

y Dad was a great fellow. He was rather introverted, even bordered on being timid. But there was a kind of inner stability about him that made you know that his ti-

# Where Do I Fit?

Dee Bowman

midity was not a sign of anything—except the wisdom it takes to be quiet and listen. He had a philosophical bent about him and when he did say something, you could usually put it in your pocket and use it later because it was something that made good sense.

We moved to the Plains of West Texas when I was 5 years old. My dad kept books at the cotton Gin for Hume Russell. Later, when we had saved up a little money, he bought a dry cleaning shop in Morton. In addition to cleaning clothes, Dad ordered tailor-made suits for the National Tailoring Company in Chicago. We still have a nice quilt Mom made out of the wool suit samples he would show to prospective buyers. He was an expert at measuring a person for clothes and "that's the key to having satisfied customers," he would say. We didn't always have much—didn't even have a car until I was 12 or 13—but we had nice clothes, so everybody thought we were better off than we were.

One thing my Dad said about clothes has stayed with me all these years. "Things wear out where they don't fit," he said. In other words, if you buy things that fit you, you can wear them much longer. Things wear out where they don't fit.

That's true of humans, too, you know. Folks soon wear out where they don't fit.

If you're in a crowd where you don't fit, chances are you won't stay long—mainly because you don't think you look good there. When you feel welcome—that is, when you fit—you'll more likely stay longer and be more of a part of the overall picture.

Where do you fit here? Let's look at some things that are necessary for a good fit.

A good fit begins with a good measurement. You have to measure yourself. Introspection may be the hardest kind of inspection. First of all, it requires complete honesty. You have to take a long look at your assets and liabilities and see how you can best use what you have and try and do better at what you lack. That's not easy, but just remember, not everybody fits into every slot, and you're apt to wear out if you force yourself into some area where you don't fit.

Paul said, *Gal. 6:4*, "But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone and not in another." Self-examination always begins with a good heart, *Psalm 15:1-2*.

You have to want to. You won't fit if you don't want to. Many times people who

complain about not being a part, don't fit in because deep down, they don't really want to. If you want to, you can fit. How sad to see some folks who complain bitterly—and talk loudly—because they don't have a place when they never tried to fit in. The one talent man, *Matt. 25:25* didn't fit into his master's plan not because he couldn't, but because he decided not to.

You have to stay in your own place. Not everybody fits everywhere and not everybody can do everything. Sometimes you have to just be satisfied with where you fit and try to fit nicely into your own spot. Actually, if you try and force yourself into a place where you don't fit, you mess up the whole picture and someone who actually fits where you're trying to is left to fit where he doesn't fit either. And that makes for trouble. The various parts of the body function together to make the whole body strong, but the liver doesn't try to be what's it not and the feet don't try and take the place of the ears, see *1 Cor. 12:14-f.* 

Everybody fits. There are no unimportant parts in this picture. Every single part—no matter how small or seemingly insignificant it may seem—has a place. When a part is missing, it messes up the entire picture and, rather than blending in to the whole, the void causes people to see only the missing part, thus distracting terribly from the big picture. And how wonderful just to know that you have a place, and one that no one else is fitted for. When Paul says we are "knitted together," he says the knitting is supplied by every joint contributing its part by "the effective working by which every part does its share," *Eph. 4:17*. Only when every part does its part can the whole body be effective.

So, let's get together. Let's gather together all the parts of this church and fit them into the over-all scheme of things and get to the business of being lights in the world—a picture that will reflect to the world around us that we're serious about the business of going to heaven and that we're interested in taking as many people with us we can.





News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

#### **FAMILY UPDATES**

#### Prayers:

Margaret Smith is improving after her COVID diagnosis. We are thankful. Harold tested negative for the virus. We are praying that he does not contract it. With his COPD it could be very serious. Say their names to the Lord.

Ken Cavender was taken to the hospital on Wednesday evening with a bowel obstruction. He was discharged yesterday and is feeling much better. Ken spent the night last night with Jeff's family in Arab. Apparently Glenda wasn't feeling well (stomach issue) Friday night and they wanted to make sure she wasn't "catching" before Ken returned home. We are praying for both Ken & Glenda.

