

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson, Joe Brown (*cancer*), Marian Church (*back*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Jim & Mary Elliot (*taking care of Jim's ailing sister*), Linda James (*shut in*), Yvonne Jordan, Paul Lloyd (*in rehab at Royal Care in Avon Park; 1213 W Stratford Road*), and Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*).

Family and friends: Roger Church (*Marian's husband*), Ned Hicks (*ongoing medical*), Chuck Goodall (*Charles and Vernita's son*), Brian James (*cancer*), Wayne Ryland (*medical*), and Ardis Tucker (*ongoing medical*).

Out of Town: Audrey Davis, as well as Leon & Ruth Miller, are out of town.

Group Meeting: Group 1 will meet next week after the evening worship service.

Ladies Bible Class: The last class of the season will meet May 8th at Keri Rice's home (@ 7PM). In preparation, please study lesson XI that begins on page # 155 in the book, "Some Do's and Don'ts for the Christian". (*See the sign-up sheet in the foyer*)

Kids' Review: Class will be May 7th, shortly after the evening worship service.

5th Sunday: We will give special emphasis to singing (Eph. 5:19) during the PM worship service tonight!

New Addition: The Day family welcomed their new baby girl to this world last Sunday. Elinor (Elly) Day was born on April 23rd, 2017 at 1:12pm. She was 8 lbs., 1 oz., and 20.5 inches at birth. Congratulations to the Day family!!

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 5/3/17

Song Leader: Joe Brown
 Opening Prayer: Jordan Lawson
 Invitation: Colby Sadler
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: David Williams
 Recordings: Bob Marschall
 Usher: OPEN

Sunday Evening: 5/7/17

Song Leader: Colby Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Bob Marschall
 Lord's Table: Larry Hicks
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 5/7/17

Lord's Table: Larry Hicks (B)
 Bucky Day (C)
 Serving: Clay Sadler
 Ed Lawson
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Nick Ross
 Recordings: Keith Marschall
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

2510 Lakeland Hills Boulevard Lakeland Florida 33805 (863) 688-4336

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

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
 Michael Sadler
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

"Our King of Kings"

Fortunately, you and I live in a country where we are free to pursue our dreams and heart's desires. That is why America is widely touted as "The Land of Opportunity". Thankfully, we enjoy the benefits of a society in which authority figures allow religious freedom - to serve God without persecution! With gratitude, we give thanks to God that our leaders are not tyrannical dictators, who impose their will upon us. That said, we all take our freedoms for granted on some days, don't we?

Because we have such freedoms, and because we take so many of them for granted, many have a skewed view of what leadership and authority are all about. Because we can openly criticize our president and other politicians, many have developed a sense of entitlement. That sense of entitlement and freedom to criticize has crossed over into areas in which it should not. Do you honor and respect Jesus (Our King) the same way that you honor and respect our government officials? I surely hope not! Jesus Christ is not a tyrannical dictator, but He sure is a whole lot more demanding than our leaders in the United States.

Jesus stated clearly that the love of our country, our home, or property cannot stand in the way of our allegiance to Him, "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple." (Luke 14:33)

Riches and wealth cannot stand between us and our King, *"Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." (Mark 10:21-25)*

Even our dearest of loved ones cannot stand in the way, *"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple." (Luke 14:26)*

We must be willing to give of ourselves... yes, even our life for the cause of Christ, *"When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:34-37)*

Whatever it may be - fear, selfishness, money, family, or one's own ambitions... it cannot stand between us and our King. Jesus is not some fickle politician, striving to gain our

vote. He comes to us as the, *"King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen." (1 Tim 6:15-16)*

Our leader commands obedience (Hebrews 5:9), and will destroy all enemies in the day of His wrath. *"Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS." (Revelation 19:15-16)*

Let us willfully submit to the demands of our glorious King of kings, and Lord of lords.

- Ian Rice

Searching for Answers?

Consider some questions that our peers are asking, and how the Bible answers them. *"But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:14-15, NKJV)* The questions below are provided with the hope of stirring within the reader (you) an interest of what the Bible teaches on such topics. Will you want to investigate these subjects further?

Does God Actually Exist?

*"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."
- Psalms 19:1 (ESV)*

Does Faith Alone Save?

*"For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead."
- James 2:26 (ESV)*

Do I Need to be Baptized?

*"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."
- Mark 16:16 (ESV)*

Does God Allow Religious Diversity?

*"Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."
- 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NKJV)*

What About Sex Outside of Marriage?

*"Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."
- Hebrews 13:4 (NKJV)*

Is Capital Punishment Morally Wrong?

*"For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil."
- Romans 13:3-4 (NKJV)*

What About Homosexuality & Gay Marriage?

*"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,"
- 1 Corinthians 6:9 (ESV)*

What About Women Religious Leaders?

*"And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence."
- 1 Timothy 2:12 (NKJV)*

Do I Need to Attend Worship Services Regularly?

*"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."
- Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)*

Must Conversion Involve a Change of Behavior/Lifestyle?

*"For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries."
- Hebrews 10:26-27 (ESV)*

The above references are not intended to provide a comprehensive answer for all these questions. They are presented to show you (the reader) that the Bible does, in fact, address these questions. Be encouraged to study these topics with an open Bible & an open mind. Also, pray that God will increase your faith, and be encouraged to discuss/study these matters with the individual who presented you this bulletin!

- Ian Rice