

# Weatherly Weekly

October 16, 2022

2022 Edition, Number 42

## "What Can I Do?"

Michael W. McLemore

Most of us have asked someone in the recent past, "What can I do?" — A friend in need, someone who is wrestling with challenging event, or a benevolent need. We ask, "What can I do?" But I've often heard Christians lament, when it comes to the cause of the Lord or of a call to serve, and ask the same question for a different reason — What can I do? — as though they are unable to be or add any benefit.

It's actually a Bible question. It's asked a little differently from time to time — "Brothers, what shall we do?" *Acts 2:37*. What does the Lord require of me? What does He want from me in any and every circumstance? I think three things will always rise to the top.

**PUT ON THE WORD** — "What can I do?" Start off right by setting your mind right. Paul said, "Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth," *Colossians 3:2*. Distractions are the rule rather than the exception for most of us as Christians. It is

imperative for the Christian to follow the Lord's charge to "Seek first the kingdom of God," *Matthew 6:33*. If His word and His will are my default it will go a long way toward answering the daunting question, "What can I do?"

**SHARE THE WORD** — "What can I do?" Don't be afraid to act on an opportunity to turn conversation to God. "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel," *Romans 1:16*. Peter joined hands with Paul when he challenged every Christian to be "prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you," *1 Peter 3:15*. The greatest need any person will ever have is Jesus. Preparation and willingness are essential. "What can I do?" Prepare and be ready.

**BE THE WORD** — "What can I do?" Exemplify God in your daily actions. "Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ," *Philippians 1:27*. Be the example. Set the standard. "What can I do?" Be the word, personified. □

# Bloom Where You Are Planted

MICHAEL W. MCLEMORE

Life has a way of getting in the way of human expectations. No person in biblical history demonstrates that reality more than Jacob's son, Joseph. Still, in spite of every barrier, he served God. He left the lasting lesson to "Bloom where you are planted." Learning that lesson requires faith and perseverance, and will never be possible unless we take three critical truths to heart, all from the beginning book of Genesis.

### GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT MY WAYS

Born to Jacob and Rachel, Joseph was a component in the Divine plan, *30:23-24*. He was the family's visionary of divine purpose, but at age 17 Joseph was cast into a pit out of his brothers' hatred, then sold to traders bound for Egypt, *chapter 37*. God placed him in the house of Potiphar where he became the Egyptian's own special servant. He bloomed where he was planted. But he soon became a target of seduction, falsely accused and cast into prison, *39*. In prison he bloomed, where again he was a leader and a visionary, *40*.

Joseph surely questioned "Why?" He never wanted to be in Egypt. He didn't do anything to deserve prison. Why, God? Why, me? In spite of all, Joseph was faithful. Joseph couldn't control his circumstance, but he could control how he responded in his circumstance. Each time without understanding what God was doing, Joseph served God and bloomed where he was planted, knowing that "God's ways are not my ways."

### DON'T GET BITTER

What did Joseph do when he was falsely accused? He bloomed where he was planted. In prison, at age 28, he was placed into the path

of two men, a baker and a wine taster, where he interpreted their dreams. He accurately told the men the meaning their dreams, *40*. His only request was that his kindness be remembered. It would have been easy for Joseph to quit. It would seem natural to curse God. He did neither. He waited. He didn't become bitter, he bloomed where he was planted, until he was remembered.

### GOD IS WORKING

God placed Joseph before the throne of the ruler of Egypt when he was 30 years old and raised him to the second in command of all the nation, *41*. Joseph bloomed where he was planted. He served God and Pharaoh for nine years before his brothers came to Egypt to buy grain. It was only then that he finally understood what God was doing, that God had been working all along — "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today," *50:20*. After all he suffered, 27 years later, Joseph finally saw that God had been working all along. He bloomed where he was planted.

Through one man, God preserved a nation. He used one sixteen-year-old boy to place His people where He wanted them. Every Christian should benefit from the story of Joseph's powerful lesson to bloom where we are planted. When life takes an unexpected turn, bloom where you are planted. When falsely accused or unfairly treated, bloom where you are planted. When your contribution isn't remembered or your talents go unnoticed, bloom where you are planted. It may be years later, but one day you will see what God was doing all along. □

Watch  
LIVE!



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## Two Boys in One Day!

Last Lord's day was an eventful day for **Mike & Gwyn McLemore's** family. Their two daughters, **Jennie Garlock** and **Emily Barksdale**, gave birth on the same day to little boys born 500 miles apart. **Noah Riley Garlock**, 6 lbs. 15 oz and 19" long,



was born at 11:23 am in Texarkana, Texas. Then **Bowman Van Everette Barksdale**, 6 lbs. 2 oz, and 18.5" long, was born at 8:57 pm in Huntsville. All are home doing well. Gwyn will happily show pictures!

## Family Updates

### Prayers:

**Jimmie McLemore**, **Mike's** mother, has been moved into a room and is progressing well. Since coming off the ventilator on Wednesday, she has made remarkable strides. "We appreciate your prayers for our family during this very trying time. No word on when she may be allowed to go home," *Mike*.

