

The Weatherly Weekly

January 15, 2017

2017 Edition, Number 3

“REAL LIFE”

Michael W. McLemore

What is “Real Life”? Would you agree that it is a life filled with fulfillment, acceptance and purpose? May I recommend a relationship with Jesus Christ as the ultimate discovery of “Real Life”?

No one in human history has made the claims Jesus made, and then demonstrated undeniable proof of their validity. He claimed to be God. He claimed power on earth to forgive sins. He claimed to be the only true and living way to fellowship with God. Jesus validated each and every claim through His resurrection from the dead. He is, truly, the most unique person who ever lived.

John described Jesus as “The Word made flesh” dwelling among us. He was the precise representation of God’s being, John 1. In essence Jesus revealed exactly what God is like. So how do we begin a relationship with him? We don’t begin a relationship with God by trying to be a better person, or by trying harder

to win His approval. In Christ, God has given mankind the power to become “sons of God.” He has given the means, “in Christ,” to work out our own salvation. In short, God has given us the power to regain fellowship in the forgiveness of the sins that have separated us from our holy God. God has such a genuine love for us that He himself provided the way for us to be in fellowship with Him. Now, He calls us to respond to His sacrifice by obedience to the Gospel.

In Christ we can find “Real Life” where death once reigned. Through Christ, we are filled with all the fullness of God. In His death, we can find acceptance, and are no longer rejected because of sin. In fellowship with God, we find the real purpose of this life.

The citizens of this world are searching desperately for fulfillment, acceptance and purpose. “Real Life” will never be found a part from fellowship with God and His son Jesus. □

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

	THIS WEEK JANUARY 15	NEXT WEEK JANUARY 22
Sunday AM		
Announcements	Tommy Hill	Tommy Hill
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Forest Summers	Will Starks
Scripture Reading	Nick Holland	Searcy Hall
Closing Prayer	Bobby Wright	Kirk Hatcher
Sunday PM		
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Searcy Hall	Ron Harmon
Closing Prayer	Doyle Wray	David Jacks
Wednesday PM	JANUARY 18	JANUARY 25
Song Leader	Collis Terry	Phil Furlough
Invitation	Mike McLemore	Gene Preston
Closing Prayer	Jim Risner	Forest Summers
Group Meeting	Group 3	Group 4

QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES JANUARY – MARCH 2017

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Galatians
Gene Preston

ADITORIUM WEDNESDAY

New Testament Worship
Michael McLemore



2017 WEATHERLY HEIGHTS LECTURES

Mark you calendar
May 4th—7th, 2017

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

January	
Serving on the Lord’s Table AM	Ken Cavender Melvin Godette Terry Barnett Steve Hagewood ** Forest Summers Gene Preston Kirk Hatcher Kiel Adams
** Overseer	
Lord’s Supper PM	W. D. Patrick ** Will Patrick
Visitor Greeting	
Sunday AM	
Rear Door	Louis Garrett
Side Door	Forest & Dot Summers
Sunday PM	
Rear Door/ Side Door	Cavender/T. Hill
Communion Prep	Hilda Wright
Building Lockup	Bobby Wright

Weatherly’s Shepherds

Louis Garrett	(256) 883-7785
Tommy Hill	(256) 883-0010
Will Starks	(256) 883-5273
Forest Summers	(256) 348-2251

Evangelist

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

Weatherly’s Deacons

Steve Hagewood	Ron Harmon	David Jacks
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry	Bobby Wright

TIMES OF SERVICES

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



By Michael W. McLemore

"WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?"

It's the common anthem of our day: "What's in it for me?" We are kidding ourselves if we think we are exempt. I recently ran across the following. "Try these nine great ideas and see if any of them are yours:

1. My idea of visitation: everyone comes to see me.
2. My idea of sympathy: everybody suffers with me.
3. My idea of a sinner: the man I don't like.
4. My idea of a meek man: the man who yields to me.
5. My idea of contentious man: the man who doesn't agree with me.
6. My idea of a wise man: the man who agrees with me.
7. My idea of unity: everybody doing what I say.
8. My idea of cooperation: everybody working with me.
9. My idea of a good sermon: one that fits and hits everyone but me.

It is not hard to see what is wrong with these ideas, is it? Yet we live in a society that has becoming increasingly self-centered. More and more people are interested in their own rights, not what is best for everyone. Folks want everything done for them, and are not interested in doing anything themselves. As one has said "Everyone is listening to the same radio station: WII-FM. That stands for 'What's In It For Me.'"

