

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson (*ongoing medical*), Karen Berry (*recovering from accident*), Margaret Blackburn (*pancreas and hip*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Marian Church (*neck & back*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Linda James (*ongoing medical*), Paul Lloyd (*back, on-going medical*), Ahrea Miller (*recovering from hip surgery*), Neil Miller (*back*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*back, on-going medical*), Martha Smith (*broken hand, recent passing of her granddaughter*), Suzette Stevens (*ongoing medical*).

Family and friends: Nell Goodall (*Charles Goodall's aunt—blood clot, ongoing medical*), Chuck Goodall (*Charles and Vernita's son—cancer*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hick's father - ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), Wayne Ryland (*ongoing medical*), Ardis Tucker (*Paula Sullivan's sister—ongoing medical*). Remember and encourage others who are struggling with problems.

Out of Town: Ed & Terrelle Lawson and Colby & Kaitlyn Sadler (*& children*); Ian Rice will be attending a group Bible study in Russellville, AL this week (*Tues-Fri*).

Group Meeting: Group 2 will meet next week after the evening worship service.

Kids' Review: Re-scheduled; will meet *next week* in classroom number 5.

Ladies' Bible Class: Resumes Monday Oct. 9th (*tomorrow*) at 7pm in Paula Sullivan's home. In preparation, please do lesson XII on page 160 titled "Don't Forget to Take Inventory or Examine Self" from the book, "Some Do's and Don't's for the Christian."

Gospel Meeting(s): The Brandon church of Christ, this week with Jeff Smelser; our gospel meeting with Joseph Casimier next week (*Sun.-Fri.*); and the Trilacoochee Church of Christ with Doy Moyer, Oct. 22-27.

New Membership: The Payne family has placed membership with the LHB congregation! :-) Let us be joyful, thankful, welcoming, and all seek to encourage them.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 10/11/17

Song Leader: Clay Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
 Invitation: Trent Stevens
 Announcements: Bob Marschall
 Closing Prayer: OPEN
 Recordings: Colby Sadler
 Usher: Mike Sadler

Sunday Evening: 10/15/17

Song Leader: Joe Brown
 Opening Prayer: David Williams
 Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Neil Miller
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 10/15/17

Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson (B)
 Jordan Lawson (C)
 Serving: Ed Lawson
 Keith Marschall
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 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

“Misunderstood”

In many instances, Jesus was grossly misunderstood. His mission was misinterpreted. Men thought he came to establish an earthly kingdom and to reign as an earthly king. But, He refused earthly honor and asserted, "...My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." (John 18:36)

The strongest hostility and the worst misrepresentations were from the religious leaders of the Pharisees and Sadducees - which were religious sects among the Jews. As Jesus' reputation grew, their jealousy became more intense and their hostility even more severe – ultimately peaking with the crucifixion.

Even today, Christ's church is often misunderstood and misrepresented as well. Sometimes it's done ignorantly, and sometimes slanderously. We're interested in getting all to understand the truth that makes men free! There *is* a church in

the land that is following the New Testament pattern! The churches of Christ today wear the same name, (Romans 16:16); teach the same plan of salvation, (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38); and worship the same way that Christ's church did in the days of the apostles. (Acts 2:42; 20:7; Ephesians 5:19).

Those in the Lord's body insist on strict adherence to what is plainly revealed in the New Testament; and contend that Christianity can be practiced without denominationalism, just as it was in the days of the apostles. Even though our plea is simply for pure Christianity in its simplest form and unity of all believers, false accusations are still brought against God's people.

The church is many times accused of being narrow because of insisting on strict adherence to what is plainly taught in the Bible. Yet, urging faith in what the Lord teaches, and obedience to what He commands, is the requirement of every Christian! We should all be striving more diligently to please Him (the Lord) - not ourselves. To accuse the church of being narrow is to accuse Christ and

the inspired apostles & writers of the New Testament of being narrow. Jesus said, "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matt. 7:13-14)

This narrow way is yet large enough for all the obedient to walk with Christ and with each other in fellowship, peace, and love.

- Ian Rice

"So Close, Yet..."

In Numbers 13, we read that the Israelites had camped at the very border of the promised land. Moses then sent twelve spies in to see what the land was like: whether the people who dwelt in it were strong or weak, few or many; whether the land they dwelt in was good or bad; whether the cities they inhabited were like camps or strongholds; whether the land was

rich or poor; and whether there were forests there or not. (Numbers 13:18-20) Of those twelve spies, only two came back with a favorable report. Ten out of the twelve were afraid to go in because they were too cowardly to take the land by force. Only Joshua and Caleb came back with a favorable report.

What was God's reaction? He spoke to Moses and Aaron and said "Say to them, 'As I live,' says the Lord, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.'" (Num. 14:28-30) God condemned those who refused to obey His command! Think about it... There they were, right at the very border of the Promised Land... so near – and yet, so far!

Now then... How many times have *you* heard about Jesus' love for *you*? How many times have *you* heard of

the miracles He performed to prove His deity? How many times have *you* heard about Jesus' death on the cross for the remission of *your* sins? How many times have *you* heard the gospel plan of salvation (Eph. 4:4-6)? How many times have *you* rejected Him? So near... yet, so far.

Won't *you* choose today to cross over into the promised land of God (i.e., His church)? Choose to submit to Him in humble obedience. If *you* believe that Jesus is the Christ – the Son of the living God – then repent and confess His name before men. Be then baptized for the remission of *your* sins and live faithfully unto death. The Lord wants *you* to commit your life to Him, and merely be grateful for the gift(s) He's offered you. Read, Study, & Obey God's Word.

- Ian Rice