Please remember the **Henderson** and **Decastro** families in prayer. **Silvia's** nephew and **Jason's** cousin, **Josh Decastro**, passed away peacefully with his family at his side on Thursday in the Washington DC area.

**Clark Boles** had a run in with an uncooperative bicycle several days ago. He lost, suffering some broken ribs and strained shoulder. He keeps pressing on in spite of it all. Your prayers for Clark are appreciated.

**John Beshorse** remains in the hospital being treated for DRESS syndrome, a rare and very serious hyper-allergic reaction to medication, usually antibiotic. He is making incremental progress but this will take a while. Please pray for **John, Stacey** and the children. Also, remember his mom to the Lord.

**Becky Hill** is in the recovery phase following Chemo. **Tommy** says that she is a little better now than last week. Your prayers for **Becky & Tommy** are so meaningful.

We are continuing to pray for our sister **Wanda Castleman**.

**Zoila Herring** and **Ciera Elledge** remain on our daily prayer list as they battle cancer.

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — **Peggy Monroe**, **Bill McCord**, **Laura Phillips**, **Jim Risner**, **Lane Roberts**, **Glenda Cavender**, **Edith Turner**, **Melvin Godette**, **Charlotte Hagewood & Betty Dubose**.

## Thanks to ALL

"I want to thank those who stepped up to fill in during my unexpected absence the last week — **Gary Patton**, **Phil Shaver** and **Bill Thompson** were all splendid on short notice. **Hill Roberts** is going to stand in this coming Wednesday evening as I return to Texas to aid in my mother's transition home from the hospital. I appreciate **Tommy & Will** so much for their support and help. Lord willing, I will be home before next Lord's Day." *Mike M.* ☐

## Why Is That Man Smiling?

*Michael W. McLemore*

I read a piece by Jay Lanius last week that made me think. His piece was entitled "Why is that man smiling?" His point was that Christians have so much to smile about, and he is right. We do!

In a world where there is so much negative news, "Why are you smiling?" While my mother lay near death on a ventilator, her two great-grandchildren were being born on the same day. With the weight of life hanging in the balance, she smiled when I showed her their pictures. She could still smile at the mighty power of God and His blessings!

Christians have so much to smile about. While the world shouts and scowls, we smile because a new babe in Christ is being born into the family of God. We have the good health to serve God's purpose for another day. We are able to sit at the feet of godly teachers and hear God's word ably taught. We are able to read the Word and have our hearts enriched by the process. We have the opportunity to visit fellow Christians we haven't seen in years. No matter what, heaven can be ours one day. We meet new people that we can tell about Jesus. We have so many things to smile about.

In his article Jay asked his readers to "take some time to slow down and think about reasons you have to smile. I guarantee that it will make you and those around you have a greater appreciation for the many blessings that we have from God though Jesus Christ." He's right. After you've done it, be ready because someone is going to ask you, "What are you smiling about?" ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday Bible Classes** 9:30 am  
**Sunday AM Assembly** 10:00 am  
**Sunday PM Assembly** 6:00 pm  
**Wednesday Classes** 7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at

[www.weatherlychurch.com](http://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: [mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com)

## Weatherly's Deacons

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



These are asked to assist in our labor.

### Sunday, October 16

**Welcome:** **Will Starks**  
**Song Leader:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Marty Hunt**  
**Lord's Table Lead:** **Collis Terry**

*Colossians 3:18-4:6*

**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**

*Revolutionary Living*

**Closing Prayer:** **John Patrick**

### Sunday, October 23

**Tommy Hill**  
**David Jacks**  
**Steve Hagewood**  
**Phil Shaver**

*Joshua 1:1-9*

**Mike McLemore**

*Living Courageously*

**Kirk Hatcher**

### Evening Worship

#### Bible Skillz

**Mike McLemore**

**Songs Leader:** **Bill Thompson**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Alex Thompson**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Dwight Ivey**

### Evening Worship

**Mike McLemore**

**David Jacks**  
**Phil Furlough**  
**Bobby Wright**

### Wednesday, October 19

**Songs Leader:** **Mel Ambrose**  
**Invitation:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Phil Furlough**

### Wednesday, October 26

**Collis Terry**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**John Patrick**

## 2022 Lectures Cancelled

## Quarterly Adult Classes

June — September 2022

### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Lessons for Today from the Exodus

**Mike McLemore**

### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Exodus

**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in October

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

**\*\* Bill Thompson (10-2), Marty Hunt (10-9), Collis Terry (10-16), Phil Shaver (10-23), David Jacks (10-30)**

**Communion Prep**  
**Building Lockup**

**Bill Thompson**

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



10-26 **Mel Ambrose**

10-27 **Jimmy Harbin**

10-26 **Dwight Ivey**

10-29 **Charlotte Hagewood**

**Edith Turner** has a new phone number.

Please make note of it: **256 945-7747**

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