

**Noteworthy**

**Prayer Requests:** Jo Anderson, Margaret Blackburn (*health issues*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Mildred Church (*in poor health*), Mary Elliot (*virus*), Linda James (*at Wedgewood Health facility in Lakeland in Room 211, could use encouragement*), Bennie Jones (*rheumatoid arthritis*), Yvonne Jordan, Paul Lloyd (*in Gibsonburg, Ohio*), Becca Marschall (*migraine headaches*), Neil Miller (*back*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*pain in her back*), Suzette Stevens (*ongoing medical*).

*Family and friends:* Jeremiah Crapps (*upcoming heart tests*), Geraldean Day (*Bucky Day's mother*), Nell Goodall (*Charles Goodall's aunt: in Savannah Cottage, Lakeland*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), John Marschall (*Bob Marschall's father*), Lindy McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt, cancer*), Wayne Ryland (*ongoing medical*) and Ardis Tucker (*Paula Sullivan's sister-in-law; at home and doing better*). Remember and encourage others who are struggling.

**Out of Town:** Audrey Davis.

**Group Meeting:** Group 2 will meet tonight after the evening worship service.

**Men's Training Class:** 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*this afternoon*).

**Gospel Meeting:** The Plant City Church of Christ will be holding a meeting this upcoming weekend (*July 27-29*) with Everitt Heaton of Trenton, Florida.

**Annual Singing:** Our annual singing is on the last Friday of next month (*August 31st*) and will begin at 7:30 PM. Please make plans to attend.

**Fourth Sunday:** Keith Marschall is scheduled to preach during the PM assembly tonight.

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 7/25/18**

Song Leader: Keith Marschall  
 Opening Prayer: Timothy Payne  
 Invitation: Keith Marschall  
 Announcements: Bob Marschall  
 Closing Prayer: Larry Hicks  
 Recordings: Trent Stevens  
 Usher: Bob Marschall

**Sunday Evening: 7/29/18**

Song Leader: Clay Sadler  
 Opening Prayer: David Williams  
 Lord's Table: Mike Sadler  
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom  
 Closing Prayer: Earl Branham  
 Recordings: Trent Stevens  
 Usher: Larry Wisdom

**Sunday Morning: 7/29/18**

Lord's Table: Mike Sadler (B)  
 Bucky Day (C)  
 Serving: Trent Stevens  
 Ed Lawson  
 Song Leader: Colby Sadler

Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot  
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom  
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams  
 Recordings: Bob 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](http://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 7:00 P.M.

**DEACONS:**

Robert Marschall  
 Michael Sadler  
 Moses Stevens  
 David Williams

**EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

***“The Relationship Between Truth and Emotion”***

Seemed like a good time to write this article, seeing that more and more people seem to think that emotions trump truth. Let's explore the relationship a little closer, from a Scriptural standpoint, and then issue a couple warnings.

The truth, provided we have a good understanding of it, will produce a wide array of genuine emotions—fear, sorrow, compassion, joy, gratitude, etc. Jesus certainly experienced a range of emotions (Mark 3:5; 11:15-17; Luke 7:13; 10:21; 19:41; Hebrews 5:7), and so did Paul (Acts 20:19, 31; Romans 9:2; 2 Corinthians 2:4; 7:7, 13; 11:29; Philippians 3:18). No need to ever be ashamed of the emotions which spring from an understanding of truth.

The truth will also regulate our emotions, in several ways. 1) Emotions can be pretty fickle—we feel one way one moment and entirely different the next (e.g. Acts 14:8-19; Galatians 4:14-16). Truth is the great moderator—it can prevent these wild swings of emotion. 2) Emotions can also be misdirected—we

feel one way when we should feel another. At Mt. Sinai, the Israelites “rejoiced in the works of their own hands” (Acts 7:41)—in short, they rejoiced in iniquity (see 1 Corinthians 13:6). We’ve got too many people asking, “How can this be so wrong when it feels so good?” Yet, to his worldly minded readers, James wrote, “Let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to gloom” (James 4:9). The truth, properly understood, will direct our emotions in keeping with the truth (see 3 John 1:4). 3) Emotions can also easily get out of control, which is often the case with anger (“outbursts of wrath—Galatians 5:20). There’s no better anger management course in the world than the one found in the truth of God’s word. 4) Not that there won’t be occasional outpourings of emotion, but the truth also produces more settled emotions—the kind that produce steadfast, immovable Christians (1 Corinthians 15:58)—a joy that remains with us, even in times of sorrow (John 15:11; 2 Corinthians 6:10); a gratitude that enables us to “give thanks always” (Ephesians 5:20); a fear that will consistently steer us away from “evil” and the “snares of death” (Proverbs 8:13; 14:26-27); etc.

Finally, the truth will root out certain emotions, ones that have no place in the life of a Christian. Self-pity comes way too easily for way too many people, but the truth simply won’t allow it, not with its emphasis on self-denial (Matthew 16:24; Luke 14:26; Philippians 2:3-8).

Now, for a couple much needed warnings. First, resist any and all efforts to change God’s plan—for any reason, including the desire to generate more emotion. More than anything else, we want people to have conviction, which will in turn produce the genuine emotions we spoke of earlier.

Secondly, don’t judge others to be unemotional or lacking in spirituality, simply because they show very few outward displays of emotion. There’s a far better way to judge the depth of one’s faith and love, and their spirituality in general, and that’s by consistent service to the Lord.

~ Bryan Gibson

### “Revealing Character Traits”

Character traits are a lot easier to spot in others. But the Lord calls us to examine ourselves (2 Corinthians 13:5). What type of character traits do we exhibit for others to see?

There are some who habitually blame their disappointments, problems and failures on their circumstances. No matter the struggle, it’s always because of something they cannot control: their genetics, their upbringing, their social influences, etc. These individuals always have an excuse as to why their problems continue (and any excuse will do, really). While it’s true that bad things do happen to good people, the ones who possess this habitual trait need to learn to take responsibility for their actions.

Then there are those who routinely blame their disappointments, problems and failures on other people. No matter the struggle, it’s always “in response” to the poor attitudes and/or actions of someone else: their spouse, their kids, their parents, their friends, acquaintances, the church, the government, etc. These individuals are always accusing others for why problems mount in their life. It’s *never their* fault!

The ones who possess this quality, too, need to learn to take responsibility for their own actions.

Then again, there are those who do take responsibility for their life, and their actions! They understand that all are affected by various circumstances and people in this life. We will all face a variety of problems and pressures, but these individuals know that they will stand before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account of themselves (John 5:28-29; 2 Corinthians 5:10). They know that it is *their* responsibility to *choose* what is right, to grow in the Lord, and to influence others for good. No matter the struggle, they see it not as some devastating power that renders them helpless, but as a hurdle to be overcome through faith in Christ Jesus!

Some character traits are easier to spot in *other* people. But the Lord calls us to examine ourselves (2 Corinthians 13:5). What type of character traits are we exhibiting to others? (Cf. Matthew 12:33-37; John 15:2; Galatians 5:16-26)

~ Ian Rice