, Murfreesboro

The Purpose of Life

Life is a precious gift from God. It is God who “*forms the spirit of man within him*” (Zechariah 12:1), and it is to God that our spirits return after death (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Consequently, it would seem that men ought to use their lives to please God, but rather than striving to “*seek the Lord*” (Acts 17:27), men often expend their energies in other ventures.

For example, some act as if their purpose in life is to gain physical wealth, and to that end, they focus all of their efforts. Those who struggle in this area should be reminded of several basic biblical truths:

- “*One’s life does not consist in the abundance of things he possesses*” (Luke 12:15).
- Christians ought to “*lay up for [themselves] treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal*” (Matthew 6:20).
- “*The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil*” (1 Timothy 6:10).

In other words, life’s purpose is not to amass earthly wealth.

Others act as if their purpose in life is to maintain their physical health. While it should be granted that our bodies are important to God (1 Corinthians 6:19), and that “*bodily exercise profits a little*” (1 Timothy 4:8), it must be remembered that at the longest, our lives are but brief (James 4:14). For this reason, we must make sure that we do not become so consumed with caring for our bodies that we lose our focus upon God.

Still others act as if the purpose of life is to experience pleasure. This also misses the point of our existence. Our purpose is to “*Fear God and keep His commandments. For this is man’s all*” (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

—Chad Ramsey