

# Weatherly @ work

## WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

THIS WEEK DECEMBER 11	NEXT WEEK DECEMBER 18
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### Sunday AM

Announcements  
 Song Leader  
 Opening Prayer  
 Scripture Reading  
 Closing Prayer

Louis Garrett  
 Jared Jimison  
 Jim Ehl  
 Terry Childress  
 Mike Coward

Louis Garrett  
 David Jacks  
 Ron Harmon  
 Marty Hunt  
 Bobby Wright

### Sunday PM

Song Leader  
 Opening Prayer  
 Closing Prayer

Jared Jimison  
 Gene Preston  
 Murray Castleman

David Jacks  
 Tommy Hill  
 Collis Terry

### Wednesday PM

Song Leader  
 Invitation  
 Closing Prayer

Collis Terry  
 Mike McLemore  
 Gene Preston

Mike Coward  
 Mike McLemore  
 Forest Summers

### Group Meeting

Group 2

Group 2

## MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

### December Serving on the Lord's Table AM

Adam Hagewood  
 Mike Holt  
 Nick Holland  
 Tommy Hill \*\*  
 Phil Furlough  
 Marty Hunt  
 Dwight Ivey  
 Jerry Mitchell

\*\* Overseer

### Lord's Supper PM

Will Starks \*\*  
 Doyle Wray

### Visitor Greeting Sunday AM

Rear Door  
 Ann Summers & Susan Hand

Side Door  
 Mike & Gwyn McLemore

### Sunday PM Rear Door/ Side Door

Jimison/Ehl

### Communion Prep Building Lockup

Hilda Wright & Sarah Starks  
 Phil Furlough

## QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2016

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Acts of Apostles Survey  
 Nick Holland



### ADITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Book of Daniel  
 Mike McLemore

## 2017 WEATHERLY HEIGHTS LECTURES

Mark your calendar  
 May 4th—7th, 2017

### Weatherly's Shepherds

Louis Garrett	(256) 883-7785
Tommy Hill	(256) 883-0010

### Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore	(256) 698-5941
Email: mmcllemore@weatherlychurch.com	

### Weatherly's Deacons

Steve Hagewood Hill Roberts Collis Terry	Ron Harmon Will Starks Bobby Wright	David Jacks Forest Summers
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## TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:00 a.m.
<b>Sunday Evening Assembly</b>	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.

# The Weatherly Weekly

2016 Edition, Number 50

December 11, 2016

## Unchained by the Cross

**Michael W. McLemore**

In ancient Greek mythology, the hero Prometheus was captured and chained to a mountain peak, where he was sentenced to stay forever. Each day, a giant eagle arrived to feast on his liver. Hermes came to him and said, "Do not hope for an end to your suffering until a god appears as your substitute in torment, ready to descend for you into the realm of Hades." According to the myth, this was done by the wise and just god Chiron, who sacrificed himself for Prometheus and delivered him from torment.

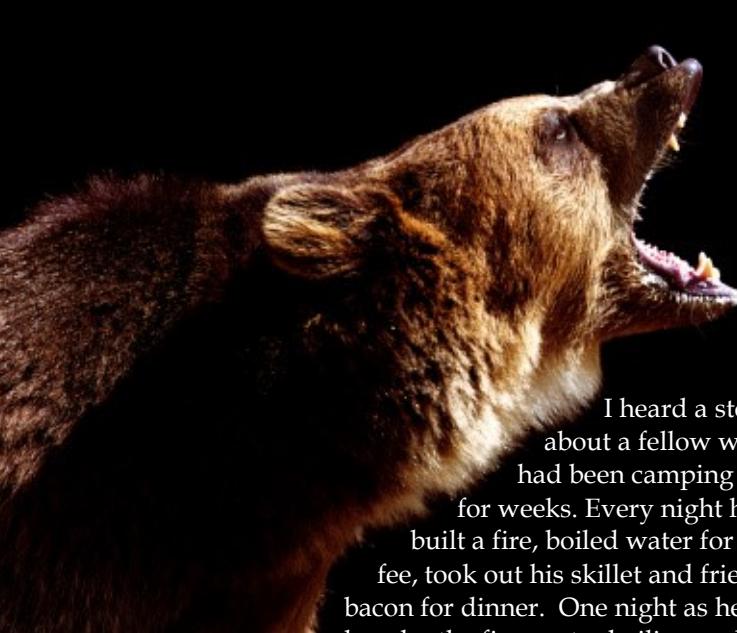
This story is in some ways a picture of what happened for us the day Jesus died on the cross. Mankind was bound by sin, and there was no hope of escape unless God took our place. And that's exactly what happened. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on our behalf and paid the penalty for our sin. He provided a way of releasing us from eternal punishment. Were we to write for a thousand

days, we still could not express the meaning of Christ's sacrifice for the sins of mankind. Its full significance is beyond our comprehension.

