

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, Ahrea Miller (*fell and broke her hip; is in LRMC*), Leon Miller, Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical, can benefit from some encouragement*), Dottie Reynolds, Moses Stevens (*so thankful to God for Moses' health and safety*), Suzette Stevens, and Ken Turner.

Family and friends: Tonya Bryan (*Dottie Reynold's daughter*), Roger Church (*Marian's husband*), Laurence Cutts (*had a stroke last week, is in Bay Medical in Panama, will hopefully get to rehab during the early part of this week*), Ned Hicks (*ongoing medical*), Chuck Goodall (*Charles and Vernita's son*), Denise Jacobs, Brian James (*cancer*), Lisa Ross (*Nick Ross' mother*), Wayne Ryland (*medical*), and Ardis Tucker (*ongoing medical*).

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

Kids' Review: Class will be **June 11th** in classroom number 7, shortly after the evening worship service.

Fourth Sunday: Larry Wisdom will preach during the PM service tonight, as it is the 4th Sunday of the month.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 5/31/17

Song Leader: Trent Stevens
Opening Prayer: Clay Sadler
Invitation: Sherman Johnson
Announcements: Mike Sadler
Closing Prayer: Neil Miller
Recordings: Bob Marschall
Usher: Larry Wisdom

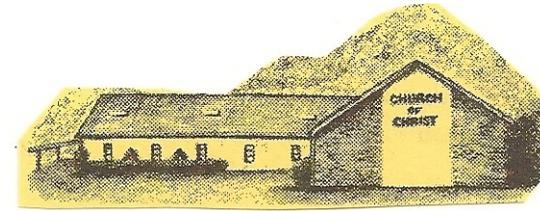
Sunday Evening: 6/4/17

Song Leader: Joe Brown
Opening Prayer: Nick Ross
Lord's Table: Larry Hicks
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Bob Marschall
Recordings: Keith Marschall
Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 6/4/17

Lord's Table: Larry Hicks (B)
Trent Stevens (C)
Serving: Ed Lawson
Colby Sadler
Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Charles Goodall
Recordings: Clay Sadler
Usher: Gus Johnson



Lakeland Hills Leader

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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
Michael Sadler
Moses Stevens
David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

Oh Yes, He Cares

An article entitled *Does God Care?* appeared in the Cullman Times (4/25/08), written by Mr. Bill McCartney (hereafter referred to as Mr. M. for brevity). The position set forth was this: "Who is right and who is wrong in the way they worship? I suggest that God simply doesn't care because there is not a wrong way to worship Him."

I maintain that God does care how we treat His word, and for that reason He cares how we worship. As Mr. M. told us what God does and does not care about, he did not share with us upon what scriptures he based his conclusion. But as I respond to his article, I want to include several passages, and I ask that you give them a fair hearing.

Mr. M. asked, "Which does God care about: how we worship or how we live our lives?" That's a bit like asking, would you like to breathe, or would you like to eat? Mr. M's fallacy is making worship and conduct "either-or" – thus creating a false dilemma. Are those the only alternatives? Could it not be that God is concerned with both? Let us not presume to speak for God. He is capable of doing that Himself, and He has done so in His word. That's why we have the Bible.

Old Testament Examples.

You remember the biblical account of Cain killing his brother Abel. But what was Cain so angry about that he took his brother's life? Genesis 4:3-5: "And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell."

Remember, Mr. M. said there is not a wrong way to worship. If that's true, why didn't God accept Cain's worship? The Bible plainly says He did not. The difference between the two brothers is this: Abel did what God said, the way God said it (Hebrews 11:4; Romans 10:17). Cain did what he wanted to, but God did not accept it. You see, God really does care how we worship Him.

If the priests, Nadab and Abihu, could talk today on the subject of worship, would they say that "God simply doesn't care"? Would they conclude there is no wrong way? Leviticus 10:1-2 (NIV): [they] took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command. So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD."

I understand that we today live under the authority of the New Testament. But we are

to learn from the Old, as Paul said in Romans 15:4, "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

New Testament Warnings.

Take your New Testament and see how Jesus warned about ignorant worship... "you worship what you do not know" (John 4:21), vain worship (Matt. 15:9), will worship (Col. 2:23, KJV). How can this be, if God doesn't care?

Jesus showed that acceptable worship has two essential elements: "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24). The spirit here is the human spirit; that is, the heart, the inner man is involved. Truth is God's word (John 17:17). Further, notice that word *must* – worship *must* be both from the heart and in accordance with the directives of scripture (truth) if it is to be acceptable. Can you read these verses and conclude that God doesn't care???

This subject is important because it deals with our souls. God holds us responsible for what we accept (read Matt. 15:14; 1 John 4:1). Jesus said, "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). Oh yes, He cares!

- By Leon Mauldin

We Lack Urgency!!

"When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." (Matt. 9:36) And so, our Lord appointed messengers, and sent them to the people with news of a Shepherd and Savior.

He told them, "When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come." (Matt. 10:23) There was URGENCY in this commission. So much so that when "he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God." (Lu. 9:59-60) That's URGENCY!

Yes, I know that Jesus foresaw his death, and fought against this deadline. But the death itself was an important part of His sacrifice for mankind. He died because of the great NEED of mankind for a Saviour; and I am persuaded this was the factor that gave such importance to all He did.

He tells us to WATCH: He says that MANY shall follow the way of destruction. Paul says, "Knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." (Rom.13)

We lack URGENCY: We live with a "don't rock the boat" spirit -- so far as religion is concerned. In fact, if one becomes very much concerned he is likely to be regarded as some sort of nut. It's all right to get worked up over Vietnam, Civil

Rights, or even "the great" Clay (not Henry); but millions may march toward Hell, God's church may be ridiculed, His plan for its operation ignored, and we are supposed to "keep calm" "don't get excited." God's saints LACK URGENCY:!

Let me suggest WHY we LACK URGENCY: (1) We do not know the truth:: Many are unconcerned over the lost because they do not recognize the lost. Papa surely will go to heaven: My friends are good people -- they are not lost:: And so, we excuse these and those until there are not many going to Hell. We do not know the Savior, as He is revealed in the Word. We do not know His gospel must be obeyed: We do not know of judgement, or of heaven, or hell. I mean it is not real, actual, meaningful to us.

But you say, "O Yes brother Turner, we know all these things:" Then I say (2) we do not believe them:: How can we claim to truly believe the word of God, and remain so lacking in URGENCY? By URGENCY I do not mean wild irresponsibility, running off half-cocked. But I do mean deep concern, that will make each moment important; planning that says NOW is the time.

And if you contend that we do believe God's word; then I will insist (3) we fail to recognize the value, the fleeting. nature of life. James says it is a "vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." (Jas. 4:14) If we really believe the Word we know we must be ready at all times for the Lord's coming. The faithful Christian is impelled by a feeling of URGENCY!!

- By Robert F. Turner