

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

	THIS WEEK NOVEMBER 26	NEXT WEEK DECEMBER 3
Sunday AM		
Announcements	Forest Summers	Tommy Hill
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	David Jacks
Opening Prayer	Tommy Hill	Will Starks
Scripture Reading	Jim Ehl	Ken Cavender
Closing Prayer	Kirk Hatcher	Jared Jimison
Sunday PM		
Song Leader	SINGING	David Jacks
Opening Prayer	David Jacks	Ron Harmon
Closing Prayer	Phil Furlough	W.D. Patrick
Wednesday PM	NOVEMBER 29	DECEMBER 6
Song Leader	Collis Terry	Collis Terry
Invitation	Mike McLemore	Louis Garrett
Closing Prayer	Riley Monroe	Charley Carter
Group Meeting	Group 4	Group 1

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

December	
Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Adam Hagewood Riley Monroe Bobby Wright Tommy Hill ** Steve Hagewood
** Overseer	W.D. Patrick Jeremy Leshko Will Patrick
Lord's Supper PM	Will Starks ** Terry Childress
Visitor Greeting	
Sunday AM	Forest & Dot Summers
Rear Door	Susan Hand
Side Door	Mike & Gwyn McLemore
Sunday PM	
Rear Door/ Side Door	Jimison & Ehl
Communion Prep	McLemore/Jimison
Building Lockup	Mike McLemore

QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2017

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

The Pastoral Epistles
Mike McLemore

ADITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Ezekiel
Mike McLemore



2018 WEATHERLY LECTURES

Lowell Sallee, Kevin Clark, Greg Chandler
May 3-6

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: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough	Steve Hagewood	Ron Harmon
Kirk Hatcher	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.

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Season with Salt

Michael W. McLemore

"Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person" (Colossians 4:6). The man who does not alter his speech depending on the situation and audience is either insensitive or lazy. Criticism is wanted, even needed at times. But common sense, not to mention the Bible, tells us that different approaches are appropriate in different circumstances.

We must season according to the person. Paul wrote, in a somewhat different context, "I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22). We don't evangelize every person in the same way; why should we think we can criticize them in the same way? Some people respond to humor, some to subtlety, some to direct confrontation. We need to have the wisdom to know which salt shaker to use. Similarly, certain people are due a measure of respect because of their position relative to us. Parents should not be criticized in such a way as to dishonor them. Older people should be re-

spected (1 Timothy 5:1), as should overseers when criticism is merited (1 Timothy 5:17-20).

We must season according to the situation. You don't tell someone about their poor fashion sense at their mother's funeral. Some criticism can be shelved indefinitely; most can wait for an opportune moment. We should not use diplomacy as an excuse for avoiding necessary confrontation; on the other hand, we shouldn't use honesty as an excuse for rudeness.

We must season according to our own mood. The right thing to say is not always the same after a ten minute cooling-off period. James tells us, "let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger" (James 1:19). Violating the second of the three can keep us from keeping the first and third.

The reason every Thanksgiving table has its own salt shaker is apparent. The hostess knows that no matter how well seasoned her meal, guests sometimes need a little more. Let's make sure we err on the side of excess when we are seasoning our conversation. Pass the salt, I could use a little more. ☐

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LIVE!

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Who Was That Masked Man?

Dee Bowman



When I was a kid we played outside a lot. We played games, games like Cowboys and Indians and Cowboys and Outlaws. The Cowboys always won. We'd strap on our guns and don our big hats and suddenly we were Cowboys. If we were the Indians, we'd put on a headband of some sort and stick a turkey feather in it and *viola!* we were Chief Red Fox or somebody. We called the game "p'like," a shortened form of *play-like*. It was fun. You could be whoever you wanted to be. If you wanted to be a Cowboy, you had to scream at the cattle and sing a dogie song, and you had to beat up the Outlaws with your bare fists. If you wanted to be an Indian, you rode a stick horse that had no saddle and learned to scream blood-curdling screams. It was all a matter of dressing the part, saying the right things, and playing the role.

Few things are more repugnant than hypocrisy. And yet it reaches into everyone's life at some time or the other. We almost always assign hypocrisy to the other fellow, but if we're honest, we'll all admit to having played the hypocrite at some time in our lives.

A hypocrite is one who merely plays a part. He's an actor. In fact, the word came to us from a Greek term that originally described a thespian, a person who played different roles by wearing a mask. One person might play several roles; and he did so by merely changing his mask. Sounds somewhat like our idiom *two-faced*, doesn't it?

Jesus dealt with hypocrites in a firm way. In fact, it seems from a perusal of the Scriptures that He was more turned off by hypocrisy than by almost any other sin. The Pharisees practiced the art of hypocrisy with great skill. They had learned their lines well.

The Pharisees did their charitable deeds "to be seen of men" (Read Matthew 6). They were wont to herald the action by having a trumpet sound when they came to do their charity. What a sad sight! True philanthropy is mostly done in secret and is for the benefit of the recipient rather than the giver. The kind of charity Jesus recommends is the kind that is so obscure that even the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing. There is no place in the church for feigned liberality.

And when they prayed, they emoted lines—memorized parts, if you please. They made grand speeches in their prayers and gave great utterances calculated to show (note the word) their "piety" and "righteousness." They spoke in grand, swelling terms and took great care to make rounded tones, enunciate words, and inflect the language carefully. Only one problem: it was not real. In reality, they had little piety and even less righteousness. It was all a show.

When the Pharisees observed a fast, they disfigured their faces and made contortions to show (note the word) to men that what they were doing took great discipline. Actually, they just

put on make-up. The whole act was a show. It was not real worship in which they dedicated themselves truly to God. They wanted others to see them do what they did, that's all.

