

Weatherly Weekly

September 13, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 37

Let Kindness Work

Michael W. McLemore

AMANTINE LUCILE AURORE DUPIN, best known by her pseudonym George Sand, was a 19th Century French Novelist and avowed Socialist. She is well known as the source of the following quotation that is the impulse of this article —

“Guard well within yourself that treasure, kindness. Know how to give without hesitation, how to lose without regret, how to acquire without meanness. Know how to replace in your heart, by happiness of those you love, the happiness that may be wanting in yourself.”

Sands’ literary assignment to her readers is a good one. How much of life that is infinitely good is missed because of a lack “kindness.”

The bitter, disillusioned, sour person is invariably a selfish one. Such persons become so wrapped up in self that they are blinded to all of the sources of pure joy that abound in the

world around them. Bereft of someone to love or robbed of financial means, personal ambition stymied by unavoidable circumstances, such people often take refuge in the black cloud of gloom and self-pity. Their world is dark and unfulfilling.

If these persons could for a moment forget self and rejoice in the happiness and success of others, they would find a back door to happiness that is both ajar and welcoming of those who are willing to enter. Paul said, “Rejoice with those with those who rejoice,” *Romans 12:15*.

Paul once sought to encourage a profound lesson of Jesus to leaders of the people of God: “In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive,’” *Acts 20:35*. Only when we learn “to give without hesitation... to lose without regret,” will kindness breathe its new life into us. □

Race to the Finish

Michael W. McLemore

The 12th chapter of the Bible book of Hebrews begins the last series of exhortations from the writer intended to arrest the defection of Christians back to Judaism. The author employs the first and most well known image of a great coliseum with a vast numberless host looking on as Christians on earth compete in the human race. Imagine in the minds eye all the saved of the ages peering forward on the edge of their eternal seats as the faithful on earth compete for the prize of the heavenly call.

The word picture is clearly that. It not a literal matter. Any attempt to Biblically establish this as a literal experience would be futile. No Scripture sustains such claim. But figuratively, could the faithful gaze upon us as we compete for the heavenly prize, surely it would be exactly like this. If you need proof that it is literary imagery, simply note that if “the race set before us” is a metaphor, then necessarily, the audience is correspondingly representative.

Picture the beginning of the child of God’s competition — “Lay aside every weight,” evokes the image of a runner disrobing of his bulky outer garments which serve to encumber and burden him. The language suggests this in addition to sins that always impede. Begin by “putting off” sin, that skillfully surrounds as though purposefully placed to retard the runner, and anything else that hampers, 1.

The race begins but much effort is expended as it is prolonged, mirroring life as a Christian competitor — “Let us run with

endurance” is a pleading to spend one’s total strength not swerved from his deliberate purpose, nor from his loyalty to the faith. Be ready to run as long as required.

The finish comes into view as life’s race is rounds the last turn — “Looking to Jesus” stands as the superlative motivator for crossing the finish. It is the image of the crucified Jesus peering on from behind the finish line, cheering His followers. He is described as the “founder and perfecter of our faith” 2. As “founder,” Gk. *archegos* “chief leader or prince,” Jesus has taken the lead and is the example; as “perfecter,” Gk. *teleiotes*, the “one who has in his own person raised faith to perfection.” Thus, Jesus is our leader and our example. Run toward Him!

Christians are chastened to emulate Jesus. The “joy” of redeeming mankind was His motivator. It gave Him reason to “endure the cross,” “despising,” think little or nothing of, the shame of it. Now He sits at God’s right hand and cheers His brethren in their own race to the finish.

Where is the strength discovered to finish strong? Its found in the manner of the Savior’s own race. If Jesus bore such suffering and endured, God’s people can too — “Consider Him,” 3. “You have not shed blood,” 4. You still have life, **RUN!**

Do not faint or grow weary. He is cheering you on along with all of those who’ve gone before. What greater encouragement could be offered to the children of God as we race to the finish? □



FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Dot & Forest Summers have a daily interest in our prayers for them. Though we are not able to see them in our assembly, they are never far from our thoughts. Please continue to pray for more good days than bad for Dot. Also, remember Forest as he has his treatments every other month.

Betty & Bill Reavis are surely in need of our most earnest prayers for them during these trying days. Remember Bill and the children as they attend to Betty's every need.

Melonie Power remains on our prayer list as she recovers from rotator cuff surgery. No fun! Say her name to the Lord.