The bloody cross was as offensive to the Greek world as it was to the Jews. One viewed it as weakness, the other as a curse. Yet, to God it was "power" and "good news." Our Age differs little in its estimation of the value of Jesus' sacrificial death. Yet, without its appropriation by humankind there is not hope in eternity. On the cross, Jesus did in reality for man what Prometheus received of Chiron in mythology.

Have you confessed your faith in Christ, acknowledging your sin before with a desire to turn from it? Have your sins been washed away in the watery tomb of baptism? Why not be raised with Him today? If not, there's no better time than today. Trust in Him, and you will know what it means to be unchained by the cross. □





# Be Strong!

by Michael W. McLemore

I heard a story about a fellow who had been camping alone for weeks. Every night he built a fire, boiled water for coffee, took out his skillet and fried bacon for dinner. One night as he sat alone by the fire, water boiling and bacon sizzling, he heard a racket in the brush. It sounded like a roaring freight train as trees fell over and branches snapped. Then out of the brush lumbered the biggest bear he'd ever seen. On the bear's back was a man holding a seven-foot live rattlesnake in his hand.

The man shouted and screamed as he brought the bear to a grinding halt, bit the head off the rattlesnake, and flung it into the brush. The man slid off the bear's back, turned, hit him between the eyes, knocking the bear out-cold. The old camper was speechless when this wild-eyed renegade walked over to the fire, tossed the boiling coffee down his throat, drank the hot grease from the skillet, and swallowed the bacon in one bite. As he wiped his hands with poison ivy and slapped the bear back to consciousness, he turned to the camper and said, "Partner, sorry I can't stay aroun'n visit fer awhile, I've gotta keep moving 'cause a real bad dude is chasing me!" Doesn't he know how strong he is?

Paul wrote, "My son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 2:1). Timothy needed to understand the source of real strength. Man's inclination is to be strong in his own way. We groom our young to believe "Strong men don't need help!" But, life teaches us that we do need help. Does that make men weak - in humility relying on another? What did Paul mean when he said "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus"?

Oh that we could realize that the question is not "What have we to endure?" Rather, "What strengths have we for the enduring?" We have it all wrong. We try to arrange our circumstances in Christ so that we relieve or deflect as much sacrifice and suffering as possible from our way. Instead of preparing ourselves in Christ - in faith and humble contentment - we expend the most concerted efforts trying to sheer the trial or potential hardness that result from service to God. Paul told Timothy "endure hardness, as a good soldier" (2:3). Hardness refers to evil inflicted by another. A good soldier bears up under the strain of

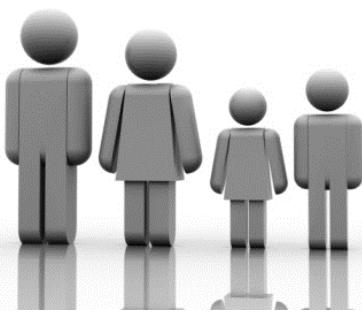
battle. A good Christian does too. We must prepare ourselves for the onslaught, living the life before men, preparing our faith for the strain, not stepping out of the battle every time the conditions become too hard.

We hear that it's "survival of the fittest!" The truth is, the grace of Christ looks mighty weak to *strong men*, and they do not want to depend upon it. Paul learned the lesson of real strength's source - by suffering. The Lord told him, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Suffering Paul learned the lesson of *humility realized in weakness* left him of the Lord. It is the faithful who survive.

The crucified Christ was judged weak, *unempowered*. But, men are no judges over what makes one strong: "For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you" (2 Corinthians 13:4). "Out of weakness were made strong," affirmed the unnamed Hebrew writer (Hebrews 11:34). How were they made strong out of weakness? "Through faith," he explained. The entire concept escapes the "wisdom of this world." The murderers of the Christ were not defeating God. They were fulfilling His will, empowering His plan by shedding the redeeming blood. Though appraised weak by the world, the *enduring* soldier, the *law-abiding* runner, the *fruitful* farmer abide in the true grace and strength of God (2 Timothy 2:1-6).