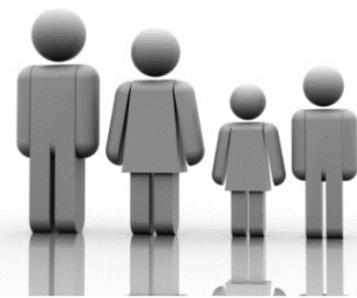
Unfortunately that kind of thinking can come to church and subtly influence and affect our service. Have we forgotten what Christianity is all about? Christianity is not about me, for me, or an excuse for me to get everyone else to do for me. Christianity is

the practice of becoming like Christ. How did Jesus act? He didn't "come to be served, but to serve," and to die. Jesus was a servant, not one who demanded that all do for Him. He gave up everything for us. We don't see any of these "ideas" coming from our

Lord's mouth? How then can they come from the heart of those who wear His name?

It is imperative for the child of God to see himself as a servant of others. Other's needs are greater and more important than my own. What I may prefer is gladly and willingly sacrificed for my brother, my sister, my wife, my children and even a stranger. It is only then that we begin to put "the mind of Christ" into practice in our lives.

Take a personal survey of your own attitudes and practices. Have you given in to the Devil's lie, that asks, "What's in it for me?" Reevaluate your own choices and seek to serve others in your service of the King. It is in service you find the real benefit to self. □



Family matters

News and Notes of Interest To Weatherly Members

Pray for Those in Need

Ann Summers underwent a medical procedure at Huntsville Hospital on Friday. The test proved negative, which is good news, but offered no real explanation as to why she has lost so much weight in recent weeks. More tests on Monday. This is very hard on her at age 92. We are hoping for some indication soon. *Ann* remains in the hospital, room 734. Please pray for her strength.

We are happy to report that the PET scan and MRI that *Erika Holt* had last week indicated "bursitis" and not a recurrence of her Melanoma. Great news! *The Holts* are relieved as are we. Remember this young family to the Lord. Prayers of thanksgiving are surely in order.

Mike Coward got a good report from his doctor following some recent tests. No cardiac issues. We are thankful for this good report, but his doctors have reason to believe *Mike* may have suffered a stroke at some point.

Several in our family are suffering with respiratory illness presently. Please pray for them. Some are staying away from services because these illnesses tend to be contagious. It's easy to pass these around this time of year.

Steve Gittings, Joanne Abernathy's bother-in-law, remains on our prayer list. *Steve* is being treated for cancer. Pray for the benefit of his

treatments.

Wednesday Invitations

If one of the men would like to offer the invitation on a Wednesday evening, please notice the list on the table in the foyer. Choose a Wednesday that works for you and indicate your willingness by signing up. We hope all of our men will take advantage of this opportunity. It would be most edifying to the congregation if you did.

Sunday Night Devotion

No devotion will be held this evening. If you would like to host an upcoming devotion please sign up. A list is posted on the table in the foyer. A couple of openings remain for this session.

Sunday Skills Class Tonight

Sunday Night Skills Class will begin at 5 p.m. We are blessed to have so many young families and children. Your interest in spiritual things is apparent and appreciated by our whole Weatherly family. Plan to be here tonight if possible.

Group 3 Will Meet Tonight

Group 3, led by *Murray Castleman*, will be meeting tonight following evening worship. We hope you can attend your group meeting. □

Weatherly Birthdays



1-15	Xavier Cole	1-18	Rob Crank
1-19	Ed Dill	1-20	Edith Turner
1-21	Janice Wray	1-23	Gordon Dorris
1-26	Marissa Hunt	1-29	Will Starks
1-29	Jim Risner	1-30	Jenny Jacks

Christianity

Michael W. McLemore

Why are you a Christian? It's a question every child of God should answer. Why do you attend worship? Why do you teach "the faith" to your children? A hundred other questions could be asked in this arena. But, may I ask, how do you see Christianity? I ran across the following piece years ago. The original source is unknown to me. I hope it will help our readers appreciate what we have as Christians.

Christianity is not the religion of sorrow and gloom: it is the religion of the morning, and it carries in its heart the happiness of heaven.

Christianity is not a restraint but an inspiration — not a weight but wings; not subtraction but addition. It brings bloom for faded hearts, rejuvenation for the prematurely old, imagination for the dry, literal mind.

Christianity is not a kill-joy at the feast of life, nor a kind of incarnate "don't": it bristles with great affirmatives, fires the soul with permanent enthusiasms and durable loyalties.

Christianity leaves a trail of light wherever it goes; it can keep you cool under any confusion, bring you up smiling from any deeps and utterly banish your fret and worry.

Christianity brings zest and sparkle to life; it is sunshine on the flowers rather than moonlight on the snow; it is life more abundant; it is leaving the little narrow life behind and leaving it forever. □

Weekly Walk!