

**Noteworthy**

**Men’s Meeting:** The elders will be meeting with the men today at 4:30pm.  
**Kids’ Review Class:** Tonight, shortly after the PM service, in classroom number 7.  
**Ladies’ Bible Class:** Monday Oct. 12th (Next Week); there are still available opportunities to contribute with. Please see the sign up sheet in the foyer.  
**Afternoon Singing:** Next Sunday afternoon at 5pm.  
**Prayer Requests:** Reagan Cunningham (is doing better), Kelly Cochran (has been very sick), Betty Eubanks (ongoing medical), Larry Hicks (has had the flu), Linda James, Kirk Marschall (Galatians 6:1), Butch Morgan, Wayne Ryland, and Jeremy Whitehead (needs encouragement).  
*Our friends and family:* Jim Abram, Diane Anderson (Linda’ sister), Elnora Bennet (Moses Stevens’ sister), Mildred Church (shut-in), and Canera Wisdom (Larry Wisdom’s mother). It was announced Wednesday that Joe Brown will receive treatment for bone cancer, and will be moving to Florida at some point. Let us be praying, and seek to be an encouragement to both he and his family.  
**Group Meeting:** Group (3) meets tonight after worship. We encourage all to participate in this good work.  
**Area Gospel Meeting:** The Southwest Church of Christ in Lakeland is holding a meeting October 4-7 (which starts today and will continue until Wednesday) with guest speaker Kent Heaton. The Trilacoochee Church of Christ will have a meeting October 18-23, with Joshua Creel. Let us be encouraged to support those meetings when possible.

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 10/7/15**

Song Leader: Eddie Lawson  
 Opening Prayer: David Williams  
 Invitation: Trent Stevens  
 Announcements: Charles Rawdon  
 Closing Prayer: Wayne Ryland  
 Parking Lot: Leon Miller

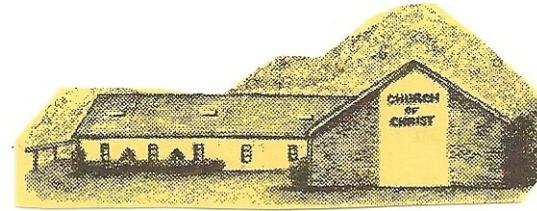
**Sunday Evening: 10/11/15**

Song Leader: Colby Sadler  
 Opening Prayer: Ben Cunningham  
 Lord’s Table: Jordan Lawson  
 Announcements: Larry Hicks  
 Closing Prayer: Jim Elliot  
 Parking Lot: Norm Blackburn

**Sunday Morning: 10/11/15**

Lord’s Table: Jordan Lawson (B)  
 Clay Sadler (C)  
 Serving: Trent Stevens  
 Eddie Lawson  
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom  
 Opening Prayer: Colby Sadler

Announcements: Larry Hicks  
 Closing Prayer: Sherman Johnson  
 Parking Lot: (9:00) David Williams  
 (9:50) Mike Sadler



**Lakeland Hills  
 Leader**

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**ELDERS**

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405  
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378  
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

**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  
 Charles Rawdon  
 Michael Sadler  
 Moses Stevens  
 David Williams

**EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

***Are We “Committed” in Our Marriage?***

Commitment is the cement which keeps the bricks of marriage in place. Sadly, many couples in our selfish, self-indulgent culture do not make a genuine commitment when they marry. I believe the Scripture gives four basic, clear principles that define the necessary commitment for marriage. Too many among us approach marriage concerned only with self— “what’s in it for me?” Commitment demands something other than that.

1. Commitment between marriage partners begins with a **deep trust** in one another (1 Cor. 13:7). This means that we do everything possible to maintain trust. Nothing is done to violate the promise, the vow, or in any way destroy the priority of the two remaining "one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). Trying to make one’s spouse jealous is foolish, juvenile, and can be a precursor to serious marital problems.
2. A solid marriage demands **deep devotion to one another** (Eph. 5:22-25). This takes the commitment from a promise to a passion. It means that we cannot live the promise without total effort to meet the needs of our mate. It means that we would never abuse, use, or take advantage of our spouse. We protect and provide for one another—supplying each other’s needs. When our spouse is sick, we care for them with deep devotion and loving

concern. In such a marriage, we each fulfill our God-given roles. (1 Cor. 7:1-9; Eph. 5:22-29; Col. 3:18-19; Titus 2:1-6; 1 Pet. 3:1-7).