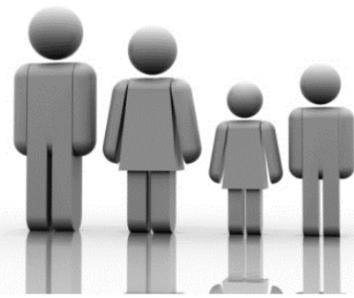
What about our worship? Do we do what we do so as "to be seen of men"? When we pray is our prayer intended to help all of us reach out to God, or is it for the approval of those who hear the prayer? Do we sing so that someone might be impressed with our ability to sing in tune or blend perfectly; or do we sing our songs so that God is glorified and men are taught and edified? And when we make a comment, is it calculated to contribute something to someone's understanding or to prove to someone how "spiritual" and highly educated we are? We best be careful, folks.

How can we guard against hypocrisy? Let each man examine his heart. Motive is a vital part of worship. "Walk prudently when you go to the house of God," said Solomon, "and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil" (Ecclesiastes 5:1-ff). We can just give lip service—and that's a "sacrifice of fools." If we don't come to the house of God with the desire of heart to laud and glorify our Father, we end up just going through the motions—and that's a sacrifice of fools. We can repeat what we do so often and for so long that we even forget the reasons for doing it ("for they do not know that they do evil")—and that's the sacrifice of fools as well.

Let each man look up. Up toward God, not out toward man. We look to please God. And if I please God and you please God, we will be pleasing to one another. But it starts with a desire to be right with Him, to accord to Him the praise and honor He rightfully deserves. He is the object of our worship and we need to remember not to look down, not to look around, not to look over to one side or the other, but to look up toward God. He is our object.

Let each man remember Who He Is. We are mortal. We have all sinned. We must be more cognizant of our dependence on God. No matter how much I impress you with my look of sanctity, I have, by doing so, done nothing to secure my salvation or to broaden my hope. We must remember that God is on His throne and in order to please Him we must point our worship to Him where He is. We have no time to waste impressing one another; we must make sure He is impressed with us, with our devotion, our filial feelings of love, as well as our total dedication. Any less will not do. We owe Him the best we have to offer because of Who He Is.

There is no place in the kingdom for masks. There is no place for make-up or costumes. There is no place for memorized lines and staged entrances and exits. There is only room for honest hearts. That's all. □



Family matters

News and Notes of Interest
To Weatherly Members

Pray for Those in Need

Becky Hill is scheduled to undergo surgery the first week of January. That is a long time for her to wait, but she is patient. Prayer for *Becky*.

Melvin Godette continues to recover at home. Your prayers and efforts of encouragement are appreciated by *the Godette family*.

Ann Summers remains on our daily prayer list. Say her name to the Father as you pray.

Wanda Castleman remains on our prayer list. We are trusting that the medications will be beneficial. She should know more in the next few days. Pray for *Wanda & Murray*.

Jenny Jacks is making progress. Her hand looks much better. Your prayer for her are appreciated.

Jack & Carolyn Barr remain on our prayer list. Pray for them daily.

We are continue to pray for *Glen-da Cavender*. It's hard for her to be away. Say her name to God please.

Collis & Sue Terry's mothers, *Carlton Terry*, and *Lona Mae Brewer*, remain in our daily prayers.

We are also praying for *Mike Gore*. His numbers were a bit better last week.

Saddened by the Passion of Art Miller

Carolyn Holland's father, *Art Miller*, passed away Wednesday evening after a slow decline in his



Weatherly Birthdays

12-2	Ryan Patrick	12-4	Steve Hagewood
12-4	Carley Hill	12-4	Tommy Hill
12-4	Ron Holland	12-4	Gwyneth McLemore
12-6	Ken Cavender	12-6	John Patrick
		12-13	Joanne Abernathy

health. *The Millers* have been friends of several here at Weatherly for many years. We are saddened by his loss. Please remember *Carolyn* and her family during these difficult days.

Services for *Art Miller* are scheduled for later this week — visitation Thursday, and funeral service on Friday. We will relay the times of those services as soon as we have them.

Thanksgiving Travel

Several of our Weatherly family are traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday. Pray for their safe return.

Our Thanks

It would be impossible for us to mention by name all of those who played a role in our Sunday Night Study Series. Please know you are appreciated and that the entire congregation is grateful for your hard work and devotion.

Singing Tonight

This is being the last week of the month, we will be singing tonight.

No Group Meeting Tonight

Group Four, led by *Ron Harmon*, will not be meeting this evening. Please pass any guest cards to *Doyle Wray* or *Mike McLemore*. □

Gratitude

Michael W. McLemore

Believers have the amazing privilege of praying to a loving Father. But it may come as a surprise to some that bringing requests to God is just one aspect of our communication with Him. Another important part of prayer — which, sadly, is often overlooked — is thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6).

Our Father wants His children's lives to be characterized by gratefulness. An appreciative attitude should be evident in our worship, in our giving, in our relationships, and even the way we approach spiritual battles. In other words, thankfulness to the Lord should permeate everything we do. In the Scriptures, the Lord mandates our gratitude (1 Thessalonians 5:18), which some people find perplexing. But He knows how a grateful attitude affects our hearts.

Thanking God keeps us aware of His presence in our lives. Thanking God focuses us on Jesus; pride diminishes when we remember "true life is about Him."

Thanking God drives us to look for His purpose during those challenging situations. Thanking God reminds us of His goodness, which leads to hope and submission to His will, even when we don't understand the reason for our pain. Thanking God encourages continued dependence on Him. Finally, thanking God replaces anxiety with peace and joy.

When we maintain an attitude of thanksgiving in both happy and difficult seasons, our lives will feel purposeful and fulfilling. But more importantly, God will be glorified. Ask Him to bring blessing to mind so we can say, "Thank You." □

Weekly Walk!