

he primary "business of every professed child of God should be so to live in this life as to spend eternity with God in that life which is to come. Yet, this all important business often takes second place to modern man's recreation. This is particularly noticeable in the summertime. Attendance, interest, contributions have an embarrassing way of taking a proverbial nose-dive in the summer months.

Recreation is a necessity. It is extremely doubtful that any individual can have a completely healthy body or mind without seasons of recreation. Recreation is precisely what the word indicates—a means of recreating the used up forces of mind and body. Recreate means to create again, to renew. As a servant to minister to the well being of the mind and body, recreation is a great blessing. As a master to control our lives and actions, it is a great curse.

The amount of time, thought and money that professed Christians are devoting to recreation indicates unquestionably that it has ceased to be the servant in many lives and has become the master. Jesus warns in the parable of the sower against our allowing "the pleasures of this life" to choke out the "good seed." Have you ever sat down with pencil and paper and compared with figures the amount of time, thought and money you dedicate to the Lord's work as compared to the amount of time, thought and money that you dedicate to recreation? You should do this. We feel that to many this would bring an enlightenment and challenging experience.

As a side-line, recreation is a worthwhile activity. Infringing upon the main-line, godliness, recreation becomes a snare and a curse.

THREE BIG LESSONS FROM DEUTERONOMY

"Faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God"

Michael W. McLemore

he Bible book of Deuteronomy is a collection of three essential sermons from Moses before his death.

One author offered a suggestion that it might be subtitled: Identity, Warning,

Responsibility. Consider these...

Moses sought with finality to inculcate in the people of Israel a sense of IDENTITY – "You are the children of God!" Know Him! Understand His will for you and your children! Obey Him! Moses wanted God's children to remember God's grace in redeeming them from Egyptian slavery. In every respect Israel's salvation, and God's choice of them as a people replicates His rescuing grace, His forgiving grace, His restoring grace of us in Jesus. As they are intended to live in light of their identity as the children of God, so are we today.

Moses sought with soberness to warn the people of Israel about rivals to their ALLEGIANCE to God. They are going into a land of promise. Every conceivable identity will assay to assault them. Idolaters and their alluring practices are in every quarter. Listen to Moses' warning, "And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the Lord, who

brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery," *Deuteronomy 6:10-12*. Moses knew idolatry was not merely based in present temptations, but mirrors for mankind "God-forgetfulness." When God's children forget the magnitude of what God has given us and He alone is able to continue to give us, we are susceptible to begin to put other things in its place. Moses warned Israel, but his lessons live on for Christians, *Romans 15:4*.

Moses enjoined upon the children of God the weighty pleadings to accept **RESPONSIBILITY** – "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you," Deuteronomy 28:1-2. Accepting divine charges resulted in good for them as a people. But failure meant doom - "But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you," Deuteronomy 28:15. Moses clearly delineated God's "bless-ings" and "cursings." Israel was given fair warning.

Christians have also been called to embrace our own personal responsibility. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people, and looming large is the curse of the disobedient, Hell, a doom to be avoided at all cost.



# FAMILY MATTERS



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

# **FAMILY UPDATES**

# **Prayers:**

Ruth Mitchell's surgery went well. She has already begun physical therapy. Our prayer is that she will be back to 100 percent very soon. Say her name to the Lord as you pray.

Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's sister, is in need of our prayers. I know many here at Weatherly are following Zoila's journey through cancer carefully and are daily praying for her. Marty will periodically update us. The Hunts are very appreciative of our prayers.

Also, we are continuing to remember Marty Hunt's step-mother. Your prayers for her are solicited as she wrestles with the loss of Marty's dad. It's been a great struggle.

Maragem Harbin & Debbie Harbin both are in need of our prayers.

