

In my Father's HOUSE

† DeKalb County Churches

† Read the Bible in a Year

† Sunday Dinner Favorites

† The Kingdom Age

† Making a Portable
War Room

† You're Never Alone

A Supplement to

SMITHVILLE REVIEW

WWW.SMITHVILLEREVIEW.COM



DeKalb County Churches

Alexandria Church of Christ

109 West Main Street
Alexandria, TN 37012

Alexandria Church of God

209 Edgewood Street
Alexandria, TN 37012

Alexandria First Baptist Church

101 Locust Street
Alexandria TN 37012
615 529-2674
www.alexfbcc.org
Bro. Billie Friel, pastor

Alexandria United Methodist Church

204 Church Street
Alexandria, TN 37012
Lucinda Sharp, pastor

Allen's Chapel Methodist Church

1037 Coconut Ridge Road
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-8476
Phillip Tollett, pastor

Bank's Cumberland Presbyterian Church

2933 Banks Pisgah Road
Smithville, TN 37166
Kim Slickmeyer, pastor

The Baptist Tabernacle Church

105 Braswell Lane
Smithville, TN 37166

Buckner's Chapel Methodist Church

4030 Cookeville Highway
Smithville, TN 37166

Calvary Baptist Church

830 Foster Road
Smithville, TN 37166
Abram Edwards, pastor

Carmel Center of Spirituality

610 Bluff Road
Liberty, TN 37095

Center Hill Brethren in Christ

849 Forrest Avenue,
Smithville, TN 37166
www.centerhillbic.org
Larry R. Steffee, pastor

Christ Point Church

614 Murphy Street
Smithville, TN 37166
931-837-1762

Cooper's Chapel Baptist Church

2683 Henley Hollow Rd.
Liberty, TN 37095
615-536-5102
Gary Caplinger, pastor

Covenant Baptist Church

930 Short Mountain Street
Smithville, TN 37166
www.covenantchurch.com
Bro. Bobby Thomason, pastor

Dowelltown Baptist Church

West Main Street
Dowelltown, TN 37059
Thomas Hale, pastor

Dowelltown Methodist Church

West Main Street
Dowelltown, TN 37059
931-273-6037
Johnathan McHann

Dry Creek Baptist Church

5521 Dry Creek Road
Dowelltown, TN 37059
615-536-5075
Donald Owens, pastor

Elizabeth Chapel Baptist Church

1850 Allen Ferry Road
Smithville, TN 37166
www.elizabethchapel.org

Emmanuel Bread of Life

322 New Home Road
Dowelltown, TN 37059

Faith Baptist Church

Old Sparta Highway
Smithville, TN 37166
www.faithbaptistsmithville.com

First Assembly of God

Cookeville Highway
Smithville, TN 37166
<https://www.smithvilleag.com>
Iain Swisher, pastor

Indian Creek Baptist Church

1327 Hurricane Ridge Road
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-7299

www.indiancreekbaptistchurch.org
Bro. Ric Lee, pastor

Keltonburg Church of Christ

5526 Keltonburg Road
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-1866
Bobby Cloyd, minister

Laurel Hill Baptist Church

7551 Sparta Highway
Smithville, TN 37166

Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church

25 Roundtop Rd.
Alexandria, TN 37012
615-408-2929

Liberty United Methodist Church

Corner of Locust Street and Church Street
Liberty, TN 37095

Lower Helton Baptist Church

Lower Helton Road
Alexandria, TN 37012
Bro. Gary Glover

Malone's Chapel Baptist Church

6634 Walker Creek Rd.
Alexandria, TN 37012
615-548-4069

Memorial Baptist Church

Dale Ridge Road
Dowelltown, TN 37059



Mt. Herman Baptist Church
1381 Dry Creek Rd.
Smithville, TN 37166
Mike Gay, pastor

Mt. Pisgah Freewill Baptist Church
7516 Short Mountain Highway
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-7964

Mt. View Primitive Baptist Church
219 Old Blue Springs Road
Smithville, TN 37166
Elder Ricky Arnold, pastor

New Bildad Primitive Baptist Church
239 New Bildad Road
Smithville, TN 37166
931-808-5627

New Home Missionary Baptist Church
New Home Road
Smithville, TN 37166
615-489-9370
www.nhmbctn.com
Bobby Lee Hale, pastor

New Life United Pentecostal Church
860 South Congress Boulevard
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-8979
www.newlifsmithville.com
Dwayne Cornelius, pastor

New Union the Baptist Church
Wright Bend Road
Smithville, TN 37166

Northside Church of Christ
512 North Congress Boulevard
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-7794
Minister Burnes Lyons

Outreach Baptist Church
1300 So. Congress Boulevard
Smithville, TN 37166
615-318-1069
www.obcsmithville.com
Nathan Thomason, pastor

People's Independent Missionary Baptist Church
Highway 70 Dismal Road
Liberty, TN 37095

Salem Baptist Church
483 West Main Street
Liberty, TN 37166
615-536-5340
www.sbcliberty.com
Jason Lohorn, pastor

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
1417 Midway Road
Smithville, TN 37166

Smithville Church of Christ
520 Dry Creek Road
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-4159
Dan Gulley, Pulpit Minister
Jonathan Anderson, Youth & Associate Minister

Smithville Cumberland Presbyterian Church
201 South College Street
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-4197
www.smithvillecpc.com
Issac Gray, pastor

Smithville First Baptist Church
101 West Church Street
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-4275
www.fbcsmithville.com
Chad Ramsey, Lead Pastor
Jordan Atnip, Student & Worship Pastor

Smithville First Free Will Baptist Church
500 Bright Hill Road
Smithville, TN 37166
www.libertyfreewill.org/smithville
Bro. Andy Patterson, pastor

Smithville First United Methodist Church
108 North Fourth Street
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-4961
www.smithfumc.org
David Lunsford, pastor

Smithville Nazarene Church
119 Dearman Street
Smithville, TN 37166
Trent Colwell, pastor

Snow Hill Baptist Church
470 Snow Hill Road
Dowelltown, TN 37059
Todd Pack, pastor

St. Gregory's Catholic Church
712 West Main Street
Smithville, TN 37166
618-541-9936
www.saintgregorycatholicchurch.com
Father John Patrick Day, CP
7165 Sycamore Creek
Liberty, TN 37095

Temperance Hall Pentecostal Church
216 Hayes Ridge Road
Lancaster, TN 38567

Upper Helton Baptist Church
217 Upper Helton Road
Alexandria, TN 37012
615-529-2880
www.upperhelton.com
Jimmy Arms, pastor

Webb's Chapel United Methodist Church
6509 McMinnville Highway
Smithville, TN 37166

Sycamore Missionary Baptist Church

Whorton Springs Baptist Church
2979 McMinnville Highway
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-6100
www.whortonspringsbaptist.com
Bro. Mike Carpenter, pastor



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SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH 1927

THE OLDEST CHURCH IN DEKALB COUNTY

The oldest church in DeKalb County can be traced back to one of the earliest settlers in Liberty, a man in his early twenties named Cantrell Bethel.

Born on December 17, 1779, Bethel came to Liberty and built a cabin west of town at a location now known as the Allen Bluff (where the mule is painted on the bluff).

Not long after arriving in this community, the Holy Spirit touched the heart of Mr. Bethel and changed his course in life. Having now accepted Christ as his Savior, the Lord lay upon his heart to be baptized in the Baptist Church. At that time, there was no Baptist Church anywhere in this section of the country, and no one legally authorized to administer the ordinance.

He had heard about a Baptist Church in Warren County, Kentucky, so he left on horseback following buffalo trails all the way to Kentucky. He carried with him the fear of Indians as there were still hostile tribes during that time. He made his way through the wilds of unbroken forest to Union Church in Warren County, Kentucky. He was baptized by either Elder John Atari or Alexander Devon.

