

Weatherly Weekly

December 8, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 49

Faith to Finish

Michael W. McLemore

Living in times like ours is a difficult assignment. It calls for commitment and hardline determination. Toughness is a rare quality. What we need are people who know how to finish.

Common negative responses to life's demands can be described in three arenas and consequent results: first, indifference leading to passivity; second, impulsiveness exhibiting irresponsibility; and third, insecurity showing conformity.

Paul was a finisher. He left Timothy and his readers God's guideline for finding faith to finish, *2 Timothy 4:6-8*. He began by assuring that the Christian must face facts realistically — "I'm already being poured out..." *6*. Don't allow life to take you by surprise. The child of God must prepare for conflict. The Devil will never allow the faithful to go unchallenged. Be realistic.

Being committed to finishing likewise may be described in three arenas. Note these.

DURABILITY — "I have fought a good fight" *7*. Paul learned to endure hardness as

a good soldier, *2 Timothy 2:3-4*. He was durable. So must be every child of God.

DIRECTION — "I have finished the course" *7*. The apostle to the Gentiles undertook to carry out the plan of God and not his own plans. Note the definite article "*the* course." Christians do not chart a course of their own choosing, but follow God's carefully mapped path, as an athlete competing according to the rules, *2 Timothy 2:5*.

DETERMINATION — "I have kept the faith" *7*. Paul pressed to the finish. He knew he would share in the Lord's harvest, *2 Timothy 2:6*. Determine to finish. It will be worth the sacrifice.

Where does one begin? Consider four applications. Focus on the future when the present is difficult. Realize that you are not the only one struggling. Take time to count your blessings. Whatever is worth having is worth the effort.

Starters are common. Rare are those who will pay the price to finish. Won't you be among those who receive the crown?

Watch LIVE

The Life of Promise

Michael W. McLemore

Endeavoring to live a life void of evil without replacing the evil with good robs life of meaning and purpose.

Living the Christian life is more than emptying one's life of evil. It must involve filling the new life with good. The Lord told a parable where an unclean spirit left a man and upon its return finding the house empty, swept and neatly in order it reentered the house taking with it seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and the last state of that man was worse than the first, *Matthew 12:43-45*. This parable demonstrates that it is not enough to empty one's life of evil, but one must also fill life with good. The temple of the demon must become the temple of God.

The idle life is doomed to become the devil's tool. A life centered on Heaven's purpose is a life filled with promise.

filling one's life with wholesome thoughts, right attitudes and good deeds. A close examination of the New Testament reveals that it implicitly or explicitly commends an act of righteousness to replace every ungodly act that it condemns.

Jesus taught that bad attitudes must be replaced with good ones, *Matthew 5:1-12*. Love must root out hate, *5:43-48*. Doing alms to God in secret replaces doing alms to be seen of men, *6:1-5*. One must strive to lay up treasure in heaven rather than laying up riches upon the earth, *6:19-21*. Concern for the spiritual must take precedence over the concern for the physical, *6:25-34*. Digging the beam out of your eye must replace hunting the mote in our brother's eye, *7:1-5*. The narrow way is to replace the broad way, *7:13-14*. Building a life upon a solid foundation is to replace the life built upon shifting sand, *7:24-27*.

Endeavoring to live a life void of evil without replacing the evil with good robs life of meaning and purpose. The Christian life must not only be thought of in terms of what one should not do, but also in terms of what one should be doing. Godly living must be viewed from a positive perspective thinking in terms of

Paul likewise taught that telling the truth must supplant lying, *Ephesians 4:25*. An honest days work would cause one to have no need of stealing, *4:28*. Filthy conversation is to be changed into a speech that will edify and minister grace unto the hearers, *4:29*. The works of the flesh must be displaced by the fruits of the spirit, *Galatians 5:19-24*. One must seek to be filled with the Spirit and not with wine, *Ephesians 5:18*.

The idle life is doomed to become the devil's tool. A life centered on Heaven's purpose is a life filled with promise. An untiring effort to have wholesome thoughts, to develop right attitudes, and to do good will drive out the former way of life and we will.



FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Ron Harmon underwent successful heart by-pass/valve replacement surgery on Tuesday. He is doing very well considering all that he has been through. Ron remains in room #650 at this printing. He is eating and walking more each day. No word on his release as yet. The Harmons appreciate your prayers.

Brenda Dorris, **Gordon's** sister, was unable to have needed surgery on Friday due to a set back. She may have it today. Your prayers are solicited. Please also continue to remember **Elaine & Gordon** to the Lord.