Pray for those who are in assisted living

# **Terry & Peggy Childress**

Terry & Peggy Childress have made it known of their plans to meet with the South Fayetteville church regularly. Terry's concern was for everyone at Weatherly to know of their love for us and appreciation for the constant encouragement during their time here. Of course we understand the difficulty of the drive here, Peggy's condition and of the needs of Terry's mom, Sandra Ivey. Please continue to pray for Terry, Peggy & Sandra.

facilities and memory care — Laura Phillips. Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers. □

# **Daily Prayer List:**

Glenda Cavender Laura Phillips **Charlotte Hagewood Bill Reavis** 

Melvin Godette **Dot Summers** Lane Roberts Ron Harmon

# **WEATHERLY UPDATES**

THANK YOU Phil Shaver, Tommy Hill and **Bill Thompson** for standing in for me while I was away visiting family in Texas during the Thanksgiving holiday. Your work was stupendous! I known everyone at Weatherly enjoyed your lessons. We are blessed to have such men in our fellowship! Wike

# **WEATHERLY UPDATES**

Plans are underway for 2022! We are looking forward to normalcy. Pray that we will be able to implement all of our plans. In all we will trust Him!

Sunday morning Bible Class begins at 9:30. Mike will return to his study Divided We Fall!

**Sunday morning worship** begins promptly at 10. Mike's is beginning a series entitled The Emmanuel Chronicles 2.0. His lesson is "Healing the Broken Heart" from Isaiah 61.

Remember our **ZOOM Devo at 7** Sunday evening. Zoom in with us tonight!

Wednesday our 1 Corinthians study, Abounding Together continues at 7 pm. If the Lord wills Mike will be covering the first half of 1 Corinthians 12. We will stream as well as assemble in person.

# **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



Ken Cavender 12-6 12-13 Joanne Abernathy

Stacey Besherse 12-17 12-17 Bill Thompson

12-25 Phil Furlough 12-6 John Patrick 12-15 **Carol Roberts** 

12-17 **Kayleigh Stovall** 

12-23 Charles Hill Blessed with Less Michael W. McLemore

The word "blessing" has become synonymous with "gift," hasn't it? Many assume, "If I just listen and obey God, He'll give me more and more!" Some tend to think of blessings as new benefits He gives to be enjoy. Does obedience insure the extra blessing of a salary increase? Does following God's will call for Him to respond with the blessing of happy relationships?

Some may be surprised to know that God often blesses by taking things away. Doubters may ask, "How can God benefit me by giving me less of what I enjoy?" This attitude reveals the problem of human pride, Psalm 81:12. Man tends to believe that he knows what is best for him: "If I enjoy something, then it has to be good and proper." "The Lord should give me more!" Right?

Wrong! The Lord is not a cosmic Santa Claus. Our shortsighted point of view keeps us from seeing the Divine perspective. God sees all things, from beginning to end. He knows whether a particular relationship or more money would ultimately be a blessing or a curse. In some situations, the best thing He can "give" is to take something away, or give less.

God brings things into our lives that He knows will bless us. Sometimes He chooses in His wisdom to "bless with less." Resist the temptation to question whether God is acting in our best interest when a particular loss or disappointment is experienced. With time and perspective, you will see God's loving care for you is demonstrated by taking something away.



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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** 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 Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright**  Steve Hagewood **David Jacks** Collis Terry



These are asked to assist in our labor.

# Sunday, December 5

# Sunday, December 12

Welcome: Will Starks Tommy Hill Mel Ambrose **David Jacks** Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** Tommy Hill Alex Thompson

**Scripture Reading:** 

Sermon:

Isaiah 61:1-3 Isaiah 9:1-7 Mike McLemore Mike McLemore

Healing the Broken Heart **Light in Land of Darkness** 

**Closing Prayer:** Bill McCord Gene Preston

### **Evening Worship Evening Worship**

**Bible Skillz** CANCELLED CANCELLED

**Songs Leader:** 

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

# Wednesday, December 8

Phil Furlouah Collis Terry Songs Leader: Mike McLemore Mike McLemore Invitation: **Closing Prayer: Bobby Wright** Alex Thompson

None

# 2021 Lectures Canceled

None

# **Ouarterly Adult Classes** October — December 2021

Wednesday, December 15

# **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**

Divided We Fall Mike McLemore

# **AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**

First Corinthians Mike McLemore

# Serving in December

Serving on the Lord's

Table AM \*\* Overseer

\*\* Phil Shaver (12-5), Bill Thompson (12-12), Steve Hagewood (12-19), Phil Furlough (12-26)

Lord's Supper PM

**Communion Prep Building Lockup** 