On his return, he soon succeeded in gathering a band of emigrant Baptist brethren at Brush Creek, Smith County. There, he was instrumental in constituting a church at that place on May 29, 1802, with 16 constitution members – 10 males and six females. He became their first pastor, serving until 1810.

Not long after, he secured an “arm” from Brush Creek and a mission was started near Liberty. They met in homes, and at one time had

a little meeting house near a spring in Beech Grove at the Forks of the Pike where Highway 96 runs into Highway 70. It was at this location, near the residence of the late T.M. Fite, that Salem Baptist Church was constituted into an independent body in August 1809 with 31 members.

Cantrell Bethel became the first pastor, serving until 1837. He was a man of strong physique and had a voice almost like thunder. He was a great exhorter, at will. A few words from him would often move a large audience to tears. Adam Dale was the first clerk and his brother, William, became the first song leader.

In October 1809, the church elected trustees to lead in building a meeting house at approximately the same location as today's present building in Liberty. Pastor Bethel, Deacon William Dale and Clerk Adam Dale set about to organize the group. Trustees William Bratten, Adam Dale and Joseph Evans began the task of erecting a building.

Bethel was appointed missionary in 1817 and traveled in the capacity. During one of his missionary journeys he fell from his horse, which rendered him a cripple for life. His affliction were so severe that he did his preaching sitting in a chair in the latter years of his life. He peacefully breathed his last breath among friends and loved ones in his home on the bluff overlooking the creek near Liberty on October 22, 1848.

MOTHER CHURCH OF THE REGION

Salem Baptist Church is considered the mother church of this region. Several churches

have had their beginning under her influences. As Association, consisting of churches of which Salem is connected, has chosen the name “Salem” as a tribute church.

The following consider Salem as their Mother Church: New Hope, Enon, Goshen, Short Mountain, Prosperity, Smithville, Indian Creek, Mt. Zion, Sycamore, Coopers Chapel, Dry Creek, Dowelltown and Covenant.

CHARTER MEMBERS:

Cantrell Bethel, William Dale, William Bratten, Prichard Cantrell, Poll Bethel, Jacob Truitt, Whitefield Ellege, Robert Shelton, Robert Sheldon, Samuel Forester, Jerry Lester, Sister Duncan, Nancy Roberts, Contancy Cantrell, Charity Lawrence, Charles Lawrence, Jane Goff, Adam Dale, Berry Young, Joseph Evans, Rebecca Young, Betty Brimage, Nancy Truitt, Moses Garrison, Josiah David, Joshua Lester, Alexander Blakely, Brother Boren, Brother Benjamin, Ally Allen, John Fite and Priscilla Allen.

(Published June 2008 in the Smithville Review)



This sketch was done by Charlie Robinson, the son of Robert Robinson, one of our long time members. It may have been sketched to resemble the very first church.

This is Salem's second sanctuary and was in use until 1927 when the current structure was erected.



The GREAT DEBATE

Should we attend Church in-person or watch virtually?

I can remember when the biggest decision we had to make on Sundays was what we would be eating for lunch after service but that doesn't seem to be the case anymore.

Nowadays, many are faced Sunday in and Sunday out with multiple decisions that will shape their lives possibly for eternity.

There is the decision first and foremost of whether or not the family or individual will attend a Church service in person or stay at home and catch it online or on the TV.

Once this decision is made, then comes the decision of which service they will tune in to. "Will we watch this one or that one?" After all, since Covid-19, a good majority of Churches now offer some sort of online option for tuning in.

Then, once they have decided on which service to tune into, next, comes the thought of "should we catch it live or maybe go do something else and catch it later?"

Sadly, by this time, the service has already become a secondary thought and what they will do with their free time instead has become the main thing on their mind.

Don't get me wrong, I full heartedly believe in offering some sort of online option for those who are shut in or those who are sickly and cannot make it to Church or for those overseas where the preaching of Christ may not be offered.

This, after all, was actually the reason our Church decided to begin offering online services way back in 2016, not long after Facebook live came out.

I'll never forget sitting there one day and seeing some folks going live on Facebook and thought...if they can go live on Facebook why can't we go live with our Sunday services?

The seed had been planted and so I got with our Tech Team and began brainstorming on how this all would work and in little of no time, we were recording our services and putting them online on our Facebook page for anyone to see.

It took a little while to get everything together to actually "Go Live" online with our services but little by little, we figured it out with some help from a couple other local churches in the area and have never looked back.

Then, one night I was sitting there, and this crazy idea came to my mind, "I wonder if there's a way to somehow get these services sent overseas for people who may have never heard of the gospel of Jesus Christ?"

So, I got to looking at all the different options on Facebook and seen this button which said, "boost post". I clicked on it and it opened up a whole new world that I didn't even know existed!

There, right in front of me, was a way to send our services anywhere in the world for anyone with internet and Facebook to see!

I immediately sat down with a globe and literally typed in every country on the map and hit boost and the next day we began receiving messages from people in countries whose names I could barely even pronounce!

In little of no time, we started getting comments (some good, some not so good lol) from people all over the world watching our services online.

Since then, we have literally reached millions of people (some church, some unchurched) through our online platform.

Now, I say all that to say this, the Bible says in **Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NLT2)** – For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.

I believe there are reasons and seasons where watching online services is ok. For instance, you live in another country where assembling together for Church may not be a thing or maybe you are sick one Sunday and can't make it to Church but decide to still be faithful and watch online

from home or maybe you are a shut in and either your health won't allow you to make it to Church or you don't have a way to make it to Church.

These are instances where I feel that joining Church services online are ok. After all, we did just come through a worldwide pandemic where entire countries were on lockdown, right?

We ourselves even had online only services for a little while in the very beginning because we simply didn't know what to expect or how to handle the Covid-19 virus.

Then, later in 2020 we had to go online again for a few weeks because of a breakout of Covid amongst our members. In these instances, we were thankful that our prior preparation still allowed us to gather together online and worship God even though we may not have been able to gather together in person.

With that being said, I believe if you ask any member of our congregation, they would almost all certainly be in agreeance that gathering together virtually is not the same as gathering together in person.

Yes, you can still hear the same message. Yes, you can still sing the same songs. But at least when we're all singing together in person, those of us who don't sound the best, get drowned out by those with angelic voices!

Listen, we are humans and humans need other human interaction. That's how God created us!

In the Garden of Eden, in the Book of Genesis, God created Adam and all the animals but there was something missing. It was a help mate for Adam.

So, God created Eve and placed her in the garden with Adam. Yes, she was a woman but more than that, she was someone Adam could relate to!

Eve could speak the same language as Adam. They could carry on wonderful conversations about the weather or about all the different animals God created or about the beauty that surrounded them.

Not only did Adam now have someone who could carry on a conversation with him, but now he also had a help mate who could feel the same emotions he felt. Eve could laugh and cry and sympathize and encourage and share the load with Adam.

This was something no other creation could do!

And this is why I believe that only in the rarest of circumstances should attending Church virtually take precedence over gathering together in person.

There is something to be said about the Spirit of God moving in the midst of His people!

And if you have ever been a part of this you know exactly what I'm talking about!

When God's people gather together in person, in one accord, with one common goal in mind and that goal being to worship the one and only true God in spirit and truth, there is something special that takes place amongst God's people, which in my opinion can't be experienced virtually!

This is why the Bible says in **Hebrews 10:25 (TEV)** – Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer.

We need that interaction for it is in that atmosphere of interaction that we become encouraged by the lives of those around us!

God created us to cohabitate with other human beings not through the lens of virtual viewing but through physical interaction. He didn't put Adam in the Garden and Eve on the outside with a telephone and video camera now did He?

No, He put her "In" the garden with Adam and I believe if you want to

be as close to God as possible, then in the confines of the Church house, with other Brothers and Sisters in Christ, worshiping and serving God in one spirit and in one accord, is where you need to be.

There is a very good picture of this very thing taking place immediately following the Day of Pentecost in Acts Chapter 2. The Bible says in...

