



**BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY — 7:00 PM**

- Announcements.....George Clay
- Song Leader.....Glen Reece
- First Prayer.....Roger Draper
- Opening Prayer.....Mitchell Brooks
- Invitation.....Brian Smith
- Closing Prayer.....Dallas Eddie

Prepare Communion for **MARCH**—Patsy Reece

Suggested Daily Bible Reading for March: Read 7 chapters of **Genesis** each day (with 8 chapters on the final day of the week)

**PRAYER LIST**

**Opal Agee** (Concordia Nursing and Rehabilitation of Smith County, Carthage, Room 705B), **Sawyer Cole** (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Billy Halliburton** is home from rehab, **MC Hix** (father of Maria Anderson) is not doing well at home, **Peggy Kemp** is recovering from knee surgery, **Linda Phillips** (friend of Janice Pinckley, battling pancreatic cancer), **Ruby Mae West** (friend of many) is now living with her daughter

**OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST**

The week of 3/17/19	
Worship Sunday AM.....	99
Bible Study Sunday AM.....	79
Daily Bible Readers.....	45
Worship Sunday PM.....	66
Wednesday (3/13/19).....	64
Offering.....	\$3,092.00

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- March 22**—Montrose Annual Singing, 5:00 PM
- March 24**—Timothy & Dorcas classes, 5:00 PM
- March 31**—Young Men conduct PM service

**AREA EVENTS**

- April 13**—Ladies’ Day, East Main, Murfreesboro
- April 13**—Ladies’ Day, Charlotte Heights, Nashville
- April 13**—Ladies’ Day, Livingston
- April 25**—Smith County Drug Prevention Coalition Meeting on Addiction, Smith County  
Historic Courthouse, 6:00 PM
- May 18**—Ladies’ Day, Philippi, Castalian Springs, 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

## Instability

At the conclusion of discussing the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Paul wrote, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...*” (1 Corinthians 15:58). To his brethren in Colossae, he encouraged them to “*...continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel...*” (Colossians 1:23). For the Christian to mature, he needs to develop stability. The book of Galatians provides a perfect backdrop to the condition of instability, for in every chapter of this book, Paul addresses this problem. Notice these examples with me.

In Galatians 1, he begins immediately after his introduction and salutation,

*I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.* [Galatians 1:6-9]

While the background of this deals with the gospel taught by Judaizing teachers, its application runs deep in the denominational world in which we live today.

In Galatians 2, he deals with the instability of Peter (2:11-21). How fascinating that while Peter was instrumental in leading a Gentile (Cornelius) and his family to Christ and even defending himself before his brethren in Acts 11, he now withdrew that fellowship he once extended and separated himself to the chastisement of the apostle Paul. Fellowship is an important and valuable spiritual commodity that we are not to treat lightly!

He immediately begins Galatians 3: “*O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*” (3:1). He asks again, “*Are ye so foolish?*” (3:3). Then, to set the matter straight once more, he discusses the relationship of the gospel of Jesus Christ (faith) and the Law of Moses with the promise of redemption that God made to Father Abraham.

In Galatians 4, he speaks plainly with them,

*Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? For I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have give them to me. Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth? They zealously affect you, but not well; yea, they would exclude you, that ye might affect them. But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing, and not only when I am present with you.* [4:15-18]

They were steadfast when Paul was with them, but unstable when he was not with them. Maturity develops when we are steadfast at all times, regardless of the crowd—even if we are alone.

In Galatians 5, he commended them at the beginning: “*Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?*” (5:7). While illustrating the Christian race, it is not a sprint, but a marathon. What matters in the end is not how we began, but how we finish (cf. 2 Timothy 4:7-8).

In Galatians 6, he encourages them never to quit by stating, “*And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not*” (6:9). Then, as he has touched upon throughout his epistle, he brings up the subject of the effect of Judaizing teachers at the conclusion of his letter (6:12-15).

Therefore, throughout this powerful epistle, Paul points out their instability and encourages steadfastness. May we resolve to learn from their mistakes and mature spiritually toward stability through steadfastness.

—Sam Willcut

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**SINGING**

**MONTROSE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
53 Lakeside Drive  
Carthage, TN 37030

**MARCH 22, 2019**

**WE WILL BEGIN SERVING  
A MEAL AT 5:00 PM**

**WE WILL BEGIN SINGING  
AT 7:00 PM**

**For more information,  
call 1-615-774-3111**