

Noteworthy

Afternoon Singing: There will be an afternoon singing in the auditorium at 5pm today for all to join (Eph. 5:18-21; Col. 3:12-17).

Kids' Review Class: Next review class will be October 4th, shortly after the PM service.

Prayer Requests: Remember Ben Cunningham (who injured his back at work), Betty Eubanks, Linda James, Bonnie Meagher, Butch Morgan, Wayne Ryland, Kaitlyn Sadler (pregnancy), Mike Sadler (medical procedure last week; recovering well), and Danielle Sheffield (pregnancy).

Our friends and family: Joe Brown is being tested for possible prostate cancer & in need of prayer (Still waiting on results). Please pray also for Jim Abram, Diane Anderson (Linda's sister), Elnora Bennet (Moses Stevens' sister), Mildred Church (shut-in), Canera Wisdom (Larry Wisdom's mother), and Harold Gilbert (Ruth and Leon's brother-in-law).

Out of Town: David & Kyoko Williams (Scheduled to be back on the 15th) and the Lawsons are out of town.

Upcoming: Please mark your calendars for our gospel meeting that will be held (starting next week) with Brad Sullivan (September 25th-27th). The theme for the weekend series is on "Commitment".

Group Meeting: Group (3) meets tonight after worship. We encourage all to participate in this good work.

Teachers' Meeting: We will have a teachers' meeting next Sunday (September 20th) at 5pm, to discuss next year's teacher's schedule.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 9/16/15

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Nick Ross
 Invitation: Clay Sadler
 Announcements: Bob Marschall
 Closing Prayer: Wayne Ryland
 Parking Lot: Larry Hicks

Sunday Evening: 9/20/15

Song Leader: Jeremy Wharton
 Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall
 Lord's Table: Nick Ross
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Paul Lloyd
 Parking Lot: David Williams

Sunday Morning: 9/20/15

Lord's Table: Nick Ross (B)
 Bucky Day (C)
 Serving: Ben Cunningham
 Ed Lawson
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom
 Opening Prayer: Sherman Johnson

Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Leon Miller
 (9:50) Norm Blackburn



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

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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

“What Have They Seen in Your House?”

In 2 Kings Chapter 20, the king of Babylon (Berodach-Baladon) sent letters and a present to Hezekiah (king of Judah); because he heard that Hezekiah had been sick. Hezekiah was very hospitable to the Babylonians who came to him, and the prophet Isaiah would later ask how the meeting went. *“Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, “What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?” So Hezekiah said, “They came from a far country, from Babylon.”¹⁵ And he said, “What have they seen in your house?” So Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.” (2 Kings 20:14-15, NKJV)* I do not call attention to this account for us to examine the context of the visit, nor of Isaiah's concern moving forward in the narrative. Rather, our attention has been called to the question posed to Hezekiah, *“What have they seen in your house?”* Consider, what is it that other men see in your house (home-life)? Others indeed pass judgement on us concerning what they see in our “homes”. And, quite frankly, *righteous* judgements can be made concerning our true character by what others observe there as well (1Timothy 3:4-5, 11-12).

Since others can tell a great deal about our character simply by what they observe within our “homes”, let’s consider what exactly our “homes” reflect about us.

When others observe us, do they notice a sense of earnest love and devotion *permeating* throughout all of the home’s relationships? With regard to our spousal relationships, can others perceive that two souls *cherish* one another, and are *devoted* to helping each other throughout *all* of life’s ups and downs in their “journey to eternity”? And do others see within our marriage two individuals that share mutually, a deep appreciation and *respect* for one another, along with an attitude that wills to work through *all matters* of difference in a spirit of gentleness? Or, on the other hand, do others see a relationship between you and your spouse a manifestation of bitterness, of constant bickering & fussing, and/or of continual criticism? What *others can see in your house* says a lot about your true character!

“What *have they seen* in your house?”

When it comes to our children, what do others see in your house? When making observation, do they see that we *cherish* and *nourish* our children? Also, do they see within our children a genuine love for others, along with a healthy respect for all forms of authority? In addition, can others see that efforts are being made by the parents to utilize various provisions and forms of discipline that will train the child in the way he ought to go (Proverbs 13:24, 22:6)? Or instead, do others see you neglecting your child’s physical, emotional, and/or spiritual needs? Do others see a respect for the parents; or an outright rude behavior toward them? May it be that others even see you setting the poor examples yourself, instilling attitudes that foster discouragement or rebellion within your children? What do others see in your house?

“What *have they seen* in your house?”

A Christian is to live a life that others can see and note a good example, in order that God may be glorified (Matthew 5:13-16). Are others able to see the characteristics of Christ within *all* of our familial relationships?! Jesus Christ loved the church so much that He gave His life for it (Ephesians 5:25).

We must ask of ourselves to give *completely* within our homes! Are we willing to devote *every fiber of our being* to becoming a better christian, spouse, parent, and child? God is love (1 John 4:8), and is a longsuffering and merciful Father, bestowing His loving-kindness to all His children (1 John 3:1). Yet still, He also rebukes and chastens those in whom He loves (Hebrews 12:6). Do others see within us the effort to *exercise sound judgment* toward our family members? Balancing the proper love, care, and discipline that the Lord expects of us to give within our homes?

People will make judgments of our character when looking to our home-life. Also, the Bible teaches that our *eternal destiny* may very well be determined by what goes on within our home!! So as we must consider (ultimately) what *God thinks* of our home-life, remember that our patterns of behavior are noticed by others, also. *And we will be held accountable* for our influence. So then, what can others learn when observing “your home”? “*What have they seen in your house?*”

- By Ian Rice

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

- ◇ Jesus taught obedience (Matt.7:21-23; Luke 6:46; Matt. 28:20)
- ◇ Jesus taught that unless we believe in Him, we will die in our sins (John 10:31-39)
- ◇ He taught repentance (Luke 13:3; 24:46-47)
- ◇ He taught confessing Him before others (Matthew 10:32-33)
- ◇ He taught baptism as a necessity (Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20; John 3:5)
- ◇ He teaches faithfulness unto death (Revelation 2:10)