

Weatherly Weekly

March 13, 2022

2022 Edition, Number 11

Earnestness

Michael W. McLemore

The Greek word *spoude*, earnestness, appears four times in 2 Corinthians 7–8. Paul is exposing the deadly difference between godly grief over sin and ungodly grief. He contends that “Godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death,” *2 Corinthians 7:10*. He wanted the Corinthians to experience “godly grief,” a repentant grief, grief that leads to salvation. Shallowness and self-centered sorrow benefits no one. “Earnestness” is the great essential.

He continued, “Although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God,” *2 Corinthians 7:12*. As God’s people prepared to stand before Him, Paul says, “I want you to see your own earnestness.” He wanted his letter to spark spiritual renewal, earnestness.

The desired awakening was seeded, not in gentil coddling of their sins, rather in the hard, pointed, forceful words from his pen. Rebuke is unpleasant. But, is it not the path to earnest renewal? The gift of God’s Son compels a powerful invitation to return to spiritual sanity and life. It may be preferable to wallow in self-pity, but those who do will miss the invitation and forfeit the fire of earnestness.

Paul pointedly confronted the Corinthians. His first letter not only brought them to acknowledge their sin, and then repent, it consequently filled them with a fresh sobering sense of reality before God – “See what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal,” *2 Corinthians 7:11*. Earnest conviction alone will give birth to a more serious devotion to God, and finally a more serious love for one another! □

Jesus Called Us One by One

By Michael W. McLemore

How long have you been a Christian? Has the Lord once in all that time ever asked you, “Joe Christian, what do you want to do?” I’ve been a Christian almost 50 years. Never once has He asked me that question. The fact is the Lord doesn’t arrange His plans to suit my human purposes or yours. Rather, He calls upon His followers “one by one” to align our lives with His Divine will.

When Peter, Andrew, James, and John were fishing, before they became Jesus’ disciples, their lives revolved around that occupation. They were concerned with weather conditions, repairing sails, mending nets, and of course catching fish. It was a business and they all were seeking to make a living. Then Jesus came into their region and called them, “Follow me, I’ll make you fishers of men.”

Suddenly and willingly the men made a dramatic lifestyle change.

Sadly, in stark contrast, a young rich ruler refused this difficult change and walked away sad. He realized what he would have to exchange to

follow Christ, *Matthew 19:21-22*. The Lord’s invitation to be His disciple means modifying our way of living. Switching jobs and altering habits, was common place for many of Jesus followers. Even now God is calling us to adapt to His plan.

Before Jesus’ invitation to travel in His company, James and John worked in their family’s business alongside their father. Accepting the call of Christ for them meant spending far less time with friends and relatives. Following Christ meant a change in their relationships. It is the same for us today.

The call of Christ changes our goals and it changes our relationships. But the eternal return on any sacrifice we make in service to Him, Christ assures, surpasses our ability to comprehend, *Matthew 19:29*.

Our Father’s plans are based upon His mercy, justice and goodness. His perfect character assures that we can trust the path that He outlines for us. Melding to God’s design by accepting His word and making the necessary changes in our lifestyles and relationships is always the course to choose – “Trust in the Lord will all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths,” *Proverbs 3:5-6*. □

The fact is the Lord doesn’t arrange His plans to suit my human purposes or yours. Rather, He calls upon His followers “one by one” to align our lives with His Divine will.

Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Ed, Dianne & Phillip Dill were once again exposed to COVID. Though they are all recently recovered, it seemed prudent that they would quarantine for a few days just to be sure they are not carriers. Remember them to the Lord. Also, remember their extended family. They are all recovering from the virus.

Mike Coward was able to be back with us on Sunday. He was somewhat stronger. Please keep **Mike & Peggy** in the forefront of your prayers. His heart issues have proven a challenge. He had his regular infusion on Wednesday last week, which explained their absence.

Glenda Cavender continues to have an interest in our daily petitions. Please say her name. Also pray for **Ken**.

We are looking forward to seeing **Bill Reavis** back in services as soon as he gets the all clear from his doctors to be out. Remember him to the Lord.

