

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◇ Please remember in prayer– The Claridy and Marschall families, Ken and Arlene Turner, Vivian Dillman, Tammy Sadler, Ronnie Henderson, Madge Hicks, Steph Marschall, Wayne Ryland, Joey Day, and Keri Rice’s mother (Diane Fields).
- ◇ Heather Capuana was out of town Wednesday, while Eric Stevens and Eddie Lawson were working.
- ◇ The Wisdom’s nephew (Jeremiah Crapps) is home and doing well.
- ◇ Please remember also our shut-ins:
- ◇ Group 3 meets tonight.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1st and 3rd Friday each month - Teen Bible Study
- 2nd Sunday each month - Afternoon Singing
- 2nd Monday night of each month—Ladies’ Bible Class. *(Next Week)*
- 4th Sunday of each month -Men’s Class

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Assignments

Wednesday Night: 3/6/13

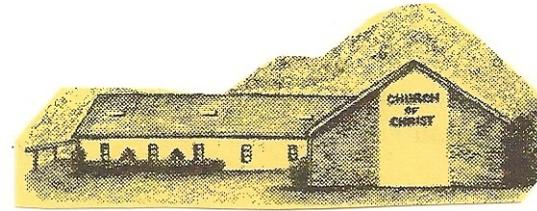
Song Leader: Nick Ross
 Opening Prayer: David Williams
 Invitation: Larry Wisdom
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Jordan Lawson
 Parking Lot: Leon Miller

Sunday Evening: 3/10/13

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall
 Lord’s Table: Larry Hicks
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Eric Stevens
 Parking Lot: Bucky Day

Sunday Morning: 3/10/13

Lord’s Table: Larry Hicks (B)
 Jerry Williams (C)
 Serving: Daniel Staggers
 Jim Abram
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom
 Opening Prayer: James VanDoorn
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Jordan Lawson
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Norm Blackburn
 (9:50) Jim Abram



Lakeland Hills LEADER

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378

SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Michael Sadler
 Eric Stevens
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“Man is Not Saved by Praying a Sinner’s Prayer”

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me.”

-Revelation 3:20

So often, this verse is taken out of its context and then applied to the means of initial conversion. The problem is that these instructions were written in a letter **to the church** in Laodicea, specifically to those that had *already* been baptized and had *already* been born again. **This is not a verse about conversion.** This was written to people who were *already* Christians (the church—see verse 14) and who were growing weak, in order to direct them back to a closer walk with God.

Too many teach out of error that one need only to say a prayer that goes something like this in order to be saved:

“Father, I know that I have broken your laws and my sins have separated me from you. I am truly sorry, and now I want to turn away from my past sinful life toward you. Please forgive me, and help me avoid sinning again. I believe that your son, Jesus Christ died for my sins, was resurrected from the dead, is alive, and hears my prayer. I invite Jesus to become the Lord of my life, to rule and reign in my heart from this day forward. Please come into my life, wash away my sin, and show me how to live my life in a way that is right and pleasing to You.”

My friend, nowhere in the Bible will you find anyone “praying for salvation”. While the thoughts and attitudes expressed within this prayer are good and display humility before the Lord, *it needs to be followed up with baptism into Christ* so that your sins will be for-

given. Saying a prayer for salvation might sound logical from a human standpoint, *but it is totally unbiblical and foreign to the New Testament.*

If you have prayed a prayer like this, then keep on seeking. You may have asked the Lord to show you what He wants you to do in your life... **So keep going! Don't stop now.** "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6) Submit to God and be willing to render obedience to Him. ***Be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.***

If you have prayed a similar prayer asking God to save you, then maybe He is responding to your prayer right now by telling you what His plan is! Have you heard the full story of God's plan for you? We want to assist you! If you *truly are seeking and are willing to render obedience* to the Master, then He has heard your plea and wants to save you!! God wants you to know that His salvation plan involves *being baptized for the for-*

givenness of your sins.

God offers us a chance to obtain eternal life. Baptism is our acceptance of that offer, and *just the beginning* of our walk with Him!

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Scripture	Prayer of “invitation to Jesus” taught?	Baptism taught?
Acts 2:38-41	NO!	YES!
Acts 8:5-12	NO!	YES!
Acts 8:26-40	NO!	YES!
Acts 9:18	NO!	YES!
Acts 10:47-48	NO!	YES!
Acts 16:15	NO!	YES!
Acts 16:16-33	NO!	YES!
Acts 18:8	NO!	YES!
Acts 19:3-5	NO!	YES!
Acts 22:16	NO!	YES!