Acts 2:42-47 (KJV) – ⁴² And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all that believed were together, and had all things common; ⁴⁵ And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. ⁴⁶ And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, ⁴⁷ Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

As we wind this conversation to a close, I want you to see a couple key components in the scripture of a Church on fire.

First off, in Verse 42 the Bible says, "they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers," right?

It's hard to fellowship with other believers virtually from your couch, don't you agree?

The New Testament Church that was about to flip the world upside down for Christ had fellowship and if the modern day Church is going to make an impact on the world today, WE NEED FELLOWSHIP!

Secondly, Verse 44 says, "And all that believed were together, and had all things common;"

They were together. They were together physically. They were together mentally. And they were together Spiritually!

If we are going to be the Church God called us to be, I believe these key elements must be a part of the Churches DNA and it starts with being together physically!

Thirdly, the Bible says there in Verses 46-47... "46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

We nowadays have a hard time getting folks to come Sunday morning, Sunday night and Wednesday night's, but in the beginning, the New Testament Church was meeting "daily" the Bible says!

And notice where they were meeting? Not on a Zoom call or a Skype call but "with one accord in the temple!"

These folks were going to Church daily!

And when they weren't going to Church, they were going from "house to house" to break bread and fellowship!

And they were doing it with a singleness of heart!

Do you know what they were all focused on? The Lord Jesus Christ!

That was the common denominator!

And because of their dedication to the worship of God and His precious Son, they found favor with "all the people" and the Lord added to the Church "daily" such as should be saved!

If only, the Church of today could find favor with all people and see people saved daily!

Listen, the prescription for a Church positioned to change the world starts with the fellowship of its members being in one mind and in one accord praising God in singleness of heart in one place!

When these elements exist in perfect unison, the likelihood that God is going to move in a mighty way amongst His people is very great!

So, the next time, you are weighing whether to go to Church in person or just catch it virtually, ask yourself these simple questions...

- Is there a good reason other than "I just don't want to" that I can't make it to Church in person today? If the answer is no, then go!

- Is there a physical reason I can't go? If no, then go! There will come a day when you will wish you could go but won't be able to.

- Does my Church need me? The answer is YES! You as a member of the local body of Christ are very precious to your Church because when the body is missing one of its members it cannot function to its fullest capacity. Your local Church needs you just as much as you need them!

- Am I just watching virtually so I can have more time for myself? If the answer is yes, stop being selfish and go to Church. Remember, the Lord Jesus Christ died an agonizing death on a cross so that you could have eternal life! The least you can do is spare a few hours each week trying to grow closer to him and learn as much as you can about the man who gave His life for you!

This is not an exhaustive list of self-help questions by any means but it should at least be enough to help encourage you each week to try with all your might to make it out to the house of God.

As I mentioned in the beginning, there are certain circumstances where I do feel virtual attendance is ok and I do realize that every situation is different but ultimately, I believe there is no better place a Christian can find themselves than in the midst of other Christians worshiping God together in one accord.

There's a story told of an old fellow in a little country church, and he had lost his hearing and much of his eyesight, too. Nevertheless, every Sunday, he could be found sitting in his seat in the auditorium.

Someone asked him why he kept coming even though he couldn't hear or see what was going on in the church service. The old man answered, "I just want everybody to know whose side I'm on."

Powerful words to remember the next time we begin to debate which way of attending is more important.

God Bless,
Bro. Bobby Lee Hale
New Home Missionary Baptist Church






SENT INTO THE WORLD

*Carrying Good
News To A Sin
Sick World*



By Pastor Jason Lohorn,
Salem Baptist Church



We live in a broken world. We are surrounded by broken people, broken relationships, and broken systems. When you sit down and watch TV, Netflix, or go to the movies, you see brokenness, violence, poverty, pain, and death on the screen because that is what you find in the world.

We also see beauty in the world. In the Bible, Romans chapter one tells us that God created the world and that “His invisible attributes are clearly seen” (see Romans 1:20). We can look around and tell that the world has been created with a purpose in mind. We marvel at the landscape, plants, animals, and life in general, and conclude that God exists. In contrast to brokenness, we do see evidence of God’s design all around us. In fact, when we look to the first book of the Bible, Genesis, we find that “God saw all that He had made, and it was very good” (see Genesis 1:31). God made each of us with a purpose in mind. God created us to worship Him, to walk with Him, and to glorify Him. That was God’s design from the very beginning.

What happened? Mankind chose to sin. The first human beings, Adam and Eve, chose to sin. They willfully chose to disobey God and His original design for their lives. The result was the fall of mankind. Today, we have inherited this fallen nature from them and are dealing with the fallout. When a person selfishly insists on doing things their own way, the Bible calls this sin. Due to the inheritance of this fallen nature, Romans 3:23 states “we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” This sinful nature distorts God’s original design, and the consequence of our sin is separation from God, in this life and in eternity.

Sin leads to the place of brokenness. We see this all around us. The world is sin sick. Depravity and immorality are on the rise. Moral standards are at an all-time low. Just when you think it cannot get any worse, society sinks to a deeper low.

When we realize that life is not working, we begin to look for a way out. People that are living in this chaos tend to go in many directions to get out of brokenness. Many people turn to alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling...you name it, people living in brokenness try to heal the pain any way they can. Some people overindulge in hobbies, fill up their lives with busy-ness, or they become a workaholic in order to mask the pain. While living in a sin sick world, sinners will do everything they can to get out of brokenness, because we just want out. At the end of the day, brokenness leads to a place of realizing a need for something greater.

So the world needs a remedy. The world needs some good news.

Because of God’s love for us, God did not

leave us in our brokenness.

Jesus, God in human flesh, came to us and lived perfectly according to God’s design. Jesus came to rescue us... to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. He took our sin and shame to the cross, paying the penalty of our sin by His death. Jesus was then raised from the dead to provide the only way for us to be rescued and restored to a relationship with God.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16, NKJV

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news. But hearing the good news is not enough. We must admit to God our sinful brokenness and repent, which is to stop trusting in ourselves. We do not have the power to escape brokenness on our own; we need to be rescued.

We must ask God to forgive us, turn from our sin, and trust only in Jesus. This is what it means to repent and believe. By faith, we must receive this new life through Jesus Christ and then God graciously turns our life in a new direction.

When a person believes on Jesus Christ, they become part of His church. God restores their relationship to Him, and then helps them discover His purpose for their life. It is at this point where a person can pursue God’s design in all areas of their life.

The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is made up of born-again believers. As individuals and collectively as His church, we are to go into all the world and share the good news of Jesus Christ. We are sent into this sin sick world on a rescue mission to win souls. As the church we are to run into the darkness of this world and shine the light of Jesus Christ.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16, NKJV

When you open your Bible, you will find that a biblical church is to exalt our Lord through worship, enrich God’s people in discipleship, embody God’s people in fellowship, and engage their community in all kinds of ministries. However, when you read the red letters of Jesus written in the four gospels you will find that our main objective is to expand God’s kingdom through evangelism. We are a “SENT” people. We are to “GO” with the gospel. We are to be on mission to share Jesus. We are to carry the good news to a sin sick world. Let me ask you a question, will you go?

In my Father's HOUSE

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PART BY OUR SUPPORTERS

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Smithville, TN 37166

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in the Lord...

