

**Noteworthy**

**Our Gospel Meeting:** Please be sure to thank Brad Sullivan for his good work (2 Timothy 4:5), diligence (2 Timothy 2:15), and good example (Titus 2:7-8) while preaching & visiting with us! It has also been a joy for us to have Lisa (his wife), and their five children (Mary-Katherine, James, Anna, Lily, and Aaron) among us as well.

**Men’s Meeting:** Will be next Sunday (October 4th) at 4:30pm.

**Kids’ Review Class:** Also next Sunday, shortly after the PM service in classroom number 7.

**Ladies’ Bible Class:** Resumes on Mon., Oct. 12th. There is a new sign-up sheet in the foyer for duties to contribute with. All of the women are encouraged to be involved!

**Prayer Requests:** Reagan Cunningham, Mary Elliot, Betty Eubanks (ongoing medical), Linda James, Ahrea Miller (sick), Butch Morgan, Wayne Ryland (blood-pressure irregularity), the Stevens family, and Mike Sadler (on-going treatment for chronic neck pain).

*Our friends and family:* Jim Abram, Diane Anderson (Linda’s sister), Elnora Bennet (Moses Stevens’ sister), Mildred Church (shut-in), and Canera Wisdom (Larry Wisdom’s mother). Joe Brown was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer, but has now learned that he has bone cancer, too. He has multiple tumors throughout his body as well. Tammy and Kaitlyn Sadler will be taking a flight to N.C. this afternoon in order to be with him. He will meet with a medical team this week to determine possible treatment options.

**Group Meeting:** Group (2) meets tonight after worship. We encourage all to participate in this good work.

**Area Gospel Meeting:** The Southwest Church of Christ will hold a meeting on October 4-7, with guest speaker Kent Heaton. There is a flyer in the vestibule that details the subject matter (topics). Let’s be encouraged to support that meeting in attending when possible.

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 9/30/15**

Song Leader: Ben Cunningham  
 Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson  
 Invitation: Bob Marschall  
 Announcements: Mike Sadler  
 Closing Prayer: Nick Ross  
 Parking Lot: Colby Sadler

**Sunday Evening: 10/4/15**

Song Leader: Charles Rawdon  
 Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot  
 Lord’s Table: Clay Sadler  
 Announcements: Larry Hicks  
 Closing Prayer: Butch Morgan  
 Parking Lot: David Williams

**Sunday Morning: 10/4/15**

Lord’s Table: Clay Sadler (B)  
                   Sherman Johnson (C)  
 Serving: Bucky Day  
            Trent Stevens  
 Song Leader: Bob Marschall  
 Opening Prayer: Paul Lloyd

Announcements: Larry Hicks  
 Closing Prayer: Nick Ross  
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Norm Blackburn  
                   (9:50) Ed Lawson



**Lakeland Hills  
 Leader**

**LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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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

***“Love of Self”***

“Smile and say cheese!” the young lady says to herself. She snaps the picture and promptly posts it to Facebook where it will join the dozens of others she has previously posted. Now, the entire world will be able to see and comment on how she is just the most beautiful young lady they have ever seen. The selfie is a disturbing trend for many reasons but at the top of the list has to be its relationship to the perilous times described by Paul in which he says people will be “lovers of themselves” (2 Tim. 3:2). As disturbing as this trend is I don’t see it as a new one among God’s people. While smartphone cameras have certainly provided new opportunities for one to show their love of self, it has not led to a new problem in general. Consider the following examples:

A man writes a book; he has something to say and wants to share it with the world. He has information that everyone needs to read and in order to get it into the hands of the masses it must be marketed in just the right way. He asks himself, “What can I do in order to draw attention to the most important aspect of the book?” The answer finally hits him, “I’ll place a picture of myself on the front cover! What better to let the potential buyers know what the book is all about?”