Who has sufficient grounds or merit upon which to claim God's favor? His indulgence will not be earned by mounding good works on a scale, compensating for sin and wrong. That is not how one attains Divine favor. Grace is an extension of the Divine benefactor toward those who faithfully obey Him. It's more than eternal redemption. In our text it most assuredly includes a practical effect. The power and equipment for ministry are here and elsewhere assured (cf. Romans 1:5; 12:6). In the case of Paul's physical infirmity, Timothy's looming spiritual warfare, or the certain trial of faith, all were but light afflictions when each relied on "the grace that is in Christ." Surely, our benevolent Father will provide the faithful what is needed in the face of even the greatest adversity. Of this, Paul said, put them in remembrance: "It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him" (2 Timothy 2:11-12).

Now bring on that bear! □



## Family matters

*News and Notes of Interest To Weatherly Members*

### Pray for Those in Need

*Carolyn Holland's father, Art Miller*, has been moved to a nursing home here in town to facilitate his recovery. We are grateful that he is making progress. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

*Joe Pellegrini* will have surgery on Wednesday at the Madison Surgery Center. Pray for *Joe* and his young family.

*Phil Furlough* will have foot surgery on Wednesday at the Surgery Center in Huntsville. Your prayers are solicited.

We were happy to see *June Furlough* on Wednesday night after her recent sinus surgery. We are trusting her care to the Lord as she heals.

*Betty Dubose* will be able to wear the boot for the next few weeks, in lieu of surgery. Her most recent x-rays showed the bone is in its proper position. We are happy about this good news. Please say *Betty's* name to the Lord as you pray.

Remember *Joanne's* brother-in-law, *Steve Gittings*, in prayer.

### Sinkhole at the Jimison's

As most of you know *Jared & Amanda Jimison* had a very scary event take place at their home last Monday. A 25 foot



wide sinkhole opened up in their front yard. Thankfully the foundation of their home was not affected. It caused many hours of great concern for this young family. Many prayers were offered. On Wednesday morning all of their anxiety was relieved when the builder, D.R. Horton, relayed their willingness to pay the full cost of fixing the 18 foot deep hole. *Amanda & Jared* wanted me to relay their thanks for your many prayers and expressions of comfort.

### Sunday Skills Class Tonight

Remember our Sunday Night Skills Class will begin at 5 p.m. We hope all of our children will gather at the front.

### Elder Review Questionnaire

Review Questionnaires for *Forest Summers* and *Will Starks* are available for your review in the outer office this week. It is important that every member read this material. Without objection these men will be formally ordained Sunday, December 18th.

### Group 2 Meets Tonight

Group 2, led by *Will Starks*, meets this evening immediately following worship. We hope you can attend. □



### Weatherly Birthdays

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| 12-13 Joanne Abernathy | 12-15 Carol Roberts  |
| 12-23 Charles Hill     | 12-24 Jack Barr      |
| 12-26 Phil Furlough    | 12-27 Searcy Hall    |
| 12-29 Gene Preston     | 12-19 Peggy Coward   |
|                        | 12-31 Emily McLemore |

## Have A Problem?

Bill Crews

If you have a problem, face it and deal with it; but seek the Bible solution to it, and apply that solution.

If a brother has sinned against you, read and apply Matthew 18:15-17. if you have wronged a brother, apply the principle of Matthew 5:23-24. a problem in your marriage? A problem in your family? A problem with your children? A problem with a friend? A problem with an enemy? A problem with someone where you work? God's word is the solution. And I am talking about something that is a problem, not something petty and insignificant. At the same time look into the mirror of God's word (James 1:23-24) that you might see yourself as you are and learn what you should be. Do not be concerned with removing "motes out of the eyes" of others, while being indifferent toward "beams in your own" (Matthew 7:3-5).

If you have a Bible question that is important to you, if you have a question about the congregation — its worship, teaching, practice, work, if you have a question about any thing taught in a Bible class or from the pulpit, by all means ask — and ask those involved, those who can give an answer. If you have some criticism to make, make it to the one or ones who need to hear it.

If any thing is disturbing you by all means talk about it — but don't just bend ears and create or spread discontent. Talk about it to those you need to talk to, to those who can help and help resolve the problem. □

# Weekly Walk!