Proverbs 3:5

DeKalb County Court
Clerk, James Poss





Salem

BAPTIST | CHURCH

www.sbcliberty.com

SUNDAY:

Sunday School - 9AM

Morning Worship - 10AM

Evening Worship - 6PM (Choir Practice 5:15PM)

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - 7PM

Youth - 7PM

MAY

May 2 - One Night Revival 6PM

May 9 - Mothers Day (NO PM)

May 12 - Wednesday Night Cookout 6:30PM

May 16 - Baby Pounding at Dodd's (Foyer)

May 23 - Honor Graduates 6PM + Fellowship

May 31 - Memorial Day

JUNE

June 6-10 - Vacation Bible School 6PM-8:30PM

June 14-16 - Southern Baptist Convention Meeting

June 20 - Fathers Day (NO PM)

June 27 - Fellowship Meal After PM Service

JULY-AUG

July 4 - Independence Day

July 12-17 - Dekalb Fair Booth Ministry

July 25 - Fellowship Meal After PM Service

Aug 1 - Singing - Shirah Brothers @ Salem 6PM

Aug 22 - Fellowship Meal After PM Service



Center Hill Brethren in Christ Church

849 Forrest Avenue,
Smithville, TN 37166



www.centerhillbic.org

Sunday school 10am

Sunday worship 11am

Wednesday bible study 7pm

615-464-8698

Larry R. Steffee, pastor

YOU'RE NEVER ALONE

Despite greater mobility, social media, population growth, and other dynamics in our world today which make people more accessible to one another, loneliness has become a growing problem. The problem has been worsened by the covid pandemic lockdowns, and has especially affected our younger adults as well as school-age children.

Loneliness can cause health problems, emotional distress, addictions, and even depression, and can also increase suicidal death, cause decreased sleep, and cause difficulty falling asleep and even remaining asleep.

Loneliness appears to be slightly more common among men, and can increase our risk of death by 26%. Loneliness, living alone, and poor social connections are considered as bad for our health as smoking 15 cigarettes per day. It is worse than obesity, is associated with increased risk of people developing coronary heart disease and stroke, and

increases the risk of high blood pressure. Loneliness does not depend on how many relationships or friends we have, but entirely on the quality of our relationships and whether we feel emotionally and socially connected to our friends. It may surprise us that more than 60% of lonely people are married.

Centuries ago, the God of heaven made a promise to a man named Abraham that He would establish a new nation through him, and would give his descendants a land where they could live forever. God renewed this promise with Abraham's son Isaac and also his grandson Jacob. One night Jacob was on a trip and stopped for the night in the great outdoors, laying his head on stones for a pillow and dreaming about a ladder. The foot of this ladder stood on the earth and the top of it reached to heaven, and the angels of God climbed up and down on it.

At the top of the ladder in Jacob's dream stood God Himself speaking to Jacob, telling him that the land where he was spending the night would be the very land which He planned to give to his descendants. In Jacob's dream, God promised that his descendants would be as numerous as the dust of the earth, and through them all the families of the earth would be blessed. God also made another special promise that He would personally bring Jacob back to this land, and that He would not leave him until the promise would be fulfilled. Jacob was on his way to a strange land where he had never been in his life, and it certainly would have been a great comfort to him that God was going to be him.

God's interaction with Jacob was the beginning of a long history of His promise to be His people. When God called a man named Moses to lead the descendants of Jacob out of the land of Egypt, He promised to be with him and the people He would be leading to the very land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God would, in fact, promised to be with them in a very special way, leading them by day with a pillar of a cloud, and by night by a pillar of fire. As they traveled across an unfamiliar desert, God would also provide food and water for them, and He would prepare them for the day when they would enter the promised land. In Deuteronomy 31:6 Moses addressed the people and told them that the "Lord will go before you, He will be with you, He will not fail you, neither forsake you. Fear not, neither be discouraged."

The knowledge and assurance that God will be with us should be a great comfort and consolation, but reality tells us that there are times when we don't exactly feel that comfort and consolation. There is a story in the Bible about a man named Job that perfectly illustrates this reality. Job was a very wealthy man with a large family and many possessions, and he had a great faith in God. One day Satan appeared before God and accused Job of being faithful to the Lord simply because God had prospered him. So, God allowed the devil to put Job to the test, and the devil took full advantage by taking away all Job's possessions as well as his entire family except for his wife. Friends of Job insisted that Job had sinned against God because of his misfortunes, and even his wife told him to curse God and die. Job did not understand what was happening, but through it all he remained true to the Lord. In the end, God rewarded him by giving him a second family and twice as many possessions as he had originally.

The often-repeated promise that God will be with His people is the very greatest ever antidote for loneliness. People are often lonely because their friends and their families and their neighbors have forsaken them and have failed to be there for them in the time of their greatest need.

When individuals are counting on their friends, neighbors, and families to come to their assistance, but fail to receive that assistance, loneliness begins to set in and begins to take a toll on their emotional well-being. Job no doubt felt alone, confused, and dejected, but he held on to his faith in God despite the lack of support from his friends and his wife. Job learned that God did not really leave him nor forsake him, but He was there for him all the time, a lesson we all need to learn.

There is a very important aspect of the story of Job that definitely cannot be overlooked, and it involved the point at which things finally turned around for Job. Despite the fact that his friends turned on him and accused him of getting what he deserved for something they thought he had done against God, Job made the decision to pray for his friends. It was exactly at this point that God reversed Job's misfortunes and gave him another family and twice as many possessions. At first Job probably felt sorry for himself, and if he didn't, we would not blame him if he did, but pity parties never seem to solve very much. It was when Job took his eyes off himself, and when he looked to the Lord to pray for his friends, that the Lord doubled his blessings. Likewise, when we feel like our friends and family are either neglecting or forsaking us, we would do well to pray for them instead of just writing them off and forgetting about them. We must realize that life is not always just about us.

There is another intriguing story found in II Kings 6 concerning a prophet of God named Elisha, who gave information from the Lord to the king of Israel during a battle with the king of Syria. When the king of Syria learned that Elisha was responsible, he located him in the city of Dothan and surrounded the city. Elisha's servant despaired over this situation, but his master informed him that the king of Syria was outnumbered. Elisha prayed that God would open the eyes of his servant to see that the mountains were full of horses and chariots of fire around them. Elisha was speaking of the horses and chariots of the Lord ready to protect them, and to let them know they were not alone. Very likely these were the angels of God, like the angels who could have rescued Jesus if He had jumped off the pinnacle of the Temple when the devil tempted Him to do so. It should be safe to assume that God frequently protects us as His children as well.

The apostle Paul had it right when he said in Hebrews 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Jesus did more for others during His life here on this earth than any other human being, yet there were those who rejected His ministry, His purposes, and His teachings. None of this stopped Jesus from fulfilling His mission of dying on the Cross and suffering the most cruel kind of death known to the world in His day. The shame of dying on the Cross as a common criminal was not an easy pill to swallow because He in no way deserved it. But His willingness to die on the Cross gained Him the privilege of returning to heaven to sit once again on the right hand of God where He belonged.

We, too, may have so-called friends who turn their backs on us when we need them most. We, too may have to suffer beyond what we thought was ever possible for us to endure, but Jesus said in Matthew 24 that those who endure to the end will be saved. Most people never suffer as greatly as Jesus suffered, and not near as greatly as many believers who have been persecuted in the past. Even today, believers all over the world are being persecuted for their faith, and some have been imprisoned and some even executed for their faith. In many places in our world today the Christian church is growing in spite of this persecution, just like it did in the early days of the Christian church. There may be times when we feel persecuted or even abandoned by friends and family, but we must not forget that we are never alone.

Jesus spoke about sometimes having to give up our family, our homes, our property, our jobs, and much more in order to become His followers, but he said that it would always be worth it in the end. He said that He would more than make it up to us, like by giving us a new family, a family made up of other believers who become our spiritual brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers. He said that He would make up it up to us one hundred-fold, not only in this present life, but also in the life to come, in our life beyond the grave. As a pastor since 1967, there have been times when I could have felt alone in the fulfillment of my mission, but God always seemed to have the right people there at the right time to show me the support that I needed. I have lived as far as 1,000 miles from my biological family, but my church family has made up for it over and over again.

In our life beyond the grave, a life that will be everlasting, we will be reunited with all faithful followers of God who have gone on to heaven before us. The Bible says that we will sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the marriage supper of the Lamb, and we will enjoy the company of friends and family who will welcome us to our heavenly home. We will never be alone, but will walk up and down the streets of gold, entertain those we love in our mansions built for us by Jesus, and we will join with other believers in worshipping God before His throne. We will definitely never be alone when we get to heaven, but it is of utmost importance that we ask God to forgive us of our sins, invite Jesus into our lives, and faithfully live for Him and serve Him in this life is we expect to see Him in the next life.