A group of folks are sitting around after dinner one night telling stories of days gone by. Many stories are told but none of them compare to the adventures of one young man. In each round of stories he makes sure to go last so all can see that he has done more, been farther, ran faster, and jumped higher than anyone else could even dream of. He's just sure that everyone is as interested in listening to his stories as he is in telling them. After all, without the stories how could they ever come to love him as much as he loves himself?

A married couple sees that some other members of the church are being praised for their generosity and love of the brethren. They too would like to receive such praise so they devise a plan to draw some of this much coveted attention their way. They sell a piece of land and give part of the proceeds pretending that all had been given. Surely now others will praise them for their wonderful example of charity. Much to their dismay we know how this story from Acts 5:1-10 ends. Instead of the praise of men they meet the wrath of God. Yes, lying is the sin pointed out in verse 4 but it's easy to see that love of self was a motivating factor behind the lie.

The sad part is this, the first three stories could all end the same way. I realize not everyone who takes their own picture, has their picture on the cover of a

book, or tells stories about themselves is motivated by a love of self. I also realize that if I find myself doing these things I need to really consider my motives as well as the impression I may be giving to others. Those found to be lovers of self will all face the wrath of God at some point unless they repent and become lovers of God. May each of us take Paul's warning seriously and instead of putting our self out there for all to admire we should be looking in the mirror and asking, "Who do you love?"

- By Brad Sullivan

### *Why Send For Peter?*

An angel appeared unto a man named Cornelius. This devout, God-fearing, alms-giving man was praying to God -- as was his custom -- when an angel of God appeared to him in a vision. (You can read it for yourself -- Acts 10)

According to popular conceptions this could mean hallucinations, latter-day revelations, or special divine appointment. An even greater number would say this proved that Cornelius was saved from his sins -- had experienced a "work of grace." I have heard of people "voted into the church" on far less evidence. But the angel was none of these things to Cornelius.

The angel told Cornelius to send for Peter, who shall "tell thee what thou oughtest to do;" or "tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved." (See Acts 11:13-f.)

Prayers, alms, and devoutness notwithstanding, this man still needed to be saved. Christianity is far more than good citizenship, moral uprightness, or even respect for God. A Christian has all of this, and more; but these things are found among many who have not yet become followers of Jesus Christ and hence have neither salvation from past sins nor hope for Heaven. This lesson is especially needed by those who have placed their hope for Heaven in the "Great Architect" and welfare work of a lodge.

But why send for Peter? Could not the angel tell Cornelius all he needed to know? Or the Holy Spirit -- did not this miraculous out-pouring do all that should be done for him? When Peter **began to speak** (11:15) the Holy Spirit was indeed poured out upon these Gentiles --- a marvelous thing for Peter and those Jews with him to behold. Until recently they had thought the gospel was for Jews only. (See 10:9-16, 25-29; 11:1-4) It took this demonstration of divine acceptance (as subjects of the gospel) to convince the Jews that the gospel was for all nations. (10:44-f.11:15-f)

But now that they were proven proper subjects of the gospel, there remained the task of preaching: to them, and urging those who would to obey. People must be **taught** of God; so they may **hear, learn** and **come**. (Jn. 6:45) We draw nigh to God through the **word of reconciliation**. (2 Cor. 5:17-f.)

What the angel or Holy Spirit **could** do was hedged about by divine regulations. God had placed His truth in "earthen vessels" (2 Cor. 4:7) that its divine origin might be the more apparent. It was not His will then or now that heavenly messengers deliver the story of salvation to the world. It was "once for all" delivered to inspired men, and through them to the written form in which we now find it. (Jude 3, Eph. 3:1-f. 2 Pet. 1:14-f.)

Peter did exactly what God intended he should do. He preached the good news of Christ to Cornelius and his household, and baptized those who gladly received the word. Note, He commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." (Acts 10:48)

Cornelius was not saved -- was not a Christian -- until he heard, believed and obeyed the gospel of Christ.

- By Robert F. Turner