Steven Guice has resumed a normal work schedule. **Julie** reports, "We are still waiting on directions from MD Anderson. He got a pathology report in his MDA app, but not what it means for him. He did find out yesterday that his MDA doctor was trying to call his UAB doctor, who wasn't available." More will follow when we know.

Bobby Ferguson was able to be with us on Sunday. Please continue to pray for him

Betty Reavis is continuing Chemo. Please remember her to the Lord as you pray. ☐

Prayers for the Clardy Family

Sadness has gripped our community as it wrestles with the senseless loss of **Agent Billy Clardy III** on Friday during the course of his work as a STAC officer. Please pray for officer Clardy's wife, his five children, and for all of his fellow officers as they come to terms with his tragic death. Billy's father, Billy Clardy, Jr., was

also killed in the line of duty when he was just seven years old.

Daily Prayer List:

Glenda Cavender	Melvin Godette
Marty Haselden	Betty Reavis
Debbie Harbin	Sarah Jernigan
Barbara Jean Woodard	Dot Summers
Laura Phillips	

Madeline Frances Hagewood

The entire Hagewood family is happy to introduce their latest addition to the clan — **Madeline Frances Hagewood**, born December 4th, 1:39 am. She weighed 6 lbs., 6 ounces, and was 19.25" long.



We rejoice with the family, especially **William &**



Mary Frances on the birth of their beautiful new daughter. Also, don't forget that this makes another great-grandchild for our own **Charlotte Hagewood**.

Group Two Meets Tonight

Group Two, led by **Phil Furlough**, will meet immediately following evening class in the back classroom. Please plan to attend.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



11-25	Amanda Stovall	12-13	Joanne Abernathy
12-15	Carol Roberts	12-17	Stacey Besherse
12-17	Kayleigh Stovall	12-17	Bill Thompson
12-23	Charles Hill	12-25	Betty Reavis
12-26	Phil Furlough	12-27	Searcy Hall
12-29	Peggy Coward	12-29	Gene Preston

DECEMBER 8, 2019

Time to Pray

Michael W. McLemore

Time is precious. It's necessary for increasing knowledge, deepening relationships, and gaining experience. No amount of money, no possession, or prestige can equal time in value.

One cannot earn time, nor can he give it away. It can't be shortened to lessen painful circumstance. It can't be extended in good times. God alone can add to or subtract from your days on earth. He is in absolute control of time.

In light of this, what are you doing with this priceless commodity? Colossians 4:5 urges the Christian to accept and act upon every opportunity God affords.

The Lord wants you to make the most of your time. He wants you to treat it like the valuable gift it is. Too often, Christians spend hours on activities which, in an eternal sense, are fruitless. But Jesus set the example for efficient time management. At the beginning and end of His incredibly hectic days, He retreated from the crowds and spent time in prayer with the Father. Christ knew prayer was the greatest timesaver.

God knows your schedule before it happens. Through prayer, He will give wisdom and guidance for each day. Relying on your own effort will result in wasted time.

Take time to pray! ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Email: contactus@weatherlychurch.com

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	5:00 pm
Wednesday Classes	7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at
www.weatherlychurch.com

WATCH:

LIVE Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

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

Phil Furlough	Steve Hagewood
Ron Harmon	Kirk Hatcher
David Jacks	Ben Little
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry
Bobby Wright	

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, December 8

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer: **Marty Hunt**
Scripture Reading: **Searcy Hall**

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Micah 5:1-6
On the Road to Bethlehem
Closing Prayer: **Phil Shaver**

Sunday, December 15

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Bill Thompson**
Opening Prayer: **W.D. Patrick**
Scripture Reading: **Phillip Dill**

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
1 Chronicles 11:15-19
Thirst Only Bethlehem Can Quench
Closing Prayer: **Bill McCord**

Evening Worship

Bible Skills **Mike McLemore**
Songs Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer: **Bill Thompson**
Closing Prayer: **Charley Skinner**

Evening Worship

Hill Roberts
Bill Thompson
Forest Summers
Jim Risner

Wednesday, December 11

Songs Leader: **Mike Coward**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Terry Barnett**

Wednesday, December 18

Collis Terry
Marty Hunt
Kirk Hatcher

Group 4

2020 Weatherly Lectures
April 30th—May 3rd

Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams & Matt Bassford

Group 1

Quarterly Adult Classes
October – December 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY

The Gospel According to John
Mike McLemore

Serving in December

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Jeremy Leshko	Ed Dill
** Overseer	Dwight Ivey	Bill McCord
	John Bersherse	Ryan Patrick
	Forest Summers **	Jim Risner
Lord's Supper PM	Phil Furlough **	Kirk Hatcher
Communion Prep Building Lockup		Kim Barnett