1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Hebrews 13:5-6 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (Read More...)

Matthew 28:20 - Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Hebrews 13:6 - So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Psalms 55:22 - Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2 Timothy 1:7 - For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Hebrews 4:16 - Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

1 Chronicles 28:20 - And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.



Larry Steffee

Why is it so hard to live for God? When one truly gives their heart to God, are they not transformed into a new creature? If repentance is sincere, grace is applied, mercy is granted, and steadfast belief in Christ has truly taken place, is one not born again? If one is truly born again in Christ and all things have been made new, then why is living for God still a struggle?

Have you ever pondered these things? Have you ever been in a season of your life to where you knew you were not where you needed to be spiritually, and then questioned your relationship with God because of it? If so, you are not alone.

Apostle Paul himself speaks of this spiritual struggle in Galatians 5:17 when he says, “For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don’t do what you want.”

We are all too familiar with what this looks like in our own personal walk with God. There are times in life when our spiritual walk is healthy, and there are times when our spiritual walk is not so healthy. To be completely honest, you can experience both ends of this spectrum within the same day, possibly even within the same hour. Why are we tempted so often to walk in the flesh, and why is it so hard to say “NO!”

First, I want to say that just because someone is tempted does not mean that they are evil. One might say, “Well what about James 1:14 when it says, ‘But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire.’?” Absolutely! This is definitely one means of temptation, but what about Jesus? Matthew 4:1 tells us that, “Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.” I think we can all agree that Jesus was not evil. We are obviously tempted when our hearts are in a bad place, but temptation can also come when we are right where we are supposed to be. Temptation can come at any time and in any place. Why?

To fully understand the roots of temptation, we must first understand our God-given blueprint. We were created with a three-pronged design: the body, the soul, and the Spirit. Our body is physical and constantly pulls us toward the physical things of this world. Our Spirit is spiritual and constantly pulls us toward the spiritual things of God. Our soul is caught right in between the two and is the constant teetering point that decides which of the other two we follow. If our minds are on the things of God, we will walk in the Spirit. If our minds are on the things of this world, we will walk in the flesh. This is why so much emphasis is put on the mind in the New Testament. Look at these verses:

Romans 12:1–2 (CSB)

¹Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.

²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

2 Corinthians 11:3 (CSB)

³But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your **minds** may be seduced from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Colossians 3:2 (CSB)

²Set your **minds** on things above, not on earthly things.

1 Peter 1:13 (CSB)

¹³Therefore, with your **minds** ready for action, **be sober-minded** and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

We could go on for pages with verses that address the importance of our mindset, but these few verses give us a glimpse. Our minds must be stayed on Christ. Apostle Paul says in Galatians 5:16, “I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.” That sounds simple enough, right? I must admit that

it sounds much simpler than it actually is.

In Romans 8:5-8, Apostle Paul says, “For those who live according to the flesh **have their minds set on** the things of the flesh, but those who live according to Spirit **have their minds set on** the things of the Spirit. Now the **mind-set of the flesh** is death, but the **mind-set of the Spirit** is life and peace. The **mind-set of the flesh** is hostile to God because it does not submit to God’s law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

That is some pretty strong language. Apostle Paul says that those who are walking in the flesh **CANNOT** please God!!! That is scary. We all have moments to where we are walking in the flesh, but how do we change that? How do we swing the tide in the other direction? How do we make the shift to walk in the Spirit, and then stay in the Spirit? Let’s read a little further.

In verse 10, Paul begins by saying, “Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through his Spirit who lives in you. So then, brothers and sisters, we are not obligated to the flesh to live according to the flesh, because if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”

Apostle Paul gives us two key truths that will keep our hearts stayed on Christ. The first is the idea of self-sacrifice. He said that we must allow the Spirit to put to death the deeds of the body. This speaks of a crucifixion. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:31, “I die daily.”

Somewhere along the way, we have come to the conclusion that once we make our decision to follow Christ, we will never have to make that same decision again. Paul says that choosing to follow Christ is a decision that one must make every single day. He says that he crucifies the flesh daily. He makes it clear that he must put to death the things of the flesh every single day of his life. We too must make the decision every day that, “This is the day which the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.” Every single day is a new day and a new opportunity to give our hearts to God.

Another thing Paul makes clear is that it must be done through the work of Spirit of God that dwells within us. He says that our mortal bodies will be brought to life through his Spirit who lives in us. We must understand that there is a big difference between the “indwelling” of the Holy Spirit and the “infilling” of the Holy Spirit.

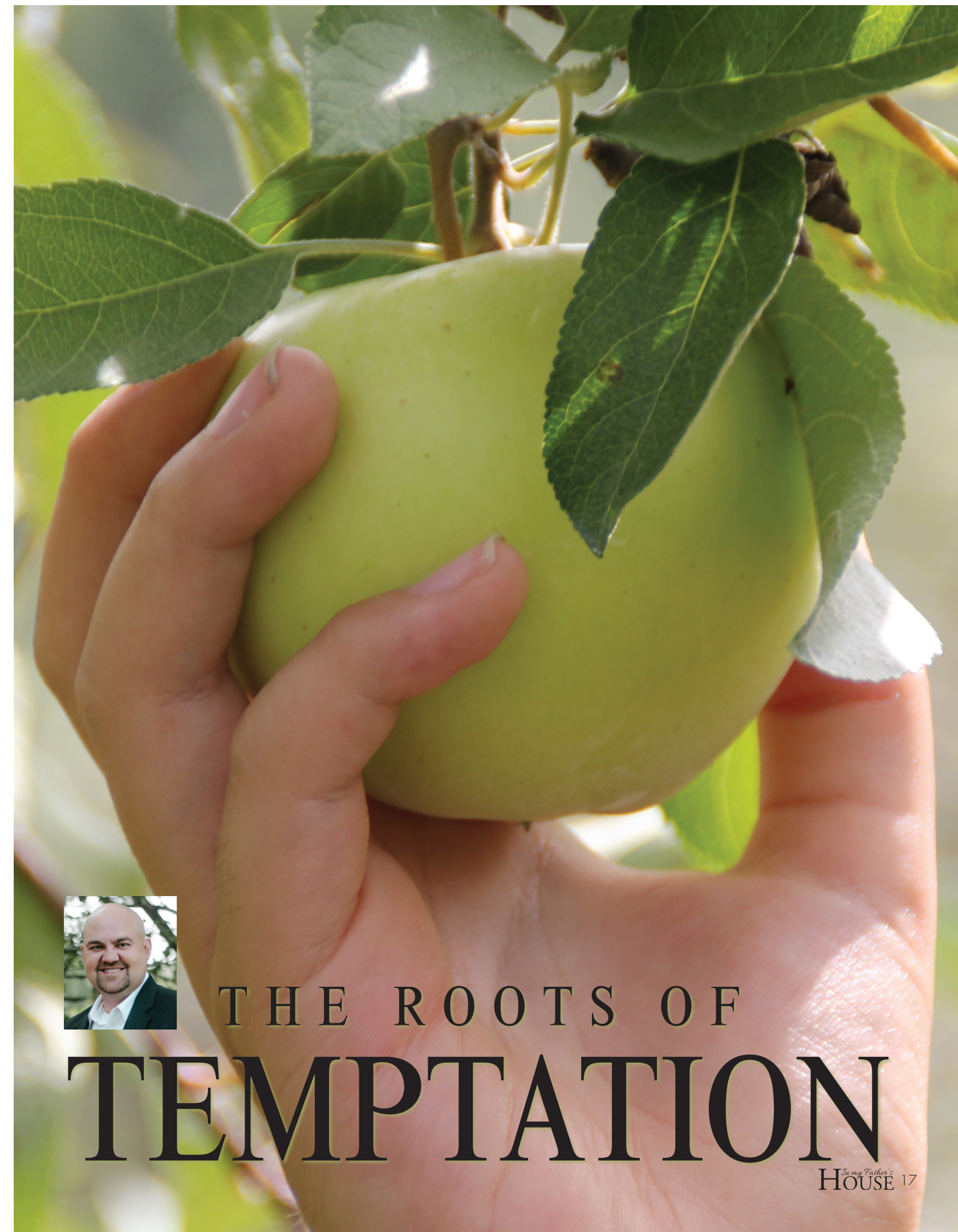
The “Indwelling” of the Holy Spirit is something that takes place at the point of salvation. When we place our lives into the hands of God and submit to Jesus Christ as LORD and savior over our lives, we are indwelt by he Holy Spirit. He sets up shop inside of our hearts and gets to work. He begins changing us from the inside out.

