

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: The Boyette family (*with their recent loss of Sister Fogle*), Joe Brown (*ongoing medical*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), the Day family (*Robyn's father; Ricky, has cancer*), Linda James (*Ongoing medical*), Neil Miller (*medical*), the Marschall family (*Encouraging Kirk to faithfulness*), Butch Morgan (*Ongoing medical*), Suzette Stevens (*health struggles*), Arlene Turner (*recent struggles*).

Family and friends: Marvin Brown (*from Plant City, cancer*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*); James, MaryAnne, and Lyla King (*Zachary King's parents & daughter*), Rowena Lawson's mother (*Ms. Lourdes, health issues & pain management*), and John Marschall (*Bob's father*).

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

Men's Bible Study: The 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*Today*).

Kids' Review: The next review class will be *tonight*, shortly after the PM assembly.

Fourth Sunday: Clay Sadler is scheduled to preach during the PM assembly *tonight*.

Area Meetings: Our annual singing will be *this week*, Friday August 30th at 7:30pm. Please make plans to attend, and also invite others.

Remember and encourage those who are struggling physically and spiritually.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 8/28/19

Song Leader: Trent Stevens
Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
Invitation: Larry Wisdom
Announcements: Bob Marschall
Closing Prayer: Neil Miller
Recordings: Logan Lanning
Usher: Larry Wisdom

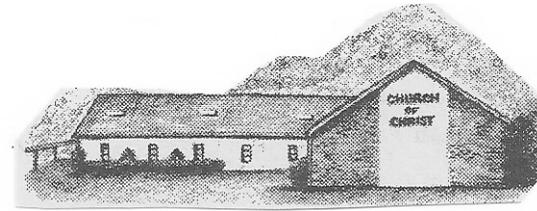
Sunday Evening: 9/1/19

Song Leader: Jimmy Fields
Opening Prayer: Eric Stevens
Lord's Table: Jimmy Fields
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
Recordings: Bob Marschall
Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 9/1/19

Lord's Table: Jimmy Fields (B)
Bucky Day (C)
Serving: Ed Lawson
Trent Stevens
Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Jerry Williams
Announcements: Leon Miller
Closing Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
Recordings: Bob Marschall
Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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 7:00 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
Michael Sadler
Moses Stevens
David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“Life Without a Mirror”

How many times a day do you take a peek in a mirror? What would life be like if suddenly there were no more mirrors? Can you imagine getting ready in the morning without the time spent in front of the mirror shaving, getting our hair just right, and for that last look at the total outfit before we step out for the day? What about going to the store to buy new clothes? Could you deal with a system of trying on an outfit and then coming out of the dressing room asking people “How do I look in this one?” Recently I watched a group spend a considerable amount of time at a sunglasses display trying on glasses, looking in the mirror, trying on another pair, and looking in the mirror over and over. Imagine walking up to the display of sunglasses and pulling one off saying “These look good, I’ll buy them!” If it doesn’t matter how they look and feel why do we spend so much time picking “just the right” pair out?

Well, of course life would surely be different without mirrors. It is quite amazing when you think about it, how a piece of reflective glass can expand our vision so dramatically. Mirrors help us see behind and beside us while we drive our automobiles. When placed properly, mirrors can help one to see around a corner, or above us, or below us. However, one of the

most important functions of a mirror and perhaps the most widely used purpose is to see the reflection of one's self! The time we spend in front of the mirror helps us to present ourselves in the best possible way to others, and also helps boost our own self-confidence. When looking in a mirror we can see in advance how we look (outwardly) to others! Wouldn't it be great if there were a way to see our reflection inwardly?

The Bible is our "looking-glass" to see our reflection as it pertains to the inward man. The apostle Paul told Timothy that, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). So it is that the scriptures are to be used as a mirror. The Christian should be able to see his own reflection as he reads the Word of God.

Certainly for a newborn Christian the reflection may not be as clear as it will be for the mature Christian. However, Paul wrote to those in Corinth encouraging them to continue in their study of the scriptures, and that by applying the lessons learned, they will soon grow to know the full meaning of the Christian lifestyle "For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known" (1 Cor. 13:12). Just as we make that second or third pass in front of the mirror each morning for "fine-tuning," we also should be "fine-

tuning" our spiritual condition. As a test, would you consider changing your morning preparations for one week? In this test, start out on Monday looking in the mirror as many times as you like until noon. Then refrain from looking in any mirror until Thursday morning. What would the results be from this test?

Sadly, there are many who do this very thing with their spiritual condition. They will set down their Bible for days at a time without ever even missing it. Why would one feel that the inner man is not affected by this type of action? Of course we are affected, and in many cases, much more deeply than one would want to consider. The scriptures tell us that, "bodily exercise is profitable for a little; but godliness is profitable for all things," (1 Tim. 4:8), it is the inner man that we should place the most effort for improvement. "Now the Lord is the Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit" (2 Cor. 3:17-18). We can see that it is by application of God's word that we become the image of godliness! So, let us realize the importance of our inner man and check our spiritual condition as often as we check our outward condition by looking into Holy Scriptures, "the mirror" that brings forth everlasting life!

~ Lenny Chapman

"Faith & Miracles"

I can remember a time in my life when I was truly seeking God, and during that time I visited a Pentecostal Holiness church on occasion. That was not the first Pentecostal church I had visited in my lifetime, but it was the first one I gave much attention. At the close of one service, the preacher invited anyone wanted to "give their lives to God" to come to the front and "receive Him." I made haste in going before the assembly... And the preacher commenced to "laying his hands" on those who then -- fell onto the floor, or began muttering unintelligible words, jumping up and down, hollering etc. As the preacher approached me, he looked me in the eye, and put his hands on my chest (with dramatic flair); only to have NOTHING happen. He then went onto the next person in line, the next beyond them, and so forth. Most all of them began yelling mutterings for which I could not understand. But I left that assembly perplexed, wondering why nothing happened to me?! I really did want to do the right thing(s)... But it wasn't until later that I was told I "did not receive the Holy Spirit" because I did not have enough faith. Talk about discouraging! I went to that assembly seeking to increase my faith, only to leave with *less faith* than when I arrived!

Since then I have pondered what I was told about not being on the receiving end of those so-called "miracles," and have found some interesting things in Scripture that contradict what those misguided people

were teaching (2 Peter 3:14-18). Let me share with you the following...

According to the Bible, faith was not essential for a miracle to be done. There once was a blind man who did not even know who Jesus was until after he was healed (John 9:1-41). There were several dead people raised in the first century (John 11:38-44; Cf. Acts 9:36-43), and miracles were performed on inanimate objects such as turning the water to grape juice (John 2:1-12), stilling the storm at sea (Mark 4:35-41), and cursing the fig tree (Matthew 21:18-22). Sometimes the person healed clearly had faith to be healed, such as the woman with the issue of blood (Luke 8:43-48). But faith on the one healed was not a necessary condition for his or her healing, and NOT ONCE was the lack of faith on the part of the one wanting to be healed used to excuse the failure of an attempt to work a miracle! THE ONLY TIME the apostles failed to perform a miracle, Jesus blamed their failure on their own lack of faith, not a lack on the part of the one to be healed (Matthew 17:19-21; Cf. Matthew 14:29-31).

As it turns out, the flimsy excuse those Pentecostal neighbors gave me is one many give to others, quite often. The problem is that excuse is 100% contrary to Bible teaching (Cf. 1 Cor. 13:8-13; 14:20-40; Gal. 1:6-10). I hope that if you have opportunity to talk with someone about these things, this article will provide you some food for thought in preparation.

~ Ian Rice