

# Weatherly Weekly

July 4, 2021

2021 Edition, Number 27

## Free Indeed

Michael W. McLemore

The grandeur of Jesus' promise — "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" — is overlooked in our time of affluence and arrogance. The mantra, "I'm free! I live in a free country. I'm an American," reminds us of the overconfidence of the Pharisees who sought criticism against the Lord in John's eighth chapter.

Objecting to Jesus' pleading, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free," His critics chided, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free,'" *John 8:31-32*. Could these hacks have been more oblivious to their own history? Had they purged the story of the Egyptian slavery, reducing it to a mere sojourn? Misstating their history was a small thing. They were actively plotting Jesus' murder — "a man who has told you the truth," *8:40*.

It is true that *WE* live in a nation that enjoys un-

paralleled freedom. But that freedom, like a serpent, has risen to bite then enslave the very people who are living under its umbrella. The critic asks, "How so? Am I not free?" Pay careful attention to Jesus' answer of His haughty critics to find the answer to our own need — "Truly I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin," *8:34*. America is perishing in sin.

Jesus called for believers of ALL generations to "abide in my word," *8:31*. He means "don't leave. Continue to be present." Jesus distinguishes between superficial belief and discipleship. Disciples continue in His word. The result is true "freedom."

Americans, like these Jews, trust in national heritage for freedom with no attention to truth. Ancestrally the Jews were Abraham's offspring, spiritually they were in no wise kin. They served sin and its master, the devil, *8:42-43*. If America would be "free indeed" it must put off sin and seek the Son — "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." □

# THE FAITHFUL LIFE

Michael W. McLemore

My son, be attentive to my words;  
incline your ear to my sayings.  
Let them not escape from your sight;  
keep them within your heart.  
For they are life to those who find them,  
and healing to all their flesh.  
Keep your heart with all vigilance,  
for from it flow the springs of life.  
Put away from you crooked speech,  
and put devious talk far from you.  
Let your eyes look directly forward,  
and your gaze be straight before you.  
Ponder the path of your feet;  
then all your ways will be sure.  
Do not swerve to the right or to the left;  
turn your foot away from evil.

Proverbs 4:20-27

**W**hy do some hesitate to become Christians? Is it for fear they cannot live the life? It is true living right does require careful thought and diligent application. But, remember, God does not demand more than we can do. In Proverbs 4:20-27 the wise man Solomon sets forth three basic admonitions for successful godly lives.

**ATTEND TO THE WORD OF GOD, 20-22**

"Incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life

unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh." We all hear what we want to hear. We can tune out God, or we can cultivate our ear to hear. Living the faithful life demands that we fill our heart so full of the word of God that it becomes the controlling force in life. This is the secret to living as we should.

**KEEP THY HEART WITH ALL DILIGENCE, 23-24**

A man lives out in his life what he has in his heart, "for out of it are the issues of life." If the heart is pure, the life will be pure; if the heart is corrupt, the life will be corrupt. The faithful heart is full of God's thoughts, and it will lead to a clean life, a life devoted to the service of God.

**HAVE A DEFINITE AIM IN LIFE, 25-27**

"Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet...." Set a goal before you and strive for it. Seek out a worthy purpose. Be able to say with Paul, "This one thing I do... I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," *Philippians 3:13-14*. To have our hearts fully set on reaching a goal, or attaining an ideal, makes it easy to sacrifice anything that hinders. Other things seem less attractive. Both young and old will find the life of a Christian far easier to live if these three precepts are diligently applied. □

Watch LIVE!



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

Sadness has gripped the Shaver family. Unexpectedly, **Phil Shaver's** sister, **Cyndi Shaver Vanatta**, passed away at home on Saturday morning. Apparently Cyndi stopped breathing during a breathing treatment. Her son is on his way to Titusville, Florida to make arrangements. She will be laid to rest next to her daughter who preceded her in death. Please remember this family as they mourn her loss at such a young age.

**Sam Eakes'** sister, **Tina Franklin**, passed away last week. Please remember **Sam, Lori** and family to the Lord as you pray.

**Peggy Childress** remains in the forefront of our thoughts and in all of our prayers as she awaits a transplant. Both **Terry & Peggy** are so gracious to express their appreciation for our prayers and expressions of concern.

**Wanda Castleman, Brooke Hatcher, Jenny Jacks & Cathy Preston** are all at different stages of recovery from surgeries of various kinds. Each is making progress and for that we are thankful. We look forward to having them all back in our assembly.