This is not to say that we will always follow the leadership of that Spirit just because He is there. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:30, “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.” The Spirit of God begins to lead and guide us from the heart as soon as He becomes present within our lives, but we do have the option of suppressing that voice. This is called in the Bible, “Grieving the Holy Spirit”.

When we choose to crucify the flesh, we are also in turn choosing to operate under the leadership of the Holy Spirit within our hearts. As we do this, we are “filled” with the Spirit. This must be done daily. This is done through prayer, reading God’s Word, and meditation. Starting each and every day with Jesus cannot be stressed enough, but it is not enough. Not only must we start each day with Him, but we must also make Him the focus point of everything we do. As we choose to stay our minds of things above, the Spirit is able to work through us and shine the light of God. This is our purpose!!!

Following Christ is initiated through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, but it is continued as we daily choose to give more and more of ourselves to God. May we apply the Word of God to our lives so that we might make a spiritual difference in the lives of others!!!

Thomas Hale



THE ROOTS OF
TEMPTATION



Waging war against the enemies with a

PORTABLE WAR ROOM

By Angie Meadows

Do you want to pray more faithfully and consistently, but you don't know where to begin? A strategy a lot of people implement is the use of a War Binder, also called a prayer journal.

A War Binder originates from the movie "The War Room," a powerful movie that explores the power of prayer, and the effect that it can have in every aspect of your life. The main character of the movie creates a "war room" in a closet where she went to pray and also covered the walls with pages of scripture and prayers.

While you may not have room, for a "War Room," everyone has room for a binder or book. It's a portable war room. The binder is a notebook used to record prayer request and praises that you bring to God daily, scripture writing, daily devotionals, Bible study notes, and uplifting reminders of God's goodness.

Your binder can be created with a simple three ring binder, a composition book, a planner or travelers binder. There are

hundreds of tutorials and examples on the web, as well as a huge selection of sites which offer free printables for your binder. If you are crafty, you can go all out on decorating it with colorful pens and markers, craft booking stickers and gems, lace and on and on. But do not worry if you're not crafty. The purpose of the binder is to help improve your prayer life, not test your crafting skills.

Within your binder, you can create different tabs such as: Prayers, Gratitude, Inspiration, Journal, and Bible Study or devotionals. To begin, you may want to start with just the first three focal points, then personalize your binder as you go.

If you decide on a binder that is smaller, such as a personal planner size or travelers binder that can be kept with you at all times, you will find that it's easier to pull it out and jot down a prayer request when someone asks to keep them in your prayers.

Remember, it's not the binder itself that is important. It's what happens when you spend time in it that counts.



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THE KINGDOM AGE

The ways of the world are as plain to see as the nose on your face. From the time we are little children, we experience a world that is just as selfish as it is cruel. Even the best and most loving acts tend to be driven by ulterior motives. People are nice to one another with the understanding that a favor done for you today means one will be returned to them in the future, and even the most generous of donations tend to spike in popularity towards the end of the year so that tax season can be maximized. Sin has seemingly crept in and perverted every nook and cranny of our existence.

This was the world that Jesus Christ stepped into some two thousand years ago. It was a world much like we live in today. Everyone from the vilest criminals to the very church itself display the signs of a creation that is broken and desperately in need of saving from itself. It was to that dark world that John wrote, "He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him (John 1:11)." Jesus would testify to just how broken even his own followers were when He spoke to Pontius Pilot. The Lord said, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here (John 18:36)."

But God wasn't content with leaving us to our own devices. The Light came to change things! You see, even when armed with the truth found in the laws of God, we were still utter failures. Creation doesn't have a knowledge problem. The world isn't condemned out of ignorance. No, we have a heart problem! People are rotten in the core of who they are, not in understanding right from wrong. You can see people scrambling every single day to try and fix what's wrong with who they are by fulfilling a list of dos and don'ts. Jesus came to us not so we could have a better teacher, but so He could put us back together once and for all! He didn't come to put on Band-Aids and teach us better doctrine. He came to establish the Kingdom of God and transform us into citizens of his Kingdom right where we are.

The Kingdom of God is this wondrous thing that is both already right here with us and somehow still very much on the way. It's both "already" and "not yet". We are living in the Kingdom Age, but we also long for that day when we finally get to cross over to the place Jesus went to prepare for his people.

The Kingdom of God entered the world with King Jesus in that lowly manger. He was called Emmanuel, which means "God is with us". While God has always been present from the dawn of time, this was a whole new level of experiencing our Lord. No longer was God "up there" or merely available when we call. Now, God was here standing shoulder to shoulder with us and experiencing every aspect of life alongside us. Jesus waded out into the ugliness of the world with us so that He could create something in us far better than our best. He is in the transformation business. "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new (2 Corinthians 5:17)!"

In Acts 1 we read, "So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:6-8).'" They

were still looking for some big miracle that Jesus would work around them. However, what God had in mind was a huge miracle that He would work *IN* them!

Jesus doesn't come to save us just so we can avoid Hell like it's the jail space on the Monopoly game. No, we aren't just saved "from" a terrible fate. We are saved *FOR* great things. The Kingdom of God is a part of the age we are living in because we are a part of the present age. In fact, we are the Kingdom of God! It's not just some place set to arrive, but it's more accurately a people created by Lord Jesus. It's in us, around us, part of us. That's why we are never the same once we truly let Jesus into our lives. It's because he creates something new in us from day one. We no longer quite fit in with the world anymore. You may feel like a bit of a square peg, somewhat peculiar. That's because we aren't in heaven yet, but we don't quite belong here anymore either.

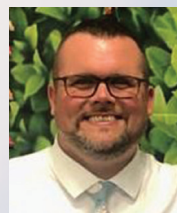
No longer do we have to be driven by the self-absorbed ways of the world. Now, we have a chance to truly shine and make a lasting difference in the world. Jesus told us to "make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you (Matthew 28:19-20)." God desires quality over quantity, and He always prefers presence over presents. God wants you far more than anything you could ever give or buy Him. When we make Jesus our Lord, we are promised in return that He will provide anything and everything we will ever need.

And as a sign of our obedience to God and our willingness to embrace the changes Jesus desires to do in our lives, the Holy Spirit creates a beautiful new way of life in our hearts. We aren't in it only for ourselves anymore, and the darkness that once shrouded all of our motives has been exchanged for what the Bible calls the fruit of lives in the Spirit. Now, we bring love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control with us wherever we go (Galatians 5:22-23).

We don't have to wait on heaven to begin to experience the good things Jesus has been preparing for us. In fact, we are instructed to live out our faith every day by taking up our cross and following after Him (Matthew 16:24). The cross is a painful and ugly instrument for obvious reasons. However, the purpose and cause behind the cross is the purest image of love that's ever been. In taking up our cross, we willfully take the ridicule, punishment, and consequences of our brothers and sisters so that they can have the opportunity to experience the freedom and newness of life that Jesus has brought to each of us.