Brooke Hatcher is making excellent progress. The Hatcher's asked me to express their appreciation for all of the cards, calls, prayers, and the food during her recovery. This family is a tremendous blessing to us here at Weatherly. We appreciate them so very much. Pray that Brooke will be back to 100% very soon.

Edith Turner's sister, **Kathryn Wall**, also remains in our prayers. Kathryn is Edith's last remaining sibling. She has understandably been concerned for her well being these last few months.

Say **Debbie & Jimmy Harbin's** name in prayer this week. We miss seeing them

W.D. Patrick is planning knee replacement surgery soon if he doesn't get cold feet! Say his name.

We are still rejoicing over **Steve Guice's** good report on his most recent scan. The cancer is stable which is good news. Steve, **Julie**

and family are very encouraged. Continue to pray for Steve as he takes the medication to treat the malignancy.

A little birdy told me that **Ron Harmon** had a fall after his outside adventure recently. Pray for him and for **Phyllis**.

Shane Scott, recently diagnosed with COVID, is holding his own. This is welcomed news. Please keep him in your prayers. He is well known to many here at Weatherly and is loved by brethren the world over.

Daily Prayer List:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Betty Reavis | Laura Phillips |
| Jean Woodard | Melvin Godette |
| Glenda Cavender | Steven Guice |

WEATHERLY UPDATES

UPDATES: Again, we are encouraging our family to participate in the Sunday evening ZOOM Devo. You will benefit from the gathering. Marty Hunt will be speaking tonight.

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Mike is continuing his live stream Bible class series on **Lessons from Joshua**.

Sunday morning worship will begin at 10. Mike is continue his series today "Knowing God" today. Today his lesson is entitled **Secret to Knowing God**. His text is **John 1:14-18**.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" will begin on Zoom at 7 pm. We will email a link Sunday.

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike's textual study of 1 Peter continues. Class streams at 7 pm. No public assembly Wednesday. ☐

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | | | |
|------|----------------|------|--------------------|
| 9-14 | Brooke Hatcher | 9-17 | Aurora Leshko |
| 9-20 | Sophia Hunt | 9-21 | Louis Garrett |
| 9-23 | Dylan Craig | 9-25 | LaNelle Patrick |
| 9-28 | Doris DeCelles | 9-30 | Rebecca Pellegrini |

"The Work is People"

Kris Emerson

I took notice of the following social media post by Kris Emerson. His post addresses the real issue at stake when some brethren are heard to claim, "I've not been given anything to do in this church." (Read on. Mike M)

"The work is the people. How can I work in the kingdom? How can I be valuable for Christ? What is my role in the church? The work is the people. It's getting to know people outside the church. It is praying with them and for them. It is sharing the power of Jesus with them. It is inviting them to come worship with your spiritual family.

The work is at the church building. It is the visitor who just came in. It is the new family who just moved here. It's the conversations, love of strangers, and investment in others.

The work is the people. It is drawing close to members of the body. It's interaction, worship, meals, and time spent with those who need you. The work is the saving and strengthening of souls, yours and others. Souls are not nebulous, abstract or theoretical. They are in people. Therefore the work is in the people. The work is the people." ☐

WEEKLY WALK

 **Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST**
930 Weatherly Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing:
P.O. Box 4619
Huntsville, Alabama 35815



Phone: 256 881-9535
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: Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services

Weatherly's Shepherds

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Tommy Hill | 256 883-0010 |
| Will Starks | 256 883-5273 |

Evangelist

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

Weatherly's Deacons

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

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, September 13

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**
Opening Prayer:
Scripture Reading: **John 1:14-18**
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Secret to Knowing God

Closing Prayer:

Sunday, September 20

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**
Opening Prayer:
Scripture Reading: **Genesis 14:13-24**
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
"Who's in Charge Here?"

Closing Prayer:

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz CANCELLED
Songs Leader:
Opening Prayer: **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**
Closing Prayer:

Evening Worship

CANCELLED
Virtual Devotion on ZOOM

Wednesday, September 16

Songs Leader:
Invitation: **Streamed Bible Study**
Closing Prayer:

None

2020 Weatherly Lectures

April 30th—May 3rd

We regret to announce that our 2020 Lectures have been cancelled.

Wednesday, September 23

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes

July — September 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Lessons from Joshua
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
Hope in Exile: A Study of 1 Peter
Mike McLemore

Serving in August

- Serving on the Lord's Table AM**
**** Overseer** **
- Lord's Supper PM** **
- Communion Prep Building Lockup**