Pray for Peggy Shelton's relief from pain. We are trusting the Lord to watch over her.

Mike Coward continues to undergo physical therapy in Arkansas. The Cowards hope to come home in a week or so.

Sue Terry's sister, Betty Birdsong and her husband, William, are both battling COVID. Please pray for their well being.

We are happy to report that Ronnie Tirey, Phyllis Harmon's brother, was released from the hospital and is at home. They continue to monitor his oxygen level. His wife **Sharon** is doing well. Please continue to pray for them.

John Garlock, the father of the McLemore's son-in-law **Bryan**, is in the hospital in Warner Robbins, Georgia with COVID. He remains in serious condition. They are treating him with plasma antibodies. Please pray for John. He is one of the elders of the West church in Warner Robbins. Bryan's mom, Jennifer, is also positive but has not been affected as badly.

Rita Lawson, niece of June Furlough, fell last week hitting her head and was unconscious for several days afterward. We are happy to relay that she is awake and getting better.

Kim Barnett's brother, Jimmy Carter, was released from Huntsville Hospital on Friday. His daughter will be helping attend to him. This is great news. Kim asked that I relate their thanks for all of the prayers offered for Jimmy.

Please pray for those who are confined to assisted living facilities and memory care — Louis Garrett, Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers.

#### **Daily Prayer List:**

**Betty Reavis** Laura Phillips Melvin Godette Glenda Cavender Charlotte Hagewood **Steven Guice Dot Summers** Ron Harmon

### **WEATHERLY UPDATES**

This Week at Weatherly: The elders have decided to push back the return to in person worship for a few more weeks. More soon...

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's last streamed Bible class on Recognizing Daily Needs from James.

Sunday morning LIVE STREAM will begin at 10. Mike continues his January series entitled, All Things New. His lesson today is The New Life, taken from Ephesians 4:17-32.

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

**Wednesday Bible Study** — Mike continues his quarter long study of The book of Lamentations. We stream at 7. No public assembly. □

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**



1-19 **Gordon Dorris** 1-23 1-26 1-29 Jim Risner 1-29 1-30 Jenny Jacks

Ed Dill **Edith Turner** 1-20 Marissa Hunt Will Starks

Who Am I?

James W. Adams

Self image is a vital factor in the formation of character. Poor self-image results in all kinds of abnormalities in behavior. We are "made in the image of God," Genesis 1:27, hence stand at the apex of all created things, animate and inanimate. We are endowed with moral consciousness, "God made man upright," Ecclesiastes 7:29. Therefore, we are responsible and accountable beings.

All of us need to recognize Who We Are: children of God bearing the divine image.

Moses illustrated the possibility and danger of poor self-image. When called by God to lead Israel out of Egyptian bondage, his reaction was negative. He said, "Who am I that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt," Exodus 3:11. All of us need to recognize Who We ARE: children of God bearing the divine image; marred by sin, yes; but objects of God's saving grace with the inherent capacity for glory.





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### 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

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

### **Evangelist**

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

### Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Ron Harmon **David Jacks** Collis Terry

Steve Hagewood Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright** 



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, January 24

Mike McLemore

Hill Roberts

Stream ONLY Sunday, January 17

Mike McLemore Hill Roberts Song Leader:

**Opening Prayer: Scripture Reading:** 

Welcome:

**Ephesian 4:17-32** Isaiah 62 Mike McLemore Sermon: Mike McLemore

The New Life A New Name

**Closing Prayer:** 

#### **Evening Worship Evening Worship**

**Bible Skillz** CANCELLED CANCELLED

**Songs Leader:** 

**Opening Prayer:** Virtual Devotion on ZOOM Virtual Devotion on ZOOM **Closing Prayer:** 

### Wednesday, January 20

Wednesday, January 24

**Songs Leader:** 

Invitation: Streamed Bible Study Streamed Bible Study

**Closing Prayer:** 

None

### 2021 Planning Underway

None

### **Ouarterly Adult Classes** January - March 2020

### **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**

Recognizing Daily Needs

Mike McLemore

### **AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**

The Bible Book of Lamentations Mike McLemore

## **Serving in January**

Serving on the Lord's Table AM \*\* Overseer

Lord's Supper PM

**Communion Prep Building Lockup** 