God's invitation is extended to all of his creation. Come and meet the one who told me everything I ever did. We'd like to introduce you to the one who always accepts us and readily puts us back together. Experience the love of the one who died for us all while we were lost in our sins. And we pray you accept the free gift of salvation that opens the door for the dawning of a new day. There's always a place for you in the family of God. Here you are forever loved and always belong. Welcome to the Kingdom Age!

H. Graden Kirksey IV
(Pastor, Refuge Church Smithville)



**All scripture quotations taken from the NRSV translation of the Holy Bible, unless otherwise stated.*

SUNDAY SOUTHERN EATING

Getting back to the table

By ANGIE MEADOWS

There is nothing better than a big Southern meal after Sunday morning church service. Having family gather around the table with delicious fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, fried okra, corn on the cob, and biscuits – mmmm, mmmm. And what better way to wash it down with than with a big glass of sweet tea. And, we can't forget a big piece of chocolate pie with sky-high meringue.

“Southern” is often synonymous with “fried.” It's not the healthiest style of eating but definitely the tastiest.

Fried chicken is probably one of many wonderful memory of eating at Grandma's house. Or at least it is mine. Every Sunday after church, we gathered around the table at my grandmother's home to a big spread. It always included fried chicken. Side dishes varied, but we could always count on fried chicken. As children, there was always a race for the two legs. This was between three cousins where someone obviously was going to miss out. Now days, you can just buy an extra pack of legs and that would solve the problem. However, back then one whole chicken was cooked and it was what it was.

Unfortunately Sunday family meals are being replaced with fast food and drive-thrus. Most are in a hurry and just do not take the time to visit family as people once did, much less take the time to sit down and have a meal. Unless, it's Thanksgiving or Christmas of course.

Let's all make an effort to get back to the table. To get back with family and the big Sunday meals. If your family already does this, that is wonderful. If not, let's work on slowing down, just for one day, and enjoy a delicious lunch with family and good food after Sunday morning service.



Crispy Fried Chicken

2 cups flour
1/4 cup seasoning (garlic, seasoned salt, creole, onion powder)
5 eggs
1/4 cup milk
Salt and pepper to taste

Combine dry ingredients in a bowl. Whisk eggs and milk together in a separate bowl.

Rinse chicken, pat dry with a paper towel.

Dredge chicken through the flour mixture, then into the egg mixture, and back into the flour mixture to coat.

Heat oil in iron skillet and cook until done.

Chris Tramel



Crispy Fried Okra

- 4 cups oil
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 3/4 cup whole milk
- 2 cups cornmeal
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1^{1/2} teaspoons salt
- 1^{1/2} teaspoons black pepper
- 2 pounds fresh okra, sliced
- Crushed red pepper flakes to taste (optional)
- Sea salt to taste (optional)

Heat oil in cast iron skillet.

In a large bowl, whisk together milk and eggs until combined. In a bowl, combine cornmeal, flour, salt and pepper.

Add cut okra to the egg mixture and coat well. Move the okra into the bowl, scatter the dry ingredients over the okra and toss to coat.

Put about one-third of the okra into the hot oil. Turn as necessary with spoon until golden brown all over.

Use a slotted spoon to transfer the cooked okra to a paper towel lined plate to drain.

Repeat until all is cooked.

Barbara Ann Ervin



Favorite Mac & Cheese

- 16 oz. macaroni
- 2 cups milk
- 8 oz. cheddar cheese
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons flour

I make this Macaroni & Cheese on the stove top. First I take 16 oz. of macaroni and add that to boiling water cook for about 8 minutes, drain and rinse in cold water. Set aside.

Now I get a large skillet and warm up on

medium heat and add 3T of butter or margarine. I melt the butter and stir in 3T of flour to make a roue.

Once you have cooked your roue for about 3 minutes add 2 cups of milk and stir it will start to thicken if you need to add more milk you can.

Add 8oz of cheddar cheese or whatever cheese you like. Add your macaroni to your cheese sauce and mix. Move away from stove. Add salt, pepper and dry mustard if you like.

Barbara Ann Ervin



Papa's Biscuits

- 2 cups self-rising flour
- 1 cup buttermilk
- Heaping spoonful of lard

Cut the lard into the flour. Do not use shortening as that will make the biscuits crumbly. Once lard is mixed into the flour, pour in buttermilk. Mix until the dough is elastic. Rollout onto a cutting board and fold. Do this several times. Then cut biscuits out with a biscuit cutter. An old soup can is great for this. Place biscuits on an iron griddle or skillet and bake for 10 minutes at 450 degrees. Once done, hide biscuits so everyone doesn't eat them all before the rest of the meal is done.

Chris Tramel

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SPARTA, TN 38583

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES 9:15AM & 11:00AM
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:00PM MEAL INCLUDED

SMITHVILLE CAMPUS

614 MURPHY ST

SMITHVILLE, TN 37166

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES 11:00AM
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:00PM MEAL INCLUDED



For more information visit our website
WWW.CHRISTPOINT.CHURCH

In my Father's HOUSE

BROUGHT TO YOU IN
PART BY OUR SUPPORTERS

Pastor Thomas Hale

1811 W. Main Street Dowelltown, TN 37095

- Sunday Morning Service: **10:00 a.m.**
- Sunday School: **11:00 a.m.**
- Wednesday Night Bible Study & Kids Classes:
6:30 p.m.
- 2021 VBS: **July 25-July 30th**
6:00-8:00 p.m.



Dowelltown
BAPTIST CHURCH
Come Grow With Us!



217 Upper Helton Road
Alexandria, TN 37012
615-529-2880
www.upperhelton.com

Families are invited to join with us!

SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Sunday School - 10 am all ages
Sunday Morning Worship - 11 am
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 pm
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study - 7 pm
(Activities for children & youth)

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

Indian Creek Memorial Baptist Church

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me" Psalm 34:4



Bro. Ric Lee, Pastor

967 Hurrigan Rdge Rd, Smithville, TN 37166 615-785-3955

Sunday school 10am
Sunday morning worship 11am
Sunday evening worship 6pm
Wednesday evening bible study 6:30p
Wednesday evening missions group 6:30 pm

*Come worship
with us*

Allen's Chapel United Methodist Church

1037 Coconut Ridge Rd
Smithville, TN 37166
615-597-8476

Sunday:

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Wednesday

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM



*Blessings from
the farm,*

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615-983-0140 ~Text for a quick answer!