**Collis Terry** is on the mend! He was back with us on Sunday. We are thankful and are rejoicing.

**Edit Turner's** sister, **Catherine Wall**, age 103, fell at her nursing facility in Athens on Monday of last week. She was transferred to Huntsville Hospital on Tuesday evening. Her physicians determined that they could not operate to repair her broken leg. She is sadly in a great deal of pain. Your prayers for her are solicited.

**Buddy Hunt, Marty's** father, remains under the care of hospice. Please pray for his peace and comfort in the days to come. Also, ask for the Lord's special care of the entire Hunt family. They are precious to us.

**Mike Hunt, Marty's** brother, continues to enjoy the good news he recently received from his latest round of tests. No detectable cancer!

**Mechi Hunt's** sister, **Zoila Herring**, continues her treatments. Remember her to the Lord as you pray this week.

Pray for those who are confined in care facilities and memory care — **Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers.** ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

<b>Glenda Cavender</b>	<b>Melvin Godette</b>
<b>Laura Phillips</b>	<b>Dot Summers</b>
<b>Charlotte Hagewood</b>	<b>Lane Roberts</b>
<b>Bill Reavis</b>	<b>Ron Harmon</b>

## WEATHERLY UPDATES

**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study** will begin at 9:30 — **Mike** will begin a study of the book of First Corinthians today.

**Sunday morning** will begin at 10. **Mike** is beginning a new series in July entitled **I AM CHURCH!** His lesson today is taken from **1 Timothy 4:12-13.**

**Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo"** on Zoom at 7. We will email a link Sunday. Join in.

**Wednesday Bible Study** — The study of **First Corinthians** will continue on Wednesday nights this quarter. This will allow a full discussion of the text. We stream at 7 p.m. No assembly Wednesday. ☐

## Hard Times, Good Times

F.B. Meyer

I read this a number of years ago in Christianity Magazine. Perhaps we ought to be careful how we long for days of ease with no struggle. *MIWM*



A bee keeper told me the story of the hive — how, when the little bee is in the first stage, it is put into a hexagonal cell, and honey enough is stored there for its use until it reaches maturity. The honey is sealed with a capsule of wax, and when the tiny bee has fed itself on the honey and exhausted the supply, the time has come for it to emerge into the open. But, oh, the wrestle, the tussle, the straining to get through the wax! It is the strait gate for the bee, so strait that in the agony of the exit the bee rubs off the membrane that held its wings, and on the other side it is able to fly!

Once a moth got into the hive and fed on the wax capsules, and the bees got out without any strain or struggle. But they could not fly, and the other bees stung them to death.

Are you congratulating yourself on having an easy time? No hardness, no difficulties, no cross? Beware lest, like the bees, you lose your wing-power and perish miserably in the dust. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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## TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday Bible Classes** 9:30 am  
**Sunday AM Assembly** 10:00 am  
**Sunday PM Assembly Zoom** 7:00 pm  
**Wednesday Classes Stream** 7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at  
[www.weatherlychurch.com](http://www.weatherlychurch.com)

### WATCH:

**LIVE** Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



## Weatherly's Shepherds

<b>Tommy Hill</b>	256 883-0010
<b>Will Starks</b>	256 883-5273

## Evangelist

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

## Weatherly's Deacons

<b>Phil Furlough</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>	<b>David Jacks</b>
<b>Hill Roberts</b>	<b>Collis Terry</b>
<b>Bobby Wright</b>	

## Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, July 4

**Welcome:** **Will Starks**  
**Song Leader:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Will Starks**  
**Scripture Reading:**

**1 Timothy 4:12-13**

**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
**I Am Church**

**Closing Prayer:** **Jim Risner**

### Sunday, July 11

**Tommy Hill**  
**David Jacks**  
**Phil Furlough**

**Matthew 20:20-28**

**Mike McLemore**  
**Cancelling Consumerism**

**Gene Preston**

### Evening Worship

**Bible Skillz** CANCELLED

**Songs Leader:**

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

**Closing Prayer:**

### Evening Worship

CANCELLED

**Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**

### Wednesday, July 7

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

None

## 2021 Singing Cancelled

### Wednesday, July 14

**Streamed Bible Study**

None

## Quarterly Adult Classes July – September 2021

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

First Corinthians  
**Mike McLemore**

### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

First Corinthians  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in July

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

**\*\* Will Starks, Bill Thompson, Kirk Hatcher, Phil Shaver**

**Lord's Supper PM**

**\*\***

**Communion Prep  
 Building Lockup**

## JULY BIRTHDAYS



7-10	<b>Will Patrick</b>	7-19	<b>Jim Ehl</b>
7-19	<b>Peggy Shelton</b>	7-27	<b>Donna Godette</b>
7-29	<b>Mike McLemore</b>	7-31	<b>Phillip Dill</b>

