

Weatherly Weekly

June 4, 2023

2023 Edition, Number 23

Man in His Garden

Michael W. McLemore

Robert Fulgrum's simple credo, "All I Really Know I Learned in Kindergarten," swept the nation a generation ago, selling more than 7 million copies, and almost instantly becoming a New York Times number one best seller. His byline is "Uncommon thoughts on common things." Fulgrum's premise is valid. Men and women learn how life is lived very early. The beginning Bible story of man agrees. For our purposes, let's focus on the "man" God made and his "beginning." He becomes a model for every boy who will grow to be a "man" pleasing to God – "The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it" *Genesis 2:16*.

GOD GAVE MAN RESPONSIBILITY. Adam was not placed in the garden to be indulged by His Creator. He was charged with duty in his garden – "to work it." God gave him a task. Responsibility begins with doing something for another.

er. For a boy to mature so as to please God he must learn that life is *NOT* a string of never-ending indulgences. He learns competence through his first entry level position, working in the home, as God's first man learned it in his garden.

GOD GAVE MAN DISCIPLINE. Adam was taught that life is not about leisure. Daily discipline was his calling – "keep it." God's first man learned discipline through putting and keeping his house in order. Boys learn discipline over the mundane events of life in the same way. How? By making their bed, keeping their room, and keeping the lawn, as Adam kept his garden. God taught every boy a powerful lesson, "Order is a precondition for freedom." The freedom to enjoy play begins by having one's garden in order.

Responsibility and discipline are sadly missing in modern culture. These trends must be reversed among God's people. We learn these two powerful lessons from the man in his garden. □

TRUE WORSHIPERS

Bubba Garner

The summer between my freshman and sophomore years of college, I worked in the office at one of the refineries in Pasadena. Even though my job was mainly crunching numbers on a spreadsheet, I was required to take the plant safety classes before starting work. While showing us the videos, the instructor pointed out a common danger that caused most of the accidents in the plant. They didn't happen because of a lack of knowledge or experience on the part of the employees. They came about through repetition and familiarity, when people didn't give their full concentration to a task they had performed many times before.

One of the hymns we traditionally sing before the Lord's Supper begins, "Oft we come together, oft we sing and pray." And because we do it so often, we don't always give our undivided attention to what we're doing. There is the danger of our minds going into autopilot and our bodies going through the motions for the simple reason that we have worshiped so many times before.

Our generation is not the first to suffer from this problem. Malachi addressed the issue to the Israelites after their return from captivity. Having spent 70 years in Babylon, you would think that they had learned their lesson and would be different. But they didn't treat God as holy or regard worship as a privilege of His people. Even though worship is an activity we engage in often, we still have a responsibility to make it true worship.

True worship involves more than assembling. "Oh, that there were one among you who would shut the gates, that you might not uselessly kindle fire on My altar," *Malachi 1:10*. God was not satisfied simply because the Israelites had shown up and offered some semblance of worship. He would rather them not do it all if they weren't going to do it right.

It is important for us to be here. But our reason for being here must flow from a thankful heart. Jesus rebuked the religious leaders of His day when He said, "this people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me," *Matthew 15:8*. Our Father is not seeking "church goers" who go through the motions. He wants those who worship Him in spirit, from their innermost being. If we can't do that, He would rather we just shut the doors.

True worship must be done in accordance with truth. "When you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil," *Malachi 1:8*. Why would it be evil for them to present blind, and lame, and sick sacrifices? Because the Law demanded more. "If it has any defect, such as lameness or blindness, or any serious defect, you shall not sacrifice it to the Lord your God," *Deuteronomy 15:21*. The Israelites just chose not to worship according to truth.

There is a standard to which our worship must be held accountable. I have seen some churches advertise, "We believe church ought to be fun and exciting" or "We must accept one another in the love of Jesus recognizing that there are different styles and expressions of worship." True worship demands a "thus says the Lord" in all that we do. It is His throne, we are assembled around. It is His approval we seek. It is His standard we must meet. When we abandon the truth, we no longer engage in true worship.

True worship demands that you bring your best. "Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly," *Malachi 1:8*. The Israelites were giving things to God that were of no value or use to them. They had better, but they were saving those for things that were "important" to them. "I am a great King... and My name is feared among the nations," *Malachi 1:14*. Such recognition deserved their best.

When we come to worship empty-handed, we shouldn't be surprised when that's what we leave with. We wouldn't dare accept an invitation to someone's house without asking, "What can I bring?" Yet, week after week we will come to the house of the Lord and expect to receive something for nothing. Doesn't He deserve better? In fact, doesn't He deserve our very best?

"Oft we come together, oft we sing and pray." But just because we do these things often doesn't take away our duty to do them in spirit and truth. "For such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers," *John 4:23*. □



Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



Family Updates

Prayers:

Riley Monroe was hospitalized last Wednesday after being diagnosed with viral pneumonia the day before. He was very sick for several days, but we are happy to report that he was released yesterday from the hospital and is home. Your prayers and expressions of love for him have been overwhelming to him and his family. We are continuing to pray that he will back to 100% soon.