Emily Barksdale the **McLemore's** daughter, **Emily**, has fully recovered from COVID. Thank you for your prayers for her.

Scans from last week for **Will & Sarah Starks'** granddaughter, **Ciera Elledge**, were not encouraging. More tests and a change to her Chemo regimen are forthcoming. Your most earnest prayers for Ciera are requested. Also, please remember her family to the Lord. This is a challenging time for the entire family.

Mechi Hunt's sister, **Zoila Herring**, continues to have a daily interest in our ongoing prayers as she continues her treatments.

Pray for those who are in assisted living

facilities and memory care — **Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, & Lane Roberts.** ☐

Daily Prayer List:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Glenda Cavender | Melvin Godette |
| Laura Phillips | Ron Harmon |
| Charlotte Hagedwood | Lane Roberts |
| Bill Reavis | |

TODAY AT WEATHERLY

UPDATES: We are excited that the COVID infection numbers are down and that the recent variants do not seem to be as vigilant as others have been. A combination of these factors are allowing us to resume some level of normalcy.

Our attendance levels are rising but are still far from what they were pre-COVID. We are looking forward to having our family back together for classes and worship. We hope to see you all back soon.

Sunday morning Bible Class begins at 9:30. **Mike** will be continuing our study of **1 Timothy** — **Holding Faith in a Good Conscience.** We are in chapter 3 today.

Sunday morning worship begins promptly at 10. **Mike** is continuing his March series entitled **"Just Like Your Son."** His lesson today is titled **"Sacrificed Sons"** from **Luke 20:9-18.**

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

Wednesday Mike's class continues on **1 Timothy.** We hope you will be with us for the Bible classes. We meet at 7 pm with streaming and in-person assembly. ☐

Bottled Water

Michael W. McLemore

I am indebted to Lesli McCary for this. She posted it last week on Facebook. I believe it deserves wide circulation and appropriate for this week's "Weekly Walk."

"A bottle of water at Costco is \$0.25. The same bottle in the super-market is worth about \$0.50. At a local bar it probably costs \$2. In a good restaurant or hotel it can be worth up to \$3. At an airport or on the plane, you might be charged \$5.



The bottle and the brand is the same, the only thing that changes is the place. Each place gives a different value to the same product."

The author's conclusions while thoughtful misses the real issue. God has esteemed every person valuable. He has likewise called His church to value their worth as does He. The family of God must be a place where every person has value, and are loved as God loves them. Do people find their true worth among us? *MWM* ☐

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 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

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Evangelist

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Weatherly's Deacons

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Phil Furlough | Steve Hagedwood |
| Kirk Hatcher | David Jacks |
| Hill Roberts | Collis Terry |
| Bobby Wright | |

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, March 13

Welcome: **Will Starks**
Song Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
Opening Prayer: **WD Patrick**
Lord's Table Lead: **Will Starks**

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Luke 20:9-18
Sacrificed Sons!
Closing Prayer: **Kirk Hatcher**

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz CANCELLED

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

Wednesday, March 16

Songs Leader: **Collis Terry**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Phil Furlough**

2022 Lectures TBA

Sunday, March 20

Tommy Hill
David Jacks
Bill Thompson
Ed Dill

Luke 23:33-35
Mike McLemore
"Father, Forgive Them!"
Ron Harmon

Evening Worship

CANCELLED

Virtual Devotion on ZOOM

Wednesday, March 23

Phil Furlough
Mike McLemore
Tommy Hill

Quarterly Adult Classes

March — June 2022

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Faith & A Good Conscience
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
First Timothy
Mike McLemore

Serving in March

Serving on the Lord's Table AM **** Marty Hunt (3-6), Will Starks (3-13), Ed Dill (3-20), Tommy Hill (3-27)**
**** Overseer**

Lord's Supper PM ******

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

Collis Terry

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



| | | | |
|------|----------------------|------|--------------------|
| 3-13 | Collis Terry | 3-14 | Becky Hill |
| 3-18 | Susan Ivey | 3-22 | Thomas Hill |
| 3-28 | Adrienne West | | |