MT. VIEW PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

**219 Old Blue Springs Rd
Smithville, TN 37166**

Pastor: Elder Ricky Arnold

Services every Sunday 10:30am

Facebook: Mt. View Primitive
Baptist Church

*Services available from Facebook
every Sunday*



PLEASE JOIN US

OVERCOMERS SUPPORT GROUP

SUNDAY'S @ 10 AM

**OVERCOMERS
SUPPORT GROUP**

ELIZABETH CHAPEL
BAPTIST CHURCH GYM
1850 ALLEN FERRY RD.
SMITHVILLE, TN 37166

TUESDAY'S @ 5:30 PM

**OVERCOMERS
SUPPORT GROUP/LIFE
RECOVERY 12 STEP**

ELIZABETH CHAPEL
BAPTIST CHURCH GYM
1850 ALLEN FERRY RD.
SMITHVILLE, TN 37166

READ THE
BIBLE
IN A YEAR



Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Rom 1-2	Gen 1-3	Josh 1-5	Ps 1-2	Job 1-2	Isa 1-6	Matt 1-2
2	Rom 3-4	Gen 4-7	Josh 6-10	Ps 3-5	Job 3-4	Isa 7-11	Matt 3-4
3	Rom 5-6	Gen 8-11	Joah 11-15	Ps 6-8	Job 5-6	Isa 12-17	Matt 5-7
4	Rom 7-8	Gen 12-15	Josh 16-20	Ps 9-11	Job 7-8	Isa 18-22	Matt 8-10
5	Rom 9-10	Gen 16-19	Josh 21-24	Ps 12-14	Job 9-10	Isa 23-28	Matt 11-13
6	Rom 11-12	Gen 20-23	Jude 1-6	Ps 15-17	Job 11-12	Isa 29-33	Matt 14-16
7	Rom 13-14	Gen 24-27	Jude 7-11	Ps 18-20	Job 13-14	Isa 34-39	Matt 17-19
8	Rom 15-16	Gen 28-31	Jude 12-16	Ps 21-23	Job 15-16	Isa 40-44	Matt 20-22
9	I Cor 1-2	Gen 32-35	Jude 17-21	Ps 24-26	Job 17-18	Isa 45-50	Matt 23-25
10	I Cor 3-4	Gen 36-39	Ruth	Ps 27-29	Job 19-20	Isa 51-55	Matt 26-28
11	I Cor 5-6	Gen 40-43	I Sam 1-5	Ps 30-32	Job 21-22	Isa 56-61	Mark 1-2
12	I Cor 7-8	Gen 44-47	I Sam 6-10	Ps 33-35	Job 23-24	Isa 62-66	Mark 3-4
13	I Cor 9-10	Gen 48-50	I Sam 11-15	Ps 36-38	Job 25-26	Jer 1-6	Mark 5-6
14	I Cor 11-12	Ex 1-4	I Sam 16-20	Ps 39-41	Job 27-28	Jer 7-11	Mark 7-8
15	I Cor 13-14	Ex 5-8	I Sam 21-25	Ps 42-44	Job 29-30	Jer 12-16	Mark 9-10
16	I Cor 15-16	Ex 9-12	I Sam 26-31	Ps 45-47	Job 31-32	Jer 17-21	Mark 11-12
17	2 Cor 1-3	Ex 13-16	2 Sam 1-4	Ps 48-50	Job 33-34	Jer 22-26	Mark 13-14
18	2 Cor 4-5	Ex 17-20	2 Sam 5-9	Ps 51-53	Job 35-36	Jer 27-31	Mark 15-16
19	2 Cor 6-8	Ex 21-24	2 Sam 10-14	Ps 54-56	Job 37-38	Jer 32-36	Luke 1-2
20	2 Cor 9-10	Ex 25-28	2 Sam 15-19	Ps 57-59	Job 39-40	Jer 37-41	Luke 3-4
21	2 Cor 11-13	Ex 29-32	2 Sam 20-24	Ps 60-62	Job 41-42	Jer 42-46	Luke 5-6
22	Gal 1-3	Ex 33-36	I Ki 1-4	Ps 63-65	Prov 1	Jer 47-52	Luke 7-8
23	Gal 4-6	Ex 37-40	I Ki 5-9	Ps 66-68	Prov 2-3	Lamentations	Luke 9-10
24	Eph 1-3	Lev 1-3	I Ki 10-13	Ps 69-71	Prov 4	Ezek 1-6	Luke 11-12
25	Eph 4-6	Lev 4-6	I Ki 14-18	Ps 72-74	Prov 5-6	Ezek 7-12	Luke 13-14
26	Phil 1-2	Lev 7-9	I Ki 19-22	Ps 75-77	Prov 7	Ezek 13-18	Luke 15-16

Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	Phil 3-4	Lev 10-12	2 Ki 1-5	Ps 78-80	Prov 8-9	Ezek 19-24	Luke 17-18
28	Co 1-2	Lev 13-15	2 Ki 6-10	Ps 81-83	Prov 10	Ezek 25-30	Luke 19-20
29	Co 3-4	Lev 16-18	2 Ki 11-15	Ps 84-86	Prov 11-12	Ezek 31-36	Luke 21-22
30	I Thes 1-3	Lev 19-21	2 Ki 16-20	Ps 87-89	Prov 13	Ezek 37-42	Luke 23-24
31	I Thes 4-5	Lev 22-24	2 Ki 21-25	Ps 90-92	Prov 14-15	Ezek 43-48	John 1-2
32	2 Thes	Lev 25-27	I Chr 1-4	Ps 93-95	Prov 16	Dan 1-6	John 3-4
33	I Tim 1-3	Num 1-4	I Chr 5-9	Ps 96-98	Prov 17-18	Dan 7-12	John 5-6
34	I Tim 4-6	Num 5-8	I Chr 10-14	Ps 99-101	Prov 19	Hosea 1-7	John 7-9
35	2 Tim 1-2	Num 9-12	I Chr 15-19	Ps 102-104	Prov 20-21	Hosea 8-14	John 10-12
36	2 Tim 3-4	Num 13-16	I Chr 20-24	Ps 105-107	Prov 22	Joel	John 13-15
37	Titus	Num 17-20	I Chr 25-29	Ps 108-110	Prov 23-24	Amos 1-4	John 16-18
38	Philemon	Num 21-24	2 Chr 1-5	Ps 111-113	Prov 25	Amos 5-9	John 19-21
39	Heb 1-4	Num 25-28	2 Chr 6-10	Ps 114-116	Prov 26-27	Obadiah	Acts 1-2
40	Heb 5-7	Num 29-32	2 Chr 11-15	Ps 117-118	Prov 28	Jonah	Acts 3-4
41	Heb 8-10	Num 33-36	2 Chr 16-20	Ps 119	Prov 29-30	Micah	Acts 5-6
42	Heb 11-13	Deut 1-3	2 Chr 21-24	Ps 120-121	Prov 31	Nahum	Acts 7-8
43	James 1-3	Deut 4-6	2 Chr 25-28	Ps 122-124	Eccl 1-2	Habakkuk	Acts 9-10
44	James 4-5	Deut 7-9	2 Chr 29-32	Ps 125-127	Eccl 3-4	Zephaniah	Acts 11-12
45	I Pet 1-3	Deut 10-12	2 Chr 33-36	Ps 128-130	Eccl 5-6	Haggai	Acts 13-14
46	I Pet 4-5	Deut 13-15	Ezra 1-5	Ps 131-133	Eccl 7-8	Zech 1-7	Acts 15-16
47	2 Pet	Deut 16-19	Ezra 6-10	Ps 134-136	Eccl 9-10	Zech 8-14	Acts 17-18
48	I John 1-3	Deut 20-22	Neh 1-4	Ps 137-139	Eccl 11-12	Malachi	Acts 19-20
49	I John 4-5	Deut 23-25	Neh 5-9	Ps 140-142	Song 1-2	Rev 1-6	Acts 21-22
50	2 John	Deut 26-28	Neh 10-13	Ps 143-145	Song 3-4	Rev 7-11	Acts 23-24

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37166



Dry Creek Baptist Church

5521 Dry Creek Rd., Dowellton

615-536-5075

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday night:

Fellowship meal 5pm-6pm

Children & youth classes 6:15-7:30 pm

Choir practice 6:15-7:00 pm

Bible study 7:00pm

Donald Owens, *pastor*



*“The difference
is worth the
distance”*

SMITHVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

P.O. BOX 397 - 520 DRY CREEK ROAD | SMITHVILLE, TN 37166

615-597-4159 OR 615-597-4199

WEBSITE - THESMITHVILLECHURCH.COM | EMAIL - SCOC@DTGCOM.NET

PULPIT MINISTER - DAN GULLEY

YOUTH & ASSOCIATE MINISTER - JONATHAN ANDERSON

SERVICE TIMES: SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:00 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM

SUNDAY EVENING - 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS - 7:00 PM

GOD IS GOOD ... ALL THE TIME. ALL THE TIME ... GOD IS GOOD.

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear	Romans 10:17
Believe	Mark 16:16
Repent	Luke 13:3, 5
Confess	Romans 10:9, 10
Baptism	Acts 2:38
Be Faithful	1 Corinthians 15:58



303 N PUBLIC SQ
SMITHVILLE, TN 37166

CHURCH@REFUGESMITHVILLE.COM

(931) 709-1145

Service Times

Sunday.....11:00AM

Wednesday...6:30PM

Services also livestreamed via Facebook

We're a family of believers, who acknowledge the call of God on each person's life. Come find hope and experience God's love. We're a safe place to belong and be loved.