Also, a devoted husband or wife will not indifferently sit by and allow someone else to use, manipulate, mistreat, or take advantage of their spouse. This is especially true of a husband toward his wife since he is primarily her provider and protector (Eph. 5:25, 28-29; 1 Tim. 5:8). This principle is illustrated in Paul's attitude toward the Corinthians. He told them: "For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" (2 Cor. 2:2) But then notice his deep concern for them in the next verse: "But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" (V. 3). Likewise, he earlier gave them proper instruction, "lest Satan should take advantage of us" (2 Cor.2:11).

3. A happy home is where the husband and wife are **dependent** on one another (Gen. 2:18). Here there is developed a strong sense of mutual need and dependence. The husband and wife see the other as strength to their own weakness—a God-given complement

(Gen. 2:18, 23). No one will be allowed to come between the husband-wife relationship—not parents, grandparents, children, in-laws, or friends. Also, jobs, hobbies, outdoor activities, sports, etc. should never be allowed to drive a wedge between a husband and wife.

4. An unshakable **determination to succeed** is the standard equipment in the home that is outfitted for a lifetime of happiness. Just as the Apostle Paul pressed toward the goal of heaven (Phil. 3:14), the faithful couple presses on toward making their marriage a success. Nothing happens without complete effort. If we will make it work...it will work. More than that, it will be to God's glory and our joy.

With these truths as our constant companions, the strong winds of adversity and trials will never blow our marriage apart. "Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matt. 19:6).

- By R.J. Evans

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## **SCOTUS VERSUS GOD**

The Pharisees once asked Jesus, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" Jesus answered their question. He described what was "lawful" in mar-

riage by citing God's original design of marriage, which was one man + one woman for life (Matthew 19:3-6, see also Genesis 2:24). Jesus did not say man + man or woman + woman: He said man + woman. Consistent with the Lord's teaching, the apostle Paul told the saints at Corinth, "To avoid sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman should have her own husband" (1 Corinthians 7:2). "Lawful" marriage is a marriage between an eligible male and an eligible female.

The notion and discussion of a "lawful" marriage implies the possibility of an unlawful marriage. John the baptizer was beheaded because he had told Herod that it was "not lawful" for him to be married to Herodias, who was "his brother Philip's wife" (Mark 6:17-18). Herod's marriage to Herodias was "unlawful," not because of some contrived human standard, but because Herodias was already bound to Philip in marriage. Sadly, there are many "unlawful" marriages throughout the world today. An unlawful marriage happens when people marry contrary to biblical standards and definitions. Jesus said that God "joins" those who are lawfully married (Matthew 19:6). However, He does NOT join (bind) males to males or females to females in marriage, for such sexual relationships are unlawful (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 1 Timothy 6:10).

Recently, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled that all US states must grant same-sex marriage licenses to all petitioners and that all states must recognize the same-sex marriages that were previously granted in other states. This places the high court in direct contradiction with God on the subject of marriage. SCOTUS has declared same-sex marriages "lawful." God continues to declare same-sex marriages "unlawful." The Supreme Court has much power, but it does not have divine power: It cannot change divine law.

Servants of God "walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). We will not stand idly by while God and His infallible word are mocked and disparaged by Satan's minions, even those who wear the black robes of a supreme court justice. We will continue to speak out against all types of sin, including the sin of homosexuality, and we will continue to defend divine institutions, including that of biblical or traditional marriage.

The Supreme Court is not really the "supreme" court: The real "supreme" court is in Heaven. The highest and noblest decisions and edicts are God's, and He reigns supreme in the universe. Let us never forget this.

- By Tim Haile