Jerry Mitchell is undergoing physical therapy and is scheduled to go to The Surgery Center on Monday for another injection. He is having a great deal of discomfort. We are praying for relief for him. Please remember him to the Lord. Pray he will be better soon.

Tommy Hill's cousin, **Patricia Howard**, was laid to rest to on Monday in Florence. Please remember her family, especially her husband, "Dicky." Our apology for the misprint in the last issue of the Weekly.

We are continuing to pray for **Ciera Elledge, Will & Sarah Starks'** granddaughter. She is undergoing radiation treatments.

Our daily prayers are for our dear sister, **Elaine Dorris**. We are praying that her discomfort will diminish. Remember both **Elaine & Gordon**.

Wanda Castleman has been suffering a great deal with migraines in recent weeks. She is hoping that she'll be able to be out more. We are praying that she can. Say her name to the Lord as you pray.

Edith Turner remains on our prayer list. Your prayers and other expressions of kind-

ness for her are greatly appreciated.

Harold Smith continues to have an interest in our daily prayers. Remember him and **Margaret** to the Lord as you pray.

We are continuing to pray for **Silvia Henderson's** sister-in-law, **Ann Henderson**. At last report she was at Regency Rehab Center.

Pray for **Susan Watson's** mother, **Janie Cheatham**.

Louise Caudle remains on our prayer list as she moves forward with radiation.

Forest Summers continues his Chemo. Your prayers are appreciated. He'd be encouraged to hear from you.

Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's sister continues to have an interest in our prayers

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — **Peggy Monroe, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Maragem Harbin, Betty Dubose & Harold Smith**.

This Week at Weatherly

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE class meets at 9:30. **Mike McLemore** will continue to lead our study titled "Powerful Prayer."

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP follows at 10. **Mike's** is beginning at series entitled "A Man After God's Design." Today's lesson is titled "God Created Man," from **Genesis 1:26-41**.

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP begins at 6. **Mike** will lead us in a devotion. We hope you will plan to gather with us.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY begins at 7. **Mike** will continue his verse by verse study of the **Gospel of Mark**. Come be a part.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



JUNE 4, 2023

6-4	Ellie Pellegrini	6-4	Melonie Power
6-7	Shelia Hagewood	6-9	Alex Thompson
6-13	Adam Hagewood	6-15	Murray Castleman
6-16	Jaxie Rogers	6-16	Phil Shaver
6-23	WD Patrick	6-16	Keion Godette
6-30	Susan Hand		

What We Love

Michael W. McLemore

Do you agree that it is possible to determine a person's true character by finding out what they really love and what their goals are? Ask yourself these questions: First, what are the three things you are most earnestly working for right now? What are the three things you love the most? What are the three things you think about the most?

Honesty in our answers will be revealing. This is essentially the same method Jesus applied to determine a kingdom citizen's true character, **Matthew 6:19-21**. If we are honest we may find that our affections, revealed by our thoughts, are more focused on the things of this world than on the things of God.

Colossians 3:1-2 addresses this dilemma. Paul urges Christians to exchange the old desires, attitudes, and actions that were characteristic of our former lives for those that are indicative of our new found life.

The path to true and lasting change begins with a change of desire, "seek," 1. This gives way to a change of thinking, "affections," 2. The result manifest is a change of actions, *cf. 5-6, 12-17*.

To be heavenly-minded is to continually desire and long for, to pursue after, those qualities that characterize the life of Jesus Christ. As we long for these qualities and think about them, they will transform our lives. It all must start with a choice on **MY** part. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



91

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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

WATCH:

LIVE 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

Weatherly's Deacons

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

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, June 4th

Welcome: **Will Starks**
Song Leader: **David Jacks**
Opening Prayer: **WD Patrick**
Lord's Table Lead: **Marty Hunt**
Genesis 1:26-31
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
God Created Man
Closing Prayer: **Doyle Wray**

Sunday, June 11th

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
Opening Prayer: **Phil Shaver**
Lord's Table Lead: **Phil Furlough**
2 Kings 2:1-4
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Prove Yourself a Man
Closing Prayer: **Searcy Hall**

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **Mike McLemore**
Songs Leader: **David Jacks**
Opening Prayer: **Ed Dill**
Closing Prayer: **Wes Caudle**

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
Songs Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
Opening Prayer: **Will Starks**
Closing Prayer: **Kirk Hatcher**

Wednesday, June 7th

Songs Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Ron Harmon**

Wednesday, June 14th

Songs Leader: **David Jacks**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Tommy Hill**

Quarterly Adult Classes

April – June 2023

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Powerful Prayer
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
The Gospel of Mark
Mike McLemore

Serving in June

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

** **Marty Hunt (6-4), Phil Furlough (6-11), Collis Terry (6-18), Bill Thompson (6-25)**

